

TESLATIMES

Volume 11, February 2026

February Quote

“Go for it. Life's biggest regret often stems from the change we don't take. Take the risk, and let the experience become a stepping stone to your next adventure”

(Ms. Kim Peters)

A SEASON OF MOMENTUM: ACHIEVEMENT, GROWTH, AND NEW HORIZONS

As we approach a defining milestone in our journey - **the IB Diploma Programme (DP) final authorisation visit on 10-11 March** - we celebrate a season marked by achievement, expansion, and forward momentum. This moment reflects years of dedication from our students, teachers, leaders, and families. Together, we continue building a future-focused international education grounded in excellence and purpose.

If Nikola Tesla were here...

He would surely smile and say, ***“That’s the kind of energy I like to see!”***

Our students recently demonstrated exceptional academic strength at the **4th Neo Science & Math Olympiad**.

PYP Results (Grades 3-5): 1 Gold | 1 Silver | 4 Bronze | 3 Honorable Mentions

MYP Results: 4 Bronze | 2 Honorable Mentions

These achievements are more than medals. They represent curiosity, analytical thinking, resilience, and academic courage - clear evidence that strong foundations combined with international-minded learning lead to measurable excellence.

TESLA INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION CALENDAR

Tesla continues strengthening its structured international competition pathway across disciplines:

- Mathematics & Science Olympiads
- English Academic Writing & Public Speaking
- Debate & Model United Nations
- Creative Arts & Innovation Challenges
- STEM and Design Thinking Competitions

Our students are not simply preparing for examinations - they are preparing for global platforms.

GROWING ENGLISH DEBATING EXCELLENCE

English debating is expanding across Primary and Secondary. This year, **20 students from Grades 4 to 10** participated in the first round of the National English Debating Competition. We look forward to hosting future rounds at Tesla and to seeing many of our confident thinkers and articulate speakers achieve outstanding outcomes.

Within an IB-aligned environment, debate becomes more than an activity — it becomes preparation for university discourse, leadership, and principled global citizenship.

OUR STRENGTH COMES FROM OUR COMMUNITY

Tesla's greatest strength is not buildings, branding, or programmes.

It is our students.

It is our parents.

It is the trust and partnership that allow us to grow with purpose.



As our enrolment strengthens, we will be able to:

- Enhance facilities
- Broaden program offerings
- Increase scholarship opportunities
- Expand international experiences
- Invest further in world-class educators

Together, we are building something sustainable, ambitious, and globally competitive.

The energy is building. The momentum is real. And the future is bright.

Please help us grow.

IMPORTANT DATES IN MARCH - APRIL

10 - 11	MARCH	IB DP FINAL AUTHORISATION
16 - 20	MARCH	MID-SEMESTER 2 EXAMS & MAP ASSESSMENT
24 - 27	MARCH	STUDENT-LED CONFERENCES (KG-G4)
23 - 26/3	Grade 5-6 (Hanoi)	WEEK WITHOUT WALLS
23 - 27/3	Grades 7-10 (Taiwan)	
03 RD	APRIL	PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCE
DATE TO BE CONFIRMED		MYP PERSONAL PROJECT EXHIBITION
27TH APRIL, 30TH APRIL & 1ST MAY		NO SCHOOL

“Go for it” - that spirit is exactly what our Early Years (EY) students have been embracing throughout January and February. For our young learners, each school day is a new steppingstone for exploration and growth.

During the first two months of this year, the young learners engaged in a wide range of activities, including science explorations, Water familiarization through swimming sessions, creative art experiences, and vibrant Lunar New Year celebrations through our “Tet Bazaar.” Each activity not only supports physical and cognitive development but also nurtures confidence, encourages risk-taking, and empowers children to express themselves. We believe that when children are given opportunities to explore within a safe and caring environment, they gradually build a strong foundation for their future learning journey.

In March, EY will continue focusing on developing independence and problem-solving skills through real-life, age-appropriate learning situations. In addition, activities in art, storytelling, and hands-on experiences will further nurture positive emotions, creativity, and a genuine love for coming to school.



IB PYP EARLY YEARS

Ms Hanh

As we return from the Tết holiday, students come back to school having spent valuable time with family, engaging in traditions, conversations, and everyday problem-solving beyond the classroom. These experiences play an important role in developing independence, responsibility, and curiosity which are skills that are aligned with the central to learning in the Primary Years Programme (PYP).

In the PYP, we intentionally develop **Approaches to Learning (ATL)** skills such as self-management, thinking, and research. When students help plan family activities, manage routines, ask questions, or reflect on experiences during the holiday, they are practicing the same skills that support learning at school. The **OECD** highlights self-regulated learning as a key factor in academic success, noting that students who can plan, monitor, and reflect on their learning perform more confidently and independently over time.

As internal assessments and MAP Growth assessments approach in the coming weeks, it is important to remember that these assessments measure how students apply their skills such as reading comprehension, reasoning, and problem-solving rather than memorization. Inquiry-based learning helps students approach these tasks with confidence and resilience.

I would like to ask families to continue to support their children's learning by creating opportunities for them to practice independence at home. This may include encouraging the kids to organize their belongings, manage homework routines, explain their thinking when solving problems, and reflect on what strategies helped them learn. Asking open-ended questions such as *"How did you figure that out?"* or *"What would you try differently next time?"* helps children develop confidence, resilience, and self-awareness. When home and school work together to promote responsibility and reflection, students are better prepared to approach learning, and upcoming assessments with independence and a positive mindset.



PRIMARY YEARS PROGRAMME

Mr Lucas

After the Tết holiday, the Middle Years Programme enters an important and dynamic phase of the academic year. The weeks ahead require focus, discipline, and intentional preparation as students set the pace for the upcoming Mid-Semester 2 examinations. At this stage in the MYP journey, learning is no longer about simply completing tasks - it is about developing ownership, resilience, and academic maturity.

Service as Action remains a core expectation for all MYP students. Through meaningful engagement beyond the classroom, students strengthen empathy, initiative, and responsibility - qualities that define internationally minded learners.

For our Grade 10 students, this period is particularly significant as they finalize their Personal Projects in preparation for Tesla's first-ever MYP Personal Project Exhibition. This milestone represents far more than a final submission; it reflects months of independent inquiry, reflection, and perseverance. I encourage parents, teachers, and peers to continue offering their support and encouragement as our students navigate this crucial stage with determination.

At the same time, we proudly celebrate our MYP students' strong performance in the Neo Science & Math Olympiad. These achievements reflect not only individual excellence but also the high standards of teaching and learning we uphold at Tesla.

Looking ahead, Week Without Walls - 2nd edition in Taiwan is approaching - an experience that will extend learning beyond our campus. For many students, this will be their first time away from family for an extended period. With careful preparation and dedicated supervision, our team is committed to ensuring this becomes one of the most meaningful learning experiences of their year.

The momentum continues.



MIDDLE YEARS PROGRAMME

Mr Dang



As we step confidently into the new year after Tết, there is a strong sense of momentum across our Senior Secondary community. The months ahead are significant ones for us. On 10–11 March, we will host our IB Diploma Programme (DP) authorization visit. Will it be easy? Of course not. Achieving DP authorization is never simple — it demands clarity, consistency, and collective commitment. But we are ready. In fact, we are more ready than we have ever been.

Our systems are aligned, our curriculum is in place, and our staff have worked tirelessly to ensure that every detail reflects the standards we believe in. I would like to thank our teachers, students, and families in advance for the continued support that makes this possible. This is very much a shared journey.

At the same time, school life moves forward at pace. It feels as though we were only just discussing Parent-Teacher Conferences and exam preparation, yet assessments are already approaching. Watching our students grow — academically, socially, and personally — is one of the great privileges of our work. Their preparations for Hanoi and their overseas experience in Taiwan are further reminders of how quickly they are developing into confident, capable young adults.

I am deeply proud to be part of a school that is growing with such purpose. The MYP and DP teams are exceptional — truly second to none — and that excellence is reflected in the maturity, resilience, and ambition we see in our students every day.



SECONDARY & IB DIPLOMA PROGRAMME

Dr. Ollie Peters

By the end of 2025 and into early 2026, the Vietnamese Ministry of Education and Training (MOET) has shifted its focus toward accelerating digital transformation and strengthening institutional autonomy in higher education. Tesla has already taken several steps ahead in the areas of AI and technology integration. The International Baccalaureate (IB) framework incorporates AI as a learning support tool, emphasizing ethical use, the development of critical thinking, and the safeguarding of academic integrity. AI-generated work must be properly acknowledged and cannot be presented as a student's original production.

At the same time, MOET is restructuring approximately 140 public universities, reducing direct administrative intervention to increase institutional autonomy, improve operational efficiency, and promote modernization. Emphasis is being placed on strengthening key institutions in the engineering and technology fields. These developments are expected to create expanded opportunities for Vietnamese students who have pursued international programmes such as the IB to continue their specialized studies within Vietnam.



MOET PROGRAM

Ms Phuong