



The Sultan's School Admin Building (Entrance)

Welcome to our first school newspaper issue!

GET TO KNOW OUR SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

The Deputy Head Boy, Al Farooq Al Jabri, conducted an interview with our School Principal, Dr. Glenn, where we got to know some new things about him!

Q: Tell me a bit about yourself; where did you grow up and what made you decide to become a teacher?

A: "I grew up in London - East London. That's why I am a crazy West Ham fan. I went to every game between the age of 14 - 18 and if I'm honest the only thing I was good at school was sports, so when I finished Year 13 it seemed natural to go off to a PE college, which I did. So, I did PE teaching in the UK and after a couple of years, I realized I wanted to work internationally, and I've been doing that ever since. And as I've gotten older, I moved up to management until I became a principal."

Q: Why did you decide to come to Oman and why TSS?

A: "I knew TSS before I came here; I knew of the reputation of the school. Before I came here, I was Principal of the International School of the Bahamas. But when I saw this position, I sent in a letter in and they invited me to come over, as soon as I arrived, I just loved it! I loved the school, I loved Oman, and 8 years later, and I still do. I've worked in 6 different locations, but the Middle East is my favourite."

Q: What kind of things do you do in your spare time? I mean, you mentioned sports but what else, and does that influence what you do in school?

A: "No. I try to keep school and home separate! I even say this to teachers, as particularly we live on the school campus, we spend a lot of time at school and so it's important we have a life outside! I play less sports now, but when I was younger, I used to play rugby, cricket, football and basketball, my main sport was water polo but these days it's golf and it's fishing, they're my 2 things. I still go jogging - well, jogging might be a loose term - I go slightly quicker than a walk, early in the morning when you guys are all asleep at about half past four in the morning. These days my number one thing is I play golf. I'm not very good at it, but I love playing."

Q: When you first arrived here, and you took the job, did you envision something and did that vision come to life?

A: "You know the school was set up by the late Sultan Qaboos, and he had a vision. He wanted this school to provide the best possible bilingual education for Omani students, and he did that by bringing an international curriculum and the national curriculum together. He did that by making sure you are aware of what's going on in the world, and at the same time that you recognise and celebrate Omani culture and Islamic culture. So, his vision, it was quite amazing back in 1977. He had this vision and I'll tell you how amazing it was, when we had our CIS accreditation in 2018, they came in and said our mission statement that his Majesty put together is still current 40 years later. They said what an amazing man, to have that vision that is still relevant today"

The fact that you have an international education but also that you celebrate Omani and Islamic culture, it's just amazing. And so, what we did was, we had two sort of ideas or two plans, one of them was education: to make us the best possible IB school that we can be. Everything we've done, changed, it's about the journey from KG all the way through to help you become IB - hopefully good IB students. So, we've changed many things in terms of the educational plan. But at the same time, education never stands still. It's always moving and so what we've tried to do is give you the facilities that allow you to be the best possible students you can be. Things like the new cafeteria, The design and technology area, the IB Centre, upgrading the library. We try to give you the best possible facilities that will enable you to be the best possible students."

Q: To end this interview, I would like you to tell the people reading this your favourite quote.

A: "Favourite quote, that's a good question! *Michael Jordan* said 'I have missed all the shots that I have never taken. If you don't take a chance, you will never know. If you throw the ball up it might go in, but if you never throw the ball up it's never going in.' *Nelson Mandela* said something similar along the lines of: 'Education is the tool with which we have changed the world.'



Picture of Dr. Glenn with a group of TSS primary students.

Motivational Quotes

“It’s no use going back to yesterday because I was a different person then” – *Alice In Wonderland*



“Dearest Fear,

Creativity and I are about to go on a road trip together. I understand you'll be joining us, because you always do. I acknowledge that you believe you have an important job to do in my life, and that you take your job seriously. Apparently your job is to induce complete panic whenever I'm about to do anything interesting- and, may I say, you are superb at your job. So by all means, keep doing your job, if you feel you must. But I will also be doing my job on this road trip, which is to work hard and stay focused. And Creativity will be doing its job, which is to remain stimulating and inspiring. There's plenty of room in this vehicle for all of us, so make yourself at home, but understand this: Creativity and I are the only ones who will be making any decisions along the way. I recognize and respect that you are part of this family, and so I will never exclude you from our activities, but still-your suggestions will never be followed. You're allowed to have a seat, and you're allowed to have a voice, but you are not allowed to have a vote. You're not allowed to touch the road maps; you're not allowed to suggest detours; you're not allowed to fiddle with the temperature. Dude, you're not even allowed to touch the radio. But above all else, my dear old familiar friend, you are absolutely forbidden to drive.” – *Big Magic – Creative Living Beyond Fear*

“I’ve never been afraid of big moments. I get butterflies... I get nervous and anxious, but I think those are all good signs that I’m ready for the moment.” — *Stephen Curry*



Riddle of the day

You walk in a room and on the bed there are 2 dogs, 4 cats, one giraffe, 5 cows and a duck, with 3 chickens flying above a chair; How many legs are on the floor?

Did you hear about the mathematician who’s afraid of negative numbers?

He’ll stop at nothing to avoid them.

Advice for the Year 11 Students Who are currently preparing for their finals.

“This is for Year 11 students. You’re probably tired of hearing this so many times from your teachers, but that’s because it’s true. By far, the best possible way to revise for your final exams is to complete as many past papers as you possibly can, EFFECTIVELY. So, you should time yourself, complete the paper, identify your mistakes using the mark scheme, then work on your weaknesses. It’s as simple as that.” – *Sultan Al Hadhrami*

Send your answers to newspapertss@gmail.com.

If you have any suggestions or anything you'd want to add on to this, please don't hesitate to send it to us via newspapertss@gmail.com.

Notice:

Students: If you want to submit any form of work that you've done (whether it be a poem, artwork, photography, etc.) please email it to us and don't forget to include your name, class and a caption on what your work is about.

Teachers: If you'd want to submit announcements, challenges, winners of challenges or event pictures, etc. please email!

We are always online and ready to hear what you have to say 😊

Organized by: Al Farooq Al Jabri

Edited by: Shahad Al Harthy

Design & Layout: Amnah Al Hammadi, Fatma Al Hammadi

Newspaper team: Sultan Al Hadhrami, Reenad Al Shuaily, Salam Abduwani, Malaak Al Lawati, Salwa Al Jarjary, Saleh Al Jahdhami, Riwaa Al Balushi, Muayed Abduwani, Zeena Al Kindi

