






***LEARNING WELL, ENJOYING LIFE, EXCEEDING EXPECTATIONS***

<b><i>Term 3 - Issue 3</i></b>	<b>Wednesday 30 June 2010</b>	<i>www.cisdoha.com</i> <i>info@cisdoha.org</i>
--------------------------------	-----------------------------------	---

<p><b>In this issue:</b> *** <i>From the Head of School</i> *** <i>Rayyan Campus Update</i> *** <i>Primary School English</i> *** <i>Dutch Language and Culture</i> *** <i>English as an Additional Language</i> *** <i>Arrangements for September 2010</i> *** <i>Term Dates 2010 / 2011</i> *** <i>Contact Details</i> *** <i>Mission and Vision</i> ***</p>	<p>Dear Parents,</p> <p>This final newsletter of the school year gives an opportunity to celebrate the great learning that has been happening across the school over the last year. It is also the time to say farewell to friends and family who have been at Compass and are now moving on to new challenges and opportunities.</p> <p>One of the sad parts of life in an international school is that members of our community move on every year and we lose friends and colleagues. One of the joys is the opportunity to meet and welcome new people into our community and learn new things from their experiences.</p> <p>We have accomplished a very great deal over the last year. As a school we have taken time to reflect on our learning journey and to celebrate what we have achieved. Your child's report will be released on Thursday and it is important that you talk with them and reflect on the many successes over the last year and set new and challenging targets for the coming year.</p> <p>I would like to take this opportunity to thank all members of the school staff for their hard work and commitment—teachers, learning assistants, office and administration staff and all the support staff.</p> <p>Enjoy a safe and restful holiday.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;">   </div> <p><b>John Todd</b> <b>Head of School</b></p>
--	--

		
---	--	---

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

## Update on Building at the Rayyan Campus

I am pleased to be able to report that we have continued to make progress on the Rayyan Campus developments but I cannot yet give any final date for the building programme. We have received the initial planning permits for a new classroom block and sports hall. The classroom block also contains a library, science laboratory and staff room. As soon as we receive the next stage of approvals, I will communicate this to the community and we should then be able to give a more definite starting date.

The current plan is to offer secondary school (Year 7 to Year 10) plus some primary classes. When we have more clarity on what is happening, we will be asking primary parents whether they would like to move to the new campus.

An information programme for new Year 7 students was held earlier this week and full details can be found on the school website.

Primary school students who have expressed a wish to start at the Rayyan Campus will be informed when that option is available. It seems likely that the building will not be ready for primary students at the start of the new year. We will communicate with parents as soon as we have more information and the move to Rayyan will be an option once it becomes available.

### Primary School English

Children often forget that English can overlap into many other areas of the curriculum. Often when they are working on IPC, they do not realise that they are also doing English as well! Some of the best English work done is cross-curricular and this makes English more relevant for the children.

Year 2 have been working on the IPC unit called 'Words in the Air - Communication'. Mrs Harrison has written an account of the work her class have done in English and IPC.

Year 2 Harrison had the task of communicating the story 'The Blind Men and the Elephant' in a way that would reach a lot of people. They chose to dramatise the story and then present their performance as a TV/Film. First they had to condense the story and highlight the key parts. Then each child was given a part and for a week, the classroom was turned into a minor version of a film studio with scenery, all the reception area's quota of pot plants and a 'horse' from the gym, transformed into a large elephant, suitable for carrying



six lively boys! The children learnt how the film was made up of scenes, and how important it was to work and support each other. Later they were filmed evaluating the experience, each adding how much they learnt about communication and how much they enjoyed the whole process. Each will have a copy of the film as a memento. I think Mr Antoine and I learnt a lot as well...but perhaps we should keep our day jobs! - Gael Harrison

The children have had a great time learning about communication, and have found out that English is more than just reading and writing!

Margaret Pilkington  
Learning Improvement Leader for English

## Dutch Language and Culture Programme (NTC)

I can't believe this is already the last Newsletter of this school year. It has been a very surprising and challenging one, with lots of learning going on to be proud of and to celebrate.

In Early Years we learned:

- That Dutch is different from English
- A lot of new Dutch songs
- An uncountable number of new Dutch words connected to our IPC themes.
- 30 times or more a letter or sound of the week. Some of us managed to put them together as words and the words together as sentences.
- About new stories, we loved in particularly our funny new books from the Book Week.
- How to count in Dutch while pointing at items
- About Holland and Belgium. Our favourite lessons were of course the ones about our big friend Saint Nicolas.

In Year 2 we learned how to read and write in Dutch and we can't believe that we are already able to read a whole book in our Mother Tongue.

From Year 3 upwards we learned:

- 360 new words intentionally and many more by accident
- 27 new spelling categories
- In 36 lessons about e.g.: adjectives, grammar, Dutch expressions and comparisons.
- In our cultural lessons about e.g.: famous Dutch people, Holland Water Land, Belgium, Dutch symbols, Amsterdam and the Golden Age and Dutch and Belgian topography.
- How to improve our Dutch reading
- Through 5 cultural events how to be proud of our Dutch and Belgian heritage and cultural background

Another thing we celebrated this year was our one hundredth (100<sup>th</sup>) NTC student. Unfortunately in a few weeks time we have to say goodbye to some of our Dutch speaking students, but it looks like we will start the new school year with almost the same number of Dutch speaking children as this year.





I would like to use this opportunity to say a big thank you to Monique Ambachtsheer and Pascal Klinker for running a faithful weekly library duty. Milia Broeken and David Nagtegaal for starting with the scanning of our library book, An de Witte for being a very patient reading mum, the DSA and the Globetrotter for their great cooperation and for organising unforgettable events, the Compass staff and of course all our Dutch speaking children and parents for their trust and support to make 2009-2010 a successful year.

*Christa Sterk*  
*NTC coordinator*

The NTC Programme is directly subsidised by the Dutch Government and that is why we are able to offer such an exciting and innovative Dutch First Language learning programme. I would like to thank His Excellency, Mr. John Groffen, Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands for his ongoing assistance, support and advice.

In recognition of her leadership and commitment within the Dutch Programme and across the school, I am delighted to announce that Miss Christa Sterk has been promoted to the position of Assistant Principal with effect from September 2010.

### **Keeping Skills Sharp**

Hello from the English as an Additional Language team!

Many parents having been asking what their children can do over the summer holidays to make sure they keep their English language skills progressing. Here are some suggestions of things you could do:

- When you watch a DVD, put the spoken language to English and put the subtitles on to show your Mother Tongue. (This will help your child to match the sounds of English to familiar words in your Mother Tongue. It is not as effective to put the spoken language to your Mother Tongue and the subtitles to English!)
- Make time for English speaking only. (This means EVERYONE speaks English – Mum, Dad, brothers, sisters, maids, drivers etc). This only has to be ten minutes per day at first. Then you can make the time longer by ten minutes every ten days. You could choose a morning time, an evening time or a mealtime. (This will help your child to speak more fluently and get used to listening to spoken English)
- Buy and read an English Language comic/book with pictures (not a newspaper). Ask your child to explain the story (in English!) to you. Your child could also translate what the characters say into your Mother Tongue.
- Watch an English Language television programme and then discuss it in your Mother Tongue.
- Watch an English Language television programme and then discuss it in English!
- Find an article (in an English Language *or* Mother Tongue newspaper). Discuss a current news topic (the BP oil slick, Qatar's 2022 World Cup bid) in English.
- Keep a diary of your summer break, recording events in English one day and mother tongue on the alternate day. Make sure to include photos.
- Children can send emails to their friends in English and mother tongue to their native speaking friends.
- Enjoy being at home in your home country! It is important for children to develop language skills and concepts in their mother tongue, as this assists them to make connections in English.



## Term Dates 2010 / 2011

### Term 1 2010 / 2011

Sunday 19 September 2010      Term Starts  
14 – 18 November 2010      Eid Al Adha\*  
Thursday 23 December 2010      End of term  
(\* Dates subject to change in line with declared official holidays in Qatar)

### Term 2 2010 / 2011

Monday 02 January 2011      Term Starts  
20 – 24 February 2011      Half Term  
Thursday 14 April 2011      End of Term

### Term 3 2010 / 2011

Sunday 01 May 2011      Term Starts  
Thursday 30 June 2011      Term Ends

## Contact Information

Head of School:      Mr. John Todd      [head@cisdoha.org](mailto:head@cisdoha.org)  
Telephone:      +974 6869304      Fax: +974 4877 446

### *Gharaffa Campus:*

Principal:      Mrs. Pauline Markey      [p.markey@cisdoha.org](mailto:p.markey@cisdoha.org)  
Secretary:      Mrs. Helen Stevenson      [gharaffa@cisdoha.org](mailto:gharaffa@cisdoha.org)  
Telephone:      +974 4877 445      Fax: +974 4877 446

### *Rayyan Campus:*

Secretary:      Mrs. Kay Tilley      [rayyan@cisdoha.org](mailto:rayyan@cisdoha.org)  
Telephone:      +974 4114288      Fax: +974 4877 446

School Website:      [www.cisdoha.com](http://www.cisdoha.com)

Thank you for your continuing support.



**John Todd**  
**Head of School**

# **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.**