



LEARNING WELL, ENJOYING LIFE, EXCEEDING EXPECTATIONS

<p><i>Term 3 - Issue 3</i></p>	<p>Wednesday 10 June 2009</p>	<p><i>www.cisdoha.com</i> <i>info@cisdoha.org</i></p>
<p>In this issue: *** <i>From the Head Teacher</i> *** <i>Learning Opportunities</i> *** <i>News for September 2009</i> *** <i>Admissions for 2009 / 2010</i> *** <i>Sun Safe</i> *** <i>IPC Eggstravaganza</i> *** <i>Dutch Nieuwsbrief Juni</i> *** <i>Student Council</i> *** <i>Milepost 3 Disco</i> *** <i>English Poetry Competition</i> *** <i>Early Years Mathematics</i> *** <i>Book ADventure</i> *** <i>General Information</i> *** <i>Dates for your Diary</i> *** <i>Miscellaneous</i> ***</p>	<p>Dear Parents,</p> <p>A very exciting school year is drawing to a close and it is always good to make time to reflect on what we have learned and how far we have come. At the end of term, you will receive your child's School Report and will be able to reflect with your child on the progress they have made. I hope that you found the recent Parent and Teacher Consultations useful and informative. It is vital that school and parents work together to provide a range of positive learning experiences that complement each other.</p> <p>The School Consultative Group held its final meeting for the year recently and I would like to pay tribute to the contribution they have made - school and parents working together - to developing our school, raising issues and sharing ideas. The very real accomplishments of the SCG over the last year will be communicated to you before the end of term.</p> <p>Our first school show, Scherezade, hits the stage very soon. There is an enormous amount of organisation, preparation and commitment involved from many people. Make sure you get tickets as it is sure to be an excellent event.</p> <p>John Todd Head Teacher</p>	



Learning well. Enjoying life. Exceeding expectations

Compass International School Doha is opening its second campus at **Al Rayyan** and will now offer both a Primary and Secondary programme for children ages 3 to 13.

The second campus will be located close to the **Racing & Equestrian Centre**.

For applications please contact:
Compass International School
Al-Ahmed Street, Al-Rayyan, P.O. Box 23479, Doha, Qatar
Tel: +974 487 7445. Fax: +974 487 7446
Email: info@cisdoha.org
www.cisdoha.org



A member of **WCL**

An international school located in the State of Qatar owned and managed by Education Overseas Qatar LLC (CR No. 33520)

Learning Opportunities

We will be giving you regular LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES and hope that you will find out more about the programmes we offer at school.

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES for parents in May include:

- Weekly class assemblies and subject assemblies
- Parent and Teacher Conferences
- End of Term Reports

News for September 2009

In the last newsletter, I gave some specific details on school improvements planned for September 2009. These included:

- Improved learning in PE through full time Physical Education Teachers at both campuses
- Improved learning in Music and Performing Arts through a full time Music Teacher
- Improved learning in English as an Additional language through increased teacher support, additional resources and a new assessment programme
- Possible extra First Language / Mother Tongue Programmes - we currently offer Dutch during school hours and German after school hours. We are also investigating the possibility of Danish and Arabic First language Programmes.

We recognise the value of providing the best possible learning environment through a continuous programme of maintaining and, where possible, upgrading our facilities. During the summer, aside from routine maintenance and deep cleaning, we plan to install a new swimming pool shade - we hope that this will improve the children's learning experiences in the pool by providing shelter from the sun. The school will receive a fresh coat of paint inside and out giving our buildings a welcome facelift in time for the new year in September.

It is always difficult to give details on class assignments for children before the start of the new year. When we assign children to classes, we take into account balancing of gender, nationality and language proficiency. In order to achieve the best possible balance for all our children, we leave final class assignments until the end of August. Our intention is to shuffle the children who are moving from early Years 2, Year 2 and Year 4, but we may need to shuffle other classes as well if we need to achieve a better balance. We do intend to keep Early Years 1 children with the same teacher as they move into early Years 2.

Admissions for 2009 / 2010

Admissions for 2009 / 2010 are still being accepted, but some classes at the Gharaffa campus have already been closed. If you would like to apply for a place for your child for the new academic year, please collect an Application Form from the School Office, or download it directly from our website (www.cisdoha.com). Please let your friends and colleagues know as we expect demand for places to continue to grow. Please make sure that you send a copy of your child's latest school report with the application.

Sun safe

Our School Nurse, Mrs. Borberg, has spoken to every class in the school about the importance of drinking water throughout the day. We also sent out an information letter on the subject. Please continue to talk to your children on this subject to avoid any problems in the hot weather. Try to ensure they wear a hat whenever they are outside, particularly when leaving school.

IPC - Mad Scientist Eggstravaganza

On Wednesday 27th May, Compass International School held our second annual Science Day. The theme for the day was 'eggs'. Each class conducted science experiments for the day. All students dressed up as mad scientists. MP3 Maher completed the following activities.

Scrambled eggs: We beat eggs in a bowl and added milk before frying in a pan and stirring as they cooked. Next we added salt and then of course we ate them. Very tasty and a good example of a chemical change!

Eggs-Traordinary Strong: For this activity we used four eggs placed in each corner of an egg carton. Over this we put the lid of a box and then estimated how many books, such as heavy dictionaries, the eggs would support before they broke. The record number of books was 56! We were surprised at how much weight eggs can support when they are standing upright. We learnt that eggs are strong because of their dome structure. We tested this idea further when we tried to crack an egg between our thumb and index finger. Nobody could!

Egg in the Bottle: In this activity we heated a jar with hot water. We emptied the hot water out and quickly placed a boiled egg in the top of the jar. The egg was slowly sucked into the jar as the air inside the jar cooled down. This was because the air pressure in the cooling jar was less than the outside causing a vacuum.

The Great Egg Drop: Finally with some help from MP1 Maher, we were challenged to construct a package that would protect an egg from being dropped from the second floor balcony. Only three eggs survived! We learnt the best packaging had cushioning directly around the egg, such as bubble wrap, which was placed in more cushioning such as shredded paper.

It was a great day. It was nice to see everyone dressed up. The activities were interesting and fun and we learnt a lot about eggs.



James Maher - MP3 / Year 5 Teacher

Dutch Nieuwsbrief Juni

My first year in Compass International School has been a great challenge and experience. Thanks to the help and support of our colleagues (Compass and Globetrotter), the parents and the Dutch Speaking Association, we were able to create a positive Dutch language learning environment with some lovely events and celebrations.

We had some great cultural days like Sint Maarten, Sinterklaas, Queens Day, Reading Breakfast, and, a few weeks ago, a very successful Belgian Day - an event that will return on next year's calendar.

The children have been working really hard. Besides the day school programme, the Dutch children (Year 2 – Year 7) have an additional 45 minutes afternoon session twice every week. One of the sessions has a focus on Dutch and Belgian culture.

In Year 2 and Year 3, we learned about celebrations and Dutch and Belgian daily life:

We learned about the bakery and typical Dutch and Belgian treats like: speculaas, eierkoeken, waffles and pralines. We had fun when we played a running game called the bakery helper.

From: Tijm and Pepijn

At the beginning of the school year we looked at popular holiday destinations in Holland and Belgium. We like De Efteling, one of our main attraction parks. In one of the cultural lessons we learned the Plopsa dance from a well known character from Belgium.

From: Aron and Tim

In one of our cultural lessons we learned about how Easter is celebrated. We decorated eggs and played a game called egg crack.

From: Ieke and Stijn

We learned that Mothers' Day is celebrated on the second Sunday in May. We made a Mothers' Day present - a decorated photo frame.

From: Sietse and Luuk

From Year 4 onwards, children learn about Dutch and Belgian heritage and important historical events and figures.

In history they have learned about :

- Anne Frank
- The time after the second world war
- The big flood of 1953

We also listened to stories from the book: A long time ago. The stories tell us about historical events and persons. Meester Fred always gives us some more inside information and we discuss historical issues related to the story. We love these sessions.

In Geography we learned about:

Different areas in Holland like the Randstad and about the Dutch/Belgium weather and climate (a very popular subject to talk about in Holland/Belgium while waiting at a bus stop or having a coffee).

We are all looking forward to the new school year and the new Rayyan campus where we will make a start with Dutch secondary education. Thank you again for all your support and trust.

Registration for the Dutch Parents Teachers Conferences from June the 14th onwards in the Dutch Library.

Christa Sterk

Dutch Coordinator

Student Council Activities

Our new Student Council caps have arrived. The idea behind the bright colour is to help the reps stand out so other children can go to them if they need help at break times etc. I think you'll agree they all look very much the part!

Hopefully, you have visited the school website and followed the links to the Student Council pages. If not here's how to get to it:

www.cisdoha.com

- click '*students*' on the top line
- then click '*student council*' on the left hand side which will give you a synopsis of the Student Council projects this year



- on the right hand side are 2 choices:
 - student representatives this contains a brief note of each student council rep written by themselves
 - Interviews – there are 2 podcasts to listen to:
 - one is an interview with Val Bloom a visiting poet and
 - the other is an interview with Alan Stirling from the College of the North Atlantic who helped us to start our paper recycling project.

Watch the website as we will be posting a podcast of the Student Council reps views of ‘a year in the life of a Student Counsellor’.

John Travolta Eat Your Heart Out!

The sound system was pumping and the disco ball spinning on Thursday 4th June as the Milepost 3 disco kicked off. With glad rags on, flashing lights and the rhythm happening, the guys and gals from the years 5, 6, and 7 all took to the floor. After the initial shyness, approximately 5 minutes, the place was rocking with DJ Uddin in the house!

It was difficult to choose between the entrants in the dance competition but we managed to select a few potential participants for ‘Britain’s Got Talent’! There were prizes for the best individual dancers, group dancers and one special prize for the best costume...funky Sean! It’s safe to say a good time was had by all.

Thanks to the MP 3 staff and parents who worked hard to create the atmosphere and ensure it was ‘electrifying’.

Pauline Markey - Deputy Head Teacher

English Poetry Competition

Following an assembly on the IPC Society Learning Goals we recently ran a poetry competition in school where the children in Milepost 2 and 3 were asked to write a poem about their home country or the host country, Qatar. Every child took part and the entries were fantastic. From acrostic poems to Japanese haikus, similes to metaphors, adjectives to adverbs, the poems really described the children’s own thoughts on their home country and evoked memories of their own society and what is special to them.

I was very pleased to see that we had such budding poets in our midst and that the quality of the children’s writing has improved so much over the year. I could easily have given out several prizes for each class but unfortunately had to choose one winner. So well done to all the other participants and thank you for sharing your wonderful thoughts on your home country - I certainly know more about them from reading your poems.

The winners were as follows:-

MP3 Gibson	Giri Bulsara	MP3 Uddin	Joanna Hughes
MP3 Maher	Damia Munira	MP3 Leeman	Yolin Van Kleef
MP2 Djedid	Sophie Maher	MP2 Hasselkvist	Karla de Villiers
MP2 Alufa	Amirah Zaim	MP2 Daley	Clara Burden.

The winners were presented with a book in assembly and read out their poems to the rest of the school. Congratulations.

South Africa

THE clean, quiet beaches in Durban.
Famous mountains like Table Mountain and
Drakensberg.

The Springbuck and the "Big 5":
Elephant, Buffalo, leopard, lion, rhino on
a hot safari in the Kruger National park.
The diamond mines in Kimberly.

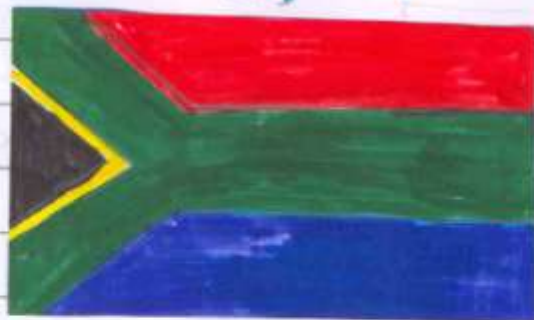
Rainbows in the blue sky after rain.

The Victoria falls in the north.

Protea's in an open, green field,

The famous presidents, Jan 'n Beji and
Nelson Mandela.

In 1995 and 2007 the Springbucks won
the rugby cup.



BY: KARLA DE VILLIERS

MP 2 H

IPC Shopping and the application of mathematics in Early Years

In Early Years 2 we have recently been learning about shopping. We have been looking at money from other countries and using money in our class shop. We have been counting out the coins and finding out how much change we have left when we buy an item from the shop. We had fun making money men with Euro paper coins too. We also looked at the shapes of products in our class shop and matched them to real shapes such as cuboids, spheres and cylinders. We had great fun learning about maths and shopping!

Caroline Gould EY2 teacher



Book Adventure Club

In last month's newsletter I mentioned the Book Adventure Club. This is a free interactive reading motivation programme which we plan to launch in school in September. The site (www.bookadventure.com) offers parents resources and tips to develop a lifelong love of reading.

Children choose appropriate books from the list on the database and collect the books from the library. This can also be done at home if you have access to a local library over the summer holidays or a collection of your own books at home. Once the book has been read, the children return to the site to take quizzes on the books and are awarded points based on the number of questions they answer correctly.

If you would like to start the programme now, for use now and over the summer holidays, you can register your child for home play on the site. It is important for children to read over the summer holidays to help maintain and improve their level of English. This is particularly so for EAL children who return home as they will then be immersed in their mother tongue and may forget some of their English vocabulary.

I have also suggested to some parents that a good way of getting their child to maintain an English focus is to keep a holiday diary. This can become a book of memories with tickets, photographs and a written entry each day (in English) to remind them of their holiday.

Ann Djedid - English Coordinator

General Information

- Arrival Time** Please note that school starts at 7.30 AM and children are expected to be in their classrooms ready to learn by then. We do understand that traffic in Doha can be a challenge, but arriving late can not only disrupt your own child's learning, but also the learning of other children. Please make sure that your children arrive at school on time.
- Absence** If your child is absent from school for any reason, please inform the Class Teacher or call the school office. This should be done before the event in the case of a planned absence (e.g. holiday / visit to the dentist). For sickness, or other unplanned absences, please send an explanatory letter when your child returns to school.
- Clothing** Please ensure that all items of clothing and other personal belongings are clearly labelled with your child's name. Personalised iron-on labels are available from Zaks, the uniform suppliers.
- Snacks** Please provide your child with something healthy to eat at break times (e.g. fruit, cereal bar, etc.) in a suitable container marked with their name. Please provide drinks in containers other than glass, which can be dangerous. Children are encouraged to drink water during lessons to ensure that they remain fully hydrated for optimal learning.
- Sun Safe** We operate a NO HAT - NO PLAY policy. Make sure that your child brings their hat to school otherwise they will not be allowed onto the field to play. Please ensure that your child knows that they need to drink regularly to remain properly hydrated in the hot weather.
- Lost property** There is a lost property box in the bus office by the gate at school. If you lose something, please check there in the first place. There are many items waiting to be claimed.
- Parking** Please take care when parking at the start and the end of the school day and ensure that you follow the instructions of our security personnel. The car parks in front of the

school are for the use of school buses and staff only. Parents are asked to use the roadside parking areas and the land next to the school. Please do not park opposite the school entrance as this upsets our neighbours.

Dates for your Diary

Week 8:

Awards: Physical Education

Thursday 11 EY / MP1 Rebollo Assembly 7.40 AM
MP2 Talent Show 8.15 AM

Week 9

Awards: Thoughtfulness

Monday 15 Staff Meeting 1.45 PM - 2.45PM
School Show Dress Rehearsal to EY / MP1

Tuesday 16 School Show for MP2/3 and Parents

Wednesday 17 School Show Evening Performance

Thursday 18 ECAs finish

Week 10

Awards: Music

Monday 22 Staff Meeting 1.45 PM - 2.45PM

Thursday 25 EY / MP1 Assembly 7.40 AM
MP2 / MP3 Assembly 8.10 AM

Week 11

Awards: Leavers' Assembly

Thursday 02 Leaver's Assembly 12.30 PM
School Reports

Email Communications

You may have noticed recently that we are sending out more information by email. To save paper, time and energy, we hope to stop a lot of our paper based communications. If you did not get this newsletter by email, then please speak to Mrs. Cheryl Paladino or Mrs. Kay Tilley, our School Secretaries, and we will add you to the mailing list.

Miscellaneous

We are always available to consult with parents about your children, so please do not hesitate to contact the school if you have any queries. If you do wish to speak to your child's Class Teacher or the Head Teacher, then it is advisable to make an appointment. Teachers cannot come out of classes except in an emergency. Your cooperation in this area is appreciated.

School Telephone: +974 4877 445

School Fax: +974 4877 446

Head Teacher's email: head@cisdoha.org

School Office email: admin@cisdoha.org

Website: www.cisdoha.com

Login to parents section on website: Username: dohaparents
Password: compassISD

Thank you for your continuing support,

John Todd
Head Teacher

Compass International School Doha

The School's Mission Statement:

**Learning Well, Enjoying Life,
Exceeding Expectations.**

The School's Vision Statement:

**To be a successful school, recognised
around the world for excellence.**

The school's Definition of Learning:

**Learning is making connections
between new and existing knowledge,
skills and understanding to adapt to
our changing world.**