



Rayyan Reporter

March Edition



Be Ambitious

Highlights:

The Real Madrid
Trip

MIT Trip

Year 4 Pizza and
Games

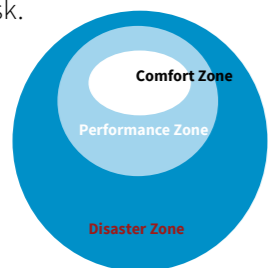
Jazz Assembly

Swimming
Championships

Message from the Principal

Dear All,

In talking to some parents earlier this month, I was explaining our “Be Ambitious” philosophy and why it is important in driving our work in school. The process of allowing children to experiment and take risks in their learning is a fine balance. We may like to play safe but we know that in order to move forwards, we must have some element of managed risk.



The focus on our strategy is to encourage children to move beyond their comfort zone into their performance zone. Imagine this as a set of three circles. At the centre is the safe, easy comfort zone. This is good for when we want to chill out, relax and recharge our batteries. This may involve relaxing in the pool, playing the piano, watching TV or reading a book. This is the area where emotionally, intellectually and physically you feel safe. We all need time in our comfort zone. However, at school, we need our students to be challenged and stretched to learn new concepts, practice new skills and improve their knowledge of the world around us. This places us in the performance zone. Sometimes we move into this area but stay close to our comfort zone and reduce the element of challenge. Our task as teachers is to push children to the opposite edge of this area by setting them high expectations and higher levels of risk in their learning. The best teachers do this without pushing them so far that they end up beyond the performance zone and into the third circle of the destruction zone. When children end up in this third area, they give up and stop learning. Some children think they are in this zone and say things like:

“it’s too hard” or “I can’t do it”. That is when we need to support and encourage them to persevere and show resilience. They may not be able to do it at first but if they keep trying, they probably can achieve the result they seek. The key to this is to let children know the importance of the word “yet”. They cannot do it yet...but they could if they keep trying.

Whilst I have been writing here about emotional and intellectual risk, we also have to be mindful of the need to keep our children physically safe. We know our schools are safe because we undertake regular health and safety checks and two have now been inspected by Civil Defence with the third inspection scheduled in June. However, if you do notice anything that is a potential hazard, please let us know and we will take action to rectify the problem.

We are entering the hottest months of the year in Doha. Everyone needs to keep hydrated and protect themselves against the effects of the sun. Our “no hat no play policy” should be engraved on everyone’s minds and is a shared responsibility for teachers, parents and students. I would also like to ask parents to be very careful when driving in the areas around the school. Our children are vulnerable when people drive without care for others by overtaking where children are crossing the road or driving too fast near the school. We are working with the local authorities here in Doha to provide traffic calming measures but the best solution is for everyone to be courteous and patient. I thank you in advance for your assistance in this.

May you enjoy a safe, happy and challenging final weeks of the school year.

Kind regards,

Dr Terry Creissen OBE
Executive Principal



Dates for your diary:

Click [HERE](#) for our Interactive online calendar.

Wednesday 1, June

Year 6 Leavers' Dinner 5pm

Thursday 2, June

Drop in for Coffee
Y2-Y6 Assembly 7:30am Eco Warriors

Last day of ECA's

Sunday 5, June

Arabic/Islamic Parent Teacher Consultations 1.30-3.30pm
Eco Day

Thursday 9, June

Assembly: EY2a, Ms White

Tuesday 14, June

School Spirit Day

Thursday 16, June

Assembly - Y6 Leaver's Assembly
Reports issued to parents

Sunday 19, June

Parent Teacher Consultations 1.30pm to 3.30pm

Thursday 23, June

EY1-Y5 Leavers Assembly 7:30am

Sunday 26, June

Art Week begins

Thursday 30, June

Last day of term



Real Madrid Trip

April saw children from Year 5 and 6 travel to Madrid in a party of thirty from across all four Nord Anglia Education schools in Qatar.

They spent a week in the city and attended training sessions at Real Madrid's training city. Children put the skills they had learnt to the test in friendly matches played against teams from the Real Madrid Academy. No football trip to Madrid would be complete without seeing a league match in the Santiago Bernabéu Stadium. The students watched Real Madrid defeat Villarreal by three goals to nil.

A second trip to the stadium allowed the extent of Real Madrid's success to truly sink in. The display of trophies was staggering in its size and glamour, beyond what any of us expected.

Not all the week was about football. The undisputed 'best day' was when we visited the theme park in the city. The sun shone, the rides had no queues and we somehow found the energy in our legs to race from ride to ride. We went high, we went fast and we got very wet.

Sight-seeing and shopping trips gave the children a taste of Spanish life. We witnessed the Madrid marathon, watched street entertainers in the Plaza Mayor and ate the finest paella the city had to offer.

On our final day, we visited our sister school in Madrid. Staff and children from International College Spain, welcomed us and invited children to participate in a multi-sports event.

It was an exceptional week, one the children will always remember.



'STEAM'ing ahead with MIT

An exciting Venture.

Earlier this term, Nord Anglia continued their commitment to inspire learning and instil the belief to 'Be Ambitious' in everything you do, by developing a new collaboration with one of the world's leading institutions MIT (Massachusetts Institute of Technology).

The collaboration would see 105 students, from 13 International schools, meet in Boston, Massachusetts to engage in STEAM activities, culminating with a grand demonstration at the Cambridge Science Festival 2016.



What is 'STEAM'?

'STEAM' stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Maths. The objective of 'STEAM' is to integrate these subjects and get students to think creatively across these disciplines rather than learning about these subjects individually. The intersection between these subjects is where the greatest number of discoveries are being made. This way of flexible and interchangeable thinking will prepare students for a future where there will be jobs that don't exist today.



Experience of a lifetime

For six students, chosen across Compass International School Doha, the trip was a memorable and inspirational experience.

The students worked alongside MIT professors, pioneers and leaders in their field, during exciting workshops; from Bio engineering Beta-Carotene in petri dishes, experimenting with how to create robotic fish, to working collaboratively with students around the world on designing and building a giant chain reaction.

Scan the QR code on this page to watch the amazing experience the students had.



Year 4 Pizza and Games

On Wednesday, 4 May, Year 4 had a fantastic Pizza Games Night. This gave a wonderful opportunity for the children from all three of our campuses to socialise together, whilst undertaking some challenging, yet incredibly fun activities.

The evening started off with some delicious pizza and a picture quiz. The children had to identify as many chocolate bars as they could. This promoted lots of discussion and fun dialogue. Afterwards, the children joined a carousel of activities which included ICT, street dance, team building activities and a popular chocolate eating game. The six teams rotated around the activities spending 15 minutes at each. They behaved impeccably at each centre



“ I really liked the dancing and games! ”
Aryan

and worked together as a team.

The children finished the evening by performing their street dance to their awaiting parents. It was a fantastic success and everyone went home happy and excited.

“I loved pizza night because it was so much fun, the chocolate game was brilliant!” - Asmeh



QPPSSA Swimming Gala - Year 3-6

Nervous, excited, determined, strength, athletic prowess and team spirit are only a few words to describe the children who competed in the QPPSSA Swimming Gala.

Year 3-6 boys demonstrated resilience and determination during the QPPSSA Swimming Gala held at Al Jazeera Academy. Compass has a strong squad of boy swimmers and this event was a good challenge for them. They were competing against boys who represent the Qatar National Team and came in at an astounding 2nd place, picking up silver medals.

Year 3-6 girls demonstrated great team spirit, hard work and a hunger to win gold. Compass girls scooped up, bringing home the QPPSSA gold

medals. The girls came 1st in almost every race.

A huge thank you to our swim coaches for making this a fun memorable day and a special mention to Miss Chelsea for the planning of the squads.

‘I was very excited to go but I had lots of butterflies!’ - Harry

‘I was very excited to go and felt nervous for the races. I felt really awesome after swimming the race.’ - Ralph

‘I just wanted to win!’ - Erin

‘It was a great experience. I wanted to do my best and swim fast.’ - Sepideh



“ I just wanted to win! ”
Erin



Rayyan International Jazz Day Assembly

In November 2011, the United Nations (UNESCO) officially designated Saturday 30, April as International Jazz Day in order to highlight jazz and its diplomatic role of uniting people in all corners of the globe.

Compass Rayyan held their own International Jazz day performance on Thursday 28, April to show aspects of American jazz.

Year 1 focus was Boogie Woogie, which is simply a jazzed up 12 Bar Blues which is also called Honky-tonk. They danced and sang a catchy 'Caterpillar Boogie' in a long conga line.

Year 2 and 3's focus was Ragtime, jazz's first musical form. Ragtime again is dancing music played on the piano. They read, listened and watched film clips on Scott Joplin and the invention of the pianola, a kind of mechanical piano. Pupils learnt and performed a simplified version of the iconic 'The Entertainer' on the glockenspiels. They also sang 'Rooster Rag' which tells the story of the proud cockerel Chanticleer.

Year 3/4 and 4 discovered Blues music. They sang the beautiful 'Boatman Jazz'; then, half went to demonstrate the chord progression of a 12 Bar Blues on

Boomwhackers while the others sang 'Wake up Blues'. Year 6 then joined the accompaniment by playing two melodic patterns for the instrumental breaks.

Year 5 and 6 focused on Jazz itself. They had a go at scat singing with the song 'Pick 'n' Mix Jazz' while the rest of the school sang the Scoo-bee-do song. Year 5 then performed 'Sol fah jazz' which demonstrates improvisation an important element of Jazz.

The event closed with a short film of the story book 'This Jazz Man', a jazzy singalong based on the traditional song 'This Old Man'.



Early Years Update

Early Years 1 have been thoroughly enjoying our 'Food' unit so far this term. The children have made hummus, ice-cream and labnah with Miss Jenny and Miss Eman. The children were all amazed watching the ice-cream mix freeze with the help of ice and salt and without placing it in the freezer. They enjoyed eating the hummus, labnah and bread as the two classes sat for a picnic together.

They loved the story of 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' and have been busy making caterpillars and butterflies. Miss Normi and Miss Jenny have created a lovely caterpillar in our outdoor area with the children's handprints.

They had great fun creating the caterpillar. We will continue to decorate our outdoor area with the children's handprints and footprints to remind them of their time in Early Years 1.

This term we have seen Early Years 1 start their swimming lessons for the first time. It has been unbelievable to watch how confident they are at getting in and out of the water.

It has also been a great learning experience for them with regards to their ability to dry and dress themselves with help after the lesson. We have two classes full of water babies.



The Stories People Tell - Year 2B

“ There is always room for a story that can transport people to another place. ” JK Rowling

Year 2B have had a wonderful time learning about stories from all round the world as part of our IPC unit ‘The Stories People Tell.’

Our unit started off with a storytelling afternoon. In groups, the children were given a storytelling box full of weird and wonderful items. From this box, the children had to create their own story that had a beginning, a problem, a resolution and an ending. The children threw themselves into the role and suddenly the classroom was filled with detectives, intergalactic travellers and a rather

(intentionally) bossy vampire. It was wonderful to see the children interacting and learning in a different way, providing a platform for different talents to be explored. As the unit has progressed we have looked at a variety of different stories from around the world, including ‘How the birds got their feathers’ and the Greek myth, ‘Theseus and the Minotaur.’ The class have risen to the challenge of creating a new hero and writing stories based on their quest to defeat one of the Greek mythical monsters. Well done, Year 2B! I am very proud of you!



Mad Science and Chocolate Science in Year 3/4

We have had a busy few weeks in Year 3/4 with a special learning focus day on science and our entry point for our new IPC topic, Chocolate. Our class eagerly took part in the whole school science challenges as well as joining in with CSI MP2 and 3! We spent the day honing our investigative skills in our lab coats.

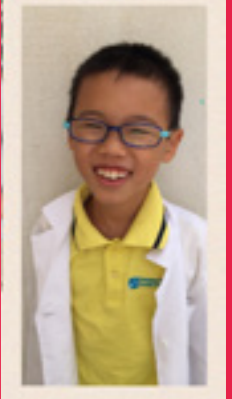
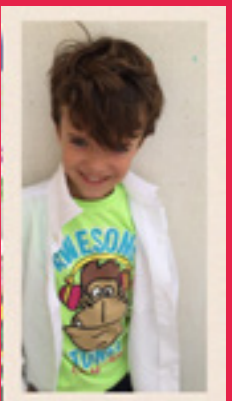
We were wearing the coats again as part of our entry point where we used our senses to investigate the properties of chocolate in our very own chocolate laboratory. How do we use our sense to experience chocolate? Does the colour of the chocolate matter? Can you hear chocolate?

This was a great start to a very interesting unit where we investigate the history of chocolate as well as find out about its journey from bean to bar.

“I really love dark chocolate but not everyone has the same tastes.”

“Does chocolate taste different if it’s made from beans from different places?”

“I liked the look of the green chocolate and I really thought it tasted different but it was just white chocolate with food colouring.”





Qatar Shell Research and Technology Centre

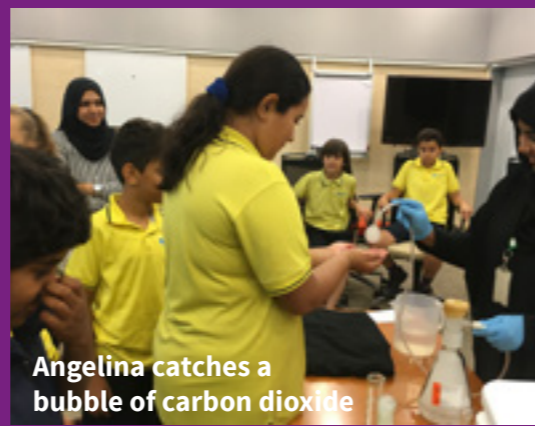
On Thursday 12 May, Year 6 visited the Qatar Shell Research and Technology Centre (QSRTC) as an Exit Point for our Black Gold topic in IPC.

While we were there, we learned about the Pearl GTL (Gas to Liquid) plant. Inside the Shell laboratory we were given a paraffin wax shell, to represent the company's logo. It was hot when we first touched it but it doesn't melt until it reaches more than 130 degrees Celsius. It is pure white as it only contains hydrocarbons.

Fouzia, one of the Shell scientists, entertained us with spectacular dry ice experiments. We even got to touch the bubbles of carbon dioxide that she trapped in soap bubbles.

We were very excited to visit such a cool centre located in the Science and Technology Park and were impressed by the kindness and efficiency of the security. Shell needs to keep some confidential secrets so security is important. When we reached the centre we sat on extra comfortable swivel chairs which made us feel like important business people. Moreover, we were treated to a delicious business lunch.

At the end, we received free gifts of a notebook and an adapter. We really enjoyed our trip and learned a lot.



Angelina catches a bubble of carbon dioxide



Healthy Eating Policy at CISD

It is the policy at CISD to promote a school ethos and environment which encourages a healthy lifestyle. The School Nurse also plays a key role by promoting health and well-being in the school.

Snack Time

Children's lunch boxes should offer balanced nutrition and provide a healthy snack for children.

We recommend:

At least 2 portions of fruit or vegetable every day.

An energy giving food such as bread, pasta, rice, cereals, couscous or noodles.

Dairy foods such as cheese, milk or yoghurt.

Water or fruit juice.

Children are required to bring in a water bottle so that they can refill it and have easy access to water throughout the day.

The school community is aware of the possibility of food allergies within the student population, particularly nut allergies. The school has a 'no nut' policy and parents are requested not to send snacks with nuts or nut products in them which include peanut butter and Nutella.

Some children have special dietary requirements or specific food allergies, so for these reasons, students are not allowed to swap food items or share packed lunches.

We are aware that parents are the primary role model in children's healthy eating choices and believe that we can promote healthy eating through building a positive and supportive relationship with you through mutual understanding, trust and cooperation.

The School Nursing Team





Around the School...



Early Years 1A have a very exciting visitor! A large green caterpillar. Mrs Mander was running a focus group studying this exciting edition to the classroom. Morven was spotted giving a great explanation about what the caterpillar was like.



The Fashion Club were very excited to model their new tie die creations during their ECA. What a fashionable bunch!



Family Barbeque

The Rayyan Friends of Compass School (FCS) members organised a fantastic day out for Rayyan families at the Al Sharq Village and Spa on Saturday, 30 April.

They held a special Beach BBQ and Fun Day with entrance from 9am – 5pm. Children had access to the pool, a bouncy castle, football, beach volleyball, organised games, fitness activities and water games.

The event was organised with the staff and management of the Sharq Village & Spa Hotel who

were enthusiastically on hand to run the event and organise a programme of activities for children.

Everybody had an absolutely wonderful time. A huge thank you to our newly formed Friends of Compass and the the Al Sharq Village and Spa for organising such a successful event .

If you would like to get involved with the Friends of Compass please see Monica, the secretary to be added to the email list and for details of the next meeting.



Spot the Mascot Competition...

Well done to **Jana Hattabi EY1A** this month's winner of the Spot Ray competition



Where is Ray hiding in this month's Newsletter? Look carefully to find him and then email ray.ry@nais.qa with his location. There will be a prize for the first family to spot him and they will be featured in the next edition!