



# TDMS

Wednesday 17 November 2021

## Community support networks

Dear Parents/Carers

As you may or may not be aware, there are over 20 different native languages spoken at TDMS, and we as a school are very proud to have such an international intake of students. As a first language, students here speak Arabic, Bengali, Bosnian, Bulgarian, Chinese, Hungarian, Italian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Panjabi, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Russian, Slovak, Spanish, Tagalog, Turkish, and Vietnamese.

Moving forward I want to make sure that our languages and cultures are recognised and celebrated at TDMS, and I would also like to ensure that other EAL families who move to the area are supported. For this I am looking to set up '**support networks**' within the local community so we can help any new arrivals to settle, and who can also support me with organising events at TDMS. This includes using TDMS students who speak these languages to act as a 'Welcoming Committee' to help any new students in their first few weeks at the school.

This request does not just apply to families whose first language isn't English; if you are a parent of a child in the school and you speak another language, I would also like to hear from you in case we have new arrivals to the school that also speak the language(s) you know.

We would also like to translate the key sections of the TDMS website into our most widely-spoken languages, which are Polish, Romanian, Bulgarian, Latvian and Lithuanian, and also send out letters in these languages. If you are able to help with this in any way, please contact me via the email address below. As an enrichment opportunity, EAL students in Year 12 will be invited to help support younger EAL students in lessons.

I would also like to know if any parents of TDMS students would be interested in attending English lessons as an evening class at the school. If there is sufficient demand I may be able to run a course for you.

Many thanks for taking the time to read this letter, and I look forward to hearing from you in the future. My email address for all enquiries is [mgoffe@thefourstonesmat.co.uk](mailto:mgoffe@thefourstonesmat.co.uk).

Yours sincerely

Martin Goffe  
Director of MFL / Assistant Headteacher

**THE DE MONTFORT SCHOOL**

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