



The right to a world class education is the birth right of EVERY child.
TGES Mission Statement

28 May 2019

Dear parents, students and staff,

I have no doubt all of you are enjoying the Summer Holidays. Family time. Travel time. Explore and discover time. Some students do exhibit restlessness right about the end of May. They miss their classmates and surprise, surprise, some even miss learning! And some harried parents might also be wishing about now that the holidays get over soon for very different reasons!

June is almost here. Many in TGES have sacrificed a great deal of their Summer to prepare for 2019-20. Dozens of new teachers are currently undergoing training and orientation even as I write. All staff will be at work from the first of June.

Our preparations have been somewhat hindered by the delay in deciding our fees. FRC members need vacations and family time as well I guess! We have been expecting a decision for some time now, but it keeps getting postponed for one reason or another. We are an unusual school system and difficult to categorise. It is not surprising that the FRC needs far more time than usual to make what we hope will be a fair decision.

The delay, for good and bad, will also mean a delay in our reopening dates. All classes will now begin one week later than originally scheduled. We will need time to collect fees, assign classes, organise transport services, complete administrative processes. Please see below for the new reopening dates:

| Re-opening Dates 2019-20 | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Std | SNK | TGS Jr-Wadi | MVD | SMOS | TGS IB |
| JS | 25 June 2019 | | NA | NA | NA |
| PreK | 24 June 2019 | 25 June 2019 | NA | 20 June 2019 | NA |
| K1 | 21 June 2019 | 21 June 2019 | NA | 18 June 2019 | NA |
| K2 | 20 June 2019 | 20 June 2019 | NA | 18 June 2019 | NA |
| 1 | 21 June 2019 | 20 June 2019 | NA | 18 June 2019 | NA |
| 2 | 20 June 2019 | 20 June 2019 | NA | 18 June 2019 | NA |
| 3 | 21 June 2019 | 20 June 2019 | NA | 17 June 2019 | NA |
| 4 | 20 June 2019 | 18 June 2019 | NA | 17 June 2019 | NA |
| 5 | 18 June 2019 | 18 June 2019 | NA | 17 June 2019 | NA |
| 6 | 18 June 2019 | 18 June 2019 | 17 June 2019 | 17 June 2019 | NA |
| 7 | 17 June 2019 | 18 June 2019 | 17 June 2019 | 14 June 2019 | NA |
| 8 | 17 June 2019 | 14 June 2019 | 17 June 2019 | 14 June 2019 | NA |
| 9 | 17 June 2019 | 17 June 2019 | 14 June 2019 | 14 June 2019 | NA |
| 10 | 14 June 2019 | 10 June 2019 | 14 June 2019 | 14 June 2019 | NA |
| 11 | 17 June 2019 | 10 June 2019 | 14 June 2019 | NA | 10 June 2019 |
| 12 | 14 June 2019 | 17 June 2019 | 14 June 2019 | NA | 10 June 2019 |

Teachers will get an extra week of preparation time and this will be most helpful. We are planning to do many things differently and preparation is crucial. Teachers will also identify and share preparation that all students may attempt at home so as to achieve a flying start. Well begun is indeed half done.

In the absence of a Fee Decision, we are going to abide by Supreme Court and government guidelines. Whatever fees are collected will be subject to the FRC decision, as and when it arrives, and refunds/additions/adjustments will be made as we are directed. Please extend your support in completing fee payments before the deadlines. We are currently running on borrowed finances and it is already adding to our costs. Money is going towards interest rather than school improvements. Your timely payments will greatly help. Thank you.

Currently, balance fees of 2018-19 are being collected. Many of you have already paid. We request to make this payment to those parents who have not been able to pay so far. The last date is 31st May 2019.

Fees for 2019-20 would be launched from 3rd June 2019. In the absence of a fee decision, we will collect the fees in five installments. Please pay this instalment between 3rd-10th June 2019.

Do note that in case the FRC decision is simply unacceptable, we will be approaching the Tribunal and if necessary, the courts for justice. Compromising on the quality of the education we seek to provide is obviously undesirable.

As I mentioned in a previous circular, we are reorganising some of our internal processes and systems to ensure an effective education for every child. TGES is blessed with many great teachers and we are going to recreate school schedules and the organisation of teaching, so as to share these best teachers across all students. We are currently finalising these plans and we will share these by the 3rd of June.

What might you expect in terms of altered schedules? Primarily it is likely to include two stayback days so that teachers can be shared across sections/classes. You may think of it as a hybrid schedule of 2 full days and 4 half days. The full days will enable social learning and shared teachers and resources. More details will be made available very soon. Please be patient for now.

IB, Wadi and TGS Juniors are unlikely to see any major schedule changes.

There are no changes in day to day school uniforms and parents may buy these as needed. We recommend waiting on any purchase of sports T Shirts till 5th June as we reorganise houses in the light of many additional numbers of students.

There is an old adage that goes in this manner :

The more things change, the more they remain the same.

It frequently makes me think. When does real change occur? If at all it does. The new academic year, 2019-20, will perhaps provide an answer.

We are so looking forward to seeing all our students very soon. They are after all the reason why TGES exists.

Thank you for your support as always.

Yours sincerely,

Kiran Bhalodia
TGES Director on behalf of all Trustees

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