### NEWSLETTER



### **ENGLISH FEST**

Students and teachers come together for a memorable English Fest, filled with exciting games, delicious food, and live music, making learning fun for all!

Page 5

### **SANTIAGO BARAONA**

Principal Santiago Baraona reflects on his years at Tabancura as he prepares to embark on a new path, leaving behind a legacy of dedication, growth, and community.

Page 4

### **IMMACULÉE ILIBAGIZA**

Her story of survival and forgiveness inspires our community during a memorable visit to our school, sharing powerful messages of hope and resilience.

Page 10

### From the Editors

Dear School Community,

We are thrilled to introduce this semester's "Journalism & Content Creation" students. These talented individuals will be developing essential skills in modern journalism, including clear writing, critical analysis, and ethical content creation. We are eager to witness the creativity, thoughtfulness, and responsibility they will bring to the school community through their work.

**Standing from left to right:** Domingo Correa, Pedro Vial, Clemente Monckeberg, Juan Pablo Rodriguez, Vicente Paredes, Martín Birke, Diego Correa, José Tomás Bravo, Tomás Arenas, Andrés Piña.

**Sitting from left to right:** Tomás Eyzaguirre, Raimundo Gaete, Pedro Espinosa, Aníbal Sáenz, Augusto Sánchez, Domingo Haeussler, Cristián Mardones, Diego Olivos.

Warm regards,

Fabrizio Costa & Rodrigo Cuevas Editors-in-Chief



### School Events (September/October)

- Report Card 4 (September 6)
- Civic Commemoration Ceremony (September 11)
- Independence Day Holiday (September 12-22)
- 11th Grades Confirmation (September 28)
- School Day (October 2)
- Tabancura in Action (October 5)
- 8th Graders B1 Preliminary Exam (October 7)
- Day of the Discovery of Two Worlds (October 12)
- 11th Graders B2 First Exam (October 14-15)
- Teacher's Day (October 17)
- Report Card 5 (October 25)







### September

Monday 02	Thursday 03	Wednesday 04	Thursday 05	Friday 06
Salad Bar	Salad Bar	Salad Bar	Salad bar	Salad bar
Lunch: Goulash with rice	Lunch: Chilian bean stew	Lunch: Noodles with Bolognese sauce	Lunch: Homemade Hamburger with Mashed Potatoes	Lunch: Pizza
Dessert: friut	Dessert: fruit	Dessert: Flan	Dessert: Fruit	Dessert: Fruit
TOS				
Monday 09	Tuesday 10	Wednesday 11	Thursday 12	Friday 13
Salad Bar	Salad Bar	Salad Bar		
Lunch: Breaded Chicken with	Lunch: Meat in Gravy with Angel Hair Pasta	Lunch: Beef Empanada	National Holidays	National Holidays
Dessert: Fruit	Dessert: Fruit	Dessert: ice cream		
			*	*
Monday 16	Tuesday 17	Wednesday 18	Thursday 19	Friday 20
National Holidays	National Holidays	National Holidays	National Holidays	National Holidays
*	*	*	*	*
Monday 23	Tuesday 24	Wednesday 25	Thursday 26	Friday 27
Salad Bar	Salad Bar	Salad Bar	Salad Bar	Salad Bar
Lunch: Nuggets with Rice	Lunch: Meat and Gravy with Mashed Potatoes	Lunch: Lentils	Lunch: Pasta Spirals with Tuna Sauce	Lunch: Chicken Stew with Rice Dessert: Fruit
Dessert: Fruit	Dessert: Fruit	Dessert: Fruit	Dessert: Jelly	Dessert: Fluit
Monday 30	2004.00	20	7	
Salad Bar	. The			

Lunch: Noodles with sauce







Farewell to a Legacy:
Principal Santiago
Baraona Embarks on a
New Journey.

### By R. Gaete and A. Sáenz

As we approach a new chapter in our school's history, we had the pleasure of sitting down with former Principal Santiago Baraona González, who has been a cornerstone of our institution for decades. Here's a glimpse into his journey and reflections as he prepares to embark on a new adventure.

Mr. Baraona, with 53 years old, has been a significant figure at our school since 1995. He began his journey as a Physics Teacher for 11th and 12th graders. In 1998, he transitioned to a leadership role, becoming the Principal at just 27 years old.

Mr. Baraona is leaving his role to pursue a long-held dream of studying theology. He will be moving to Rome to join a center of Opus Dei, renowned for its theological studies. This decision aligns with his personal aspirations and reflects his commitment to lifelong learning.

When asked about his proudest achievement, Mr. Baraona humbly points to the strong team of teachers he has helped cultivate. While he believes the true measure of his impact lies with the students and faculty, he feels a deep sense of accomplishment in the dedicated team that now guides the school.

As we all know by now, Mr. Daniel Poblete Castro will succeed Mr. Baraona as Principal. Mr. Poblete was a student of Mr. Baraona in 11th grade back in 2000 and later on he became a Language Teacher at our school. His journey from student to educator and board member of our school has uniquely equipped him for this role.

As he prepares to leave, Mr. Baraona shares a brief but heartfelt message: "Work hard, be nice." These words encapsulate the values he has always promoted and hopes will continue to inspire the school community.

While Mr. Baraona's immediate future involves four years of study in Rome, his plans beyond that remain open. Whether or not he returns to Chile or our school, his legacy and influence will remain a part of our history.

We wish Mr. Baraona the very best in his new endeavors and thank him for his years of dedicated service.

# THE ENGLISH FEST

### by José Tomás Bravo & Tomás Arenas



Tabancura School held an English Fest full of enthusiasm, where older students were in charge of creating and organizing various games and activities for the younger ones. These events, in addition to being very fun, helped the younger students learn English and have fun at the same time. Thanks to the effort and creativity of the older students, the younger ones enjoyed a day full of learning and fun. Below, we will showcase the different activities that were carried out during this event.



This activity was held last year as well, but what changed this year was that instead of lasting a full week, it was condensed into one day—a day full of fun activities in English.

The 10th-grade students prepared some fun games for the English Fest. It took them two weeks to complete, but everything was ready by the last Friday, when they spent the entire day with the first graders, having an incredible time with all the games.





One day during the week, the school's teachers surprised everyone by playing live music for the students. Thev performed songs in **English** that encouraged everyone to sing and dance. It was a special moment that not only made the event more entertaining but also demonstrated the teachers' effort to make this week different and memorable for all

demonstrated the teachers' effort to make this week different and memorable for all the students.

SCHEDULE

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In addition to all the activities, we had the chance to enjoy something delicious from the food truck that came to the school. You could buy a hamburger or a hot dog, but the French fries were by far the most popular.





In summary, English Week at Tabancura School was a total success. Although this year it was condensed into a single day, the energy and effort of all participants made it truly memorable. The games organized by the 10th-grade students, the delicious food from the food truck, and the incredible musical performance by the teachers were the highlights of the day. Without a doubt, this week showed that when everyone gets involved, learning can be transformed into something fun and special for the entire school community.

# 50 YEARS OF OPUS DEL

### By José Tomás Bravo & Pedro Vial



Something that really stands out is that, just like Saint Josemaría, Don Fernando made a special visit to the "Virgen de lo Vázquez", located halfway to Viña del Mar. This visit was very touching because it reminded us of when Saint Josemaría, at 70 years old, prayed an entire rosary on his knees despite being in a lot of pain, offering it to the Virgin. He also said a phrase that became part of history: "Chileans are very good prayers"





Fifty years ago, Tabancura School had the chance to welcome the founder of Opus Dei. Saint Josemaría. The school, which wasn't even five years old yet, this idea to bring him was started by a group of parents who saw the need to give their kids a Christian education. It was a real adventure to get the simple school cafeteria ready to welcome the thousands of people who came to the many meetings held there. After the big effort, on Monday, July 2, after a big flood had hit Santiago, the first gathering took place. Saint Josemaría started by saying that he had come to Chile "to learn how to be a good priest and a good Christian." This date was very important for the school, and 50 years later, Opus Dei is still one of the foundations of Tabancura.



After 50 years, the school was once again the place for an Opus Dei gathering. This time, Don Fernando Ocáriz was the special guest, and we were honored to have him in our country and at our beloved school last Friday. Just like when Saint Josemaría visited, Don Fernando answered some questions from the students and parents in the school auditorium. But he also held a much bigger gathering last Sunday at Movistar Arena, where people from all over Chile attended.

# 50 YEARS OF OPUS DEI

Don Fernando's visit helped us learn how to live in grace. But also it was very important for the school because he came as a representative of Saint Josemaría, who was key to the school's foundation. His visit helped the school in its early days, and it wouldn't be the same today if he hadn't come.



In conclusion, the 50-year journey of Opus Dei at Tabancura School is a testament to the enduring legacy of Saint Josemaría and the continued influence of his teachings. The recent visit of Don Fernando Ocáriz not only honored this legacy but also inspired the community to keep striving for spiritual growth and excellence in education. The school's history is deeply intertwined with the values and guidance of Opus Dei, shaping it into the institution it is today.



To understand a bit more, Don Fernando was born on October 27, 1944, in the French city of Paris, to a family of Republicans who escaped from Spain because of the Spanish Civil War. He was the youngest of eight children. Throughout his life, he earned many degrees as a physicist and theologian. He was ordained as a priest on August 15, 1971, and in 1994, he was appointed the vicar general of Opus Dei. He also became a well-known writer, and we invite you to read his great works, such as Marxism or Children of God in Christ.



### by Clemente Monckeberg

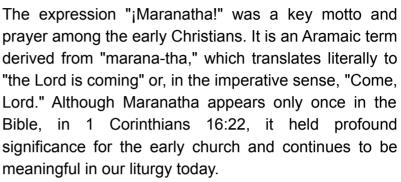












In an interview with Mr. Ronald Bown, he shared an anecdote about the origin of Maranatha Week. "One day, a student asked me why religion, the most important subject in our school, didn't have its own dedicated week. Following that, the Religion Department established Maranatha Week, which has been celebrated twice now."

This year's Maranatha Week featured several events, with highlights including a talk by Immaculée Ilibagiza and the "Fe Joven" (Young Faith) congress, which aims to engage students from various schools in Chile with religion in a meaningful way. Over 70 schools participated this year. Additionally, projects were organized in the religion classes and presented throughout the school. According to Mr. Ronald Bown, the most challenging aspect was coordinating such a large-scale event and ensuring its success.





# IMMACULÉE ILIBAGIZA

### by Andres Piña

Immaculée Ilibagiza is a survivor of the 1994 Rwandan genocide. Born in Rwanda and belonging to the Tutsi ethnic group, she was forced to hide for 91 days in a small bathroom with seven other women to save her life. This refuge was offered by a Hutu pastor who risked his life to protect them.

While hiding, Immaculée used prayer to stay strong and overcome fear and hatred. When she emerged after the genocide ended, she discovered that she was the only member of her family who had survived. Following this traumatic experience, Immaculée decided to emigrate to the United States, where she worked for the United Nations. Her story is well known thanks to her book *Left to Tell*, in which she recounts her experiences during the genocide and her journey of healing and forgiveness.







This year, 2024, Immaculée Ilibagiza was invited to be part of Religion Week (the "Marana Tha" week) held at our school. She gladly accepted and visited from Monday, August 26, to Friday, August 30. During her visit, Immaculée gave four talks addressed to all members of the Tabancura community. According to Immaculée, the core message she aims to deliver in her talks is the great importance of forgiveness and how only through prayer can one sincerely forgive.

Finally, we spoke with Mr. Ronald Bown, who was in charge of organizing Immaculée's visit to our school. He described her as follows: "Immaculée is undoubtedly a very joyful person; this is evident in everything she does. Whether touring the school or giving an important talk, she is always seen with a smile and is willing to listen to everyone." He also highlighted her personality: "She is a simple and humble person who, no matter how famous or globally recognized she is, is always willing to take time with each person who approaches her to talk and ask questions." This was truly an unforgettable visit.

# ALMENDRAL SCHOOL CONCERT

### By Pedro Vial

On Saturday, August 24, the choir, orchestra, and jazz ensemble from Tabancura School performed a diverse selection of musical works at Almendral School. Each group showcased their talents, with the jazz ensemble, orchestra, Schola Cantorum, and choir each performing two pieces. The event concluded with a joint performance by Almendral School's ensemble, choir, and orchestra, who performed two additional pieces together.







The concert required extensive preparation, with some of the pieces taking over a year to perfect. Mr. Alfredo Abarzúa, one of the organizers, elaborated on the process: "Artistically, the first step is organizing the Each group—the choir, program. ensemble, and orchestra—must practice diligently and well in advance to master their pieces. For instance, with the orchestra, we're already preparing pieces for next year's performances."



### TABANCURA SCHOOL LIFE







## Tabancura's Journey in the Soprole UC Championship

by Diego Correa

Tabancura's intermediate football team had an amazing run in the Soprole UC Football Championship, and although in the end they couldn't taste the victory against Cordillera school, it was still an astonishing journey, in what ended in a close penalty shootout against the "lions", after a very close game in which our team played most game with just ten players.





The team started said cup with a strong victory against San Benito by 2-0, and then as locals secured a 1-1 draw, reaching a spot in the semifinals, were they had a tough task against what had been one of the strongest teams of the year: Monte Tabor.

The match against Monte Tabor wasn't easy by any means. The tension was high, but the team showed a very good level and determination. Pelayo Hurtado calmly converted a penalty, putting the ball in the bottom corner, followed by a great goal from Fuenzalida. Although the decisive moment happened when Mackena scored a late goal, securing the victory and carrying Tabancura into the finals.



On the other side of the chart, Cordillera school won against Saint George, and awaited the final which was at first placed in San Carlos, but was later moved to the Orient sports club.

And soon the day came, it was Friday 23 of August, and Tabancura's team, along with many Tabancura students who went to support and give courage arrived at the place.

The game started as bad as you can imagine for the penguins, with a red card at the 12th minute of the game, and then a goal by the opposition at the 30th minute. And so the game was looking quite horrible for our players, but even with one player less and a goal down, the team kept pushing, and after a lot of effort, at the 49th minute it paid back, with Clemente Guzmán making the score a draw.

The players had given everything they had, fighting bravely and fiercely, but when the 70 minutes came to an end, both teams were still tied, and so penalties started. It was a very tight shootout, with cordillera's goalkeeper saving two penalties, plus one that went off target and Tomás Merino saving two and scoring one himself.

But in the end, Tabancura lost 5-4 after an amazing performance in which they resisted most of the game with 10 players, and with nothing left to say but words of comfort and respect for our team, which left everything on the field and made their school proud in the process.



## TABANCURA'S CLOSE RUGBY GAME

by Tomás Eyzaguirre



On a sunny Saturday, August 10, Tabancura School's rugby team played against Greenland at 12:30 pm. Tabancura made a strong comeback, winning the game 38 to 12. This was their first match after a long break, and it was full of excitement.

At the start, things were a bit tense for Tabancura because their captain arrived late, just before the game started. But even with the rough beginning, Tabancura quickly started playing well together as a team.

Both teams played hard, with strong defense and attack. But Tabancura started to win after some very hard and exhausting minutes, and they managed to keep it. Sadly, the captain had to leave the game early because he got hurt. Another player from the front row also got injured and had to leave. Even with these problems, the rest of the team stayed strong and firm, and they ended up winning the game.





After the game, the captain, Pedro Inglesi, said: "It was hard starting late and then getting hurt, but I'm really proud of the team. They stayed strong and finished the job. This win means a lot to us, especially after such a long break."

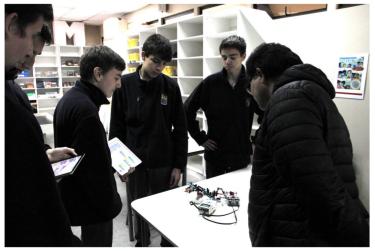
### STEM HIGH SCHOOL WORKSHOP

### By Tomas Arenas

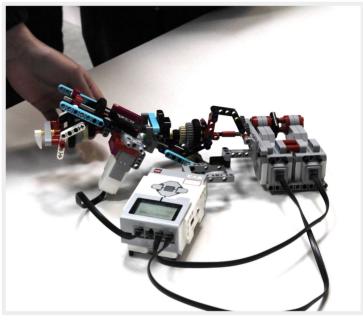
At Tabancura School, the STEM program (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) has become highly important, especially for high school students. While it has already made an impact in lower grades, it has grown significantly in the upper grades, becoming one of the most popular electives.

Mr. Freddy Sánchez, the teacher in charge of the high school elective, said, "Introducing STEM in high school builds on what students learned earlier and lets them tackle more advanced projects, helping them reach their full potential."





STEM Workshop Continues to drive creativity and innovation among students at Tabancura School



The STEM workshop challenges students with complex projects using advanced technology and LEGO kits for engineering and programming. These hands-on projects help students develop skills in robotics and problem-solving.

Each project ends with presentations, allowing students to showcase their work and explain the design and programming process. This builds their technical expertise and boosts confidence in real-world problem-solving.

Tabancura is committed to STEM education and will participate in the regional robotics competition on October 26, with the top teams aiming for the National Final on December 7. Offering STEM courses demonstrates the school's dedication to preparing students for the challenges of the 21st century.





By P. Espinosa, A. Sánchez and M. Birke

**Aviary** 

Mr. Francisco Muñoz has been working at Tabancura School for five years and in recent has assumed the enormous vears responsibility of managing the school's aviary. Not only does he care about birds, but he also teaches students about them in a hands-on way. For him, it's about making sure the birds are healthy and that students learn to appreciate nature. When asked about his job, Mr. Muñoz explained that it is not easy. "It's a challenging project because you need to make sure the birds are well cared for and at the same time make it a good experience for the students," he said. He has found a way to balance it all, creating a space where students can see the birds up close and learn how they live without putting anyone in danger. Working with students is one of Mr. Muñoz's favorite parts of his job. "It's great to bring students closer to nature, even if it's in a controlled environment. We can show them how biology works in a way they don't normally experience," he explained. It is clear that he wants students to develop a deeper understanding of nature and how to respect it.

The aviary is also a key part of the school's mission to teach responsibility and care for the environment. "We try to teach students that animals, like birds, are our little brothers. We need to take care of them in a respectful way," Mr. Muñoz said. He believes this connection with animals can help students grow as individuals. As a veterinarian, he thinks the most important part is reproduction in the birds. "When the birds reproduce, it means they feel safe and comfortable in their environment. That's how we know we're doing things right," he said. It's a sign that the birds are happy, and it makes all the hard work worth it.

One of the biggest challenges Mr. Muñoz faces is teaching younger students how to act around the birds. "Sometimes, little kids try to throw things or feed them the wrong food, and we have to show them how to care for the birds properly," he explained. He's always working to make sure the birds are safe and that students understand how important it is to treat them with care.

o keep the aviary running smoothly, Mr. Muñoz works with the whole school community. From making sure the birds are fed and have everything they need to bringing in new birds to maintain genetic diversity, he's always on top of things. It's a lot of work, but he's clearly dedicated to it.

Watch the Full Interview Here

## CURRENT BERDS IN THE AVIARY

### By Domingo Correa

The Swinhoe Pheasant, native to Taiwan, is known for its vibrant, colorful plumage. Males have a metallic green body and a long, ornate tail, standing out for their beauty in the forests and mountainous areas they inhabit.

Peacocks are birds noted for their impressive plumage, especially that of the males, which have a fan-shaped tail with iridescent feathers in green and blue colors, decorated with shiny "eyes." Native to Asia, these birds are known for their elegant display during courtship.



The cockatoo nymph, also known as the nymph cockatoo, is a small cockatoo with a distinctive crest and plumage in shades of gray and pink. Native to Australia, it is a sociable and lively bird, famous for its attractive appearance and flocking behavior.

Rosellas are Australian parrots that stand out for their vibrant plumage in colors such as red, green and yellow. They are social and active birds, often found in flocks and are known for their playful and noisy behavior.



African turtle doves have plumage in shades of gray and brown and are known for their soft song. They are found in various habitats in Africa, from forests to bushlands, and feed on seeds and grains.

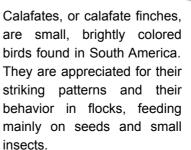


Mandarin ducks are spectacular looking birds, with bright plumage in shades of orange, blue and green. Native to Asia, these ducks are prized for their elegant appearance and colorful courtship rituals in bodies of water.

Manones are small and colorful birds, with green and yellow plumage. Native to Australia and the Pacific Islands, they usually live in large groups and feed on nectar and seeds, being social and

active birds.

Diamond Doves are small birds native to Australia, with distinctive plumage that has black and white spots. They are appreciated for their compact size and their behavior in flocks, feeding on seeds and vegetation.





## ECOLOGICAL TRAIL REMODELING

### by Domingo Correa

This year our school's ecological path has been considerably remodeled, improving its appearance and promoting a more ecological culture within it. This project arises from the request of Ronald Bown, general secretary of the school, who proposed Guillermo Vial, a former Tabancura student and architect, to designs this project at the beginning of 2024. He seeked to make a fountain, which carries a virgin, next to a wonderful garden. The place is called "Virgin of the Trail."

Additionally, this project involves remodeling almost everything on the trail. Starting with the aviary, it was rearranged, including new spaces for the birds, nests were added and the floor was renovated. Then, the idea arose to reuse fallen trees after the storm on Friday, August 2, using them to create a floor of wooden discs between the aviary and the fish tank. Next, the greenhouse, which was painted white all over the exterior along with a deep cleaning of it, including the ceiling and walls, ending with an order. Next, the terraces, a 2022 project, were reorganized, acquiring a new pattern, which in addition to being symmetrical, fulfills a strategic function to be able to work more comfortably and achieve a structured autonomous irrigation system.





All of this was possible thanks to the supervision of Mrs. Constanze Soltmann, who, in her role in charge of the care and maintenance of all the school's gardens, directed and made this project possible. Her vision were key to its optimal execution. Along with Biology Teacher Andrés Amenábar and the Maintenance Team, managed once again to transform our environment into a more beautiful and functional place.

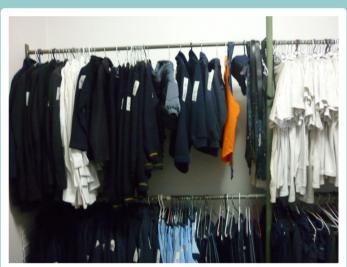
The inauguration was held by our Principal, Santiago Baraona, on Monday, August 26, the first day of the Marana Tha Week. Mr. Santiago Baraona was also a great promoter of the Ecological Path.



## TABANCURA LOSTAND FOUND

### by Andres Piña

Since 2022, the lost and found at the school has been under the responsibility of the parent center, which manages this task through volunteer mothers from the school. These mothers offer their help daily, assisting the school staff. The lost and found is open from Monday to Friday during reading hours and the first break, from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., and from Monday to Thursday in the afternoons from 2:45 to 3:45 p.m. Currently, there are more than 300 items in the lost and found, ranging from bottles and lunch boxes to various types of sneakers. Previously, to recover a lost item, you had to pay 200 pesos, but now the service is free, making it easier to retrieve belongings. Every day, school staff bring found items to this location to be organized the next day, with an average of 20 items of clothing and other belongings arriving daily.







### **PRICES**

TIE	\$2,000
WHITE SHIRT	\$2,000
LIGHT BLUE T-SHIRT	\$2,000
WHITE T-SHIRT	\$2,000
SHORTS	\$3,000
GRAY PANTS	\$2,000
SWEATPANTS	\$4,000
SWEATSHIRT	\$4,000
SWEATER	\$5,000
FLEECE	\$5,000
JACKET	\$6,000

Since the parent center took on this task, they have implemented a new system that allows families to donate their uniforms if they are no longer going to use them, whether because their children are no longer attending the school or for other reasons. These uniforms are sold so that other families can reuse them, and all profits from these sales are used to purchase specialty jackets for the students of Nocedal School.

### NEWSLETTER



### **SUGGESTIONS?**

Please don't hesitate to reach out to us with any ideas or suggestions you may have. Your input is invaluable to us, and we are always eager to hear from you.

journalism@tabancura.cl