



Rayyan Reporter

April Edition



Be Ambitious

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Message from the Principal

“ I never teach my pupils.
I only attempt to provide the conditions in which they can learn.

(Albert Einstein)

Dear All,

Why do we make our children go to school? Is it because we have to, what we ought to do, or is there a reason behind this? How often do we ask ourselves the question; “why do we make our children attend school?” Is the aim to pass on centuries of knowledge and wisdom so that children can take their rightful place in the world? Is that it? Or is there more.

At Compass International School, we think there is more to education than just learning facts and figures. It is about learning how to be a good communicator and learning how to work collaboratively with others. It is about understanding the opinions of different people from different backgrounds and accepting different opinions with tolerance and understanding. It is about “educating the whole child”. This is at the heart of every good school that does not teach things, but educates children to be effective learners.

One of the ways that we do this is to make learning as enjoyable as possible and to extend opportunities beyond the classroom. Walking around the campuses, I see exciting learning taking place where children are working independently, in groups and alongside their teachers and support staff. I see them in the playground, enjoying a game together or engaging in conversations on a whole range of

topics. In and out of the classroom, learning is taking place on an academic, personal and social level.

Some of our students have been able to take this to a greater depth by joining with students from other Nord Anglia Schools. They attended the Cambridge Science Fair and spent time at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). It was an opportunity for students from across the Compass International Schools in Doha to be one of the 13 schools selected to send representatives to this event. You can read all about this on our website.

Another cross-school event was the trip to Madrid for our keen footballers in the Primary school. The students followed a full agenda with early morning training session and late night visits to live football games. They also had the opportunity to meet up with some of the students at our sister school in the city.

More opportunities like these are available through the summer with local programmes at our campuses as well as residential programmes in Switzerland and Oxford, UK. Browse the website to find out how you can open up these opportunities to your children to support their holistic learning experiences.

Kind regards,

Dr Terry Creissen OBE
Executive Principal



Science Day

“ What is a scientist after all? It is a curious person looking through a keyhole, the keyhole of nature, trying to know what's going on.

Jacques Yves Cousteau

This year's Science Day at Rayyan followed the theme of scientists at work and aimed to see beyond the stereotype of the mad scientist to uncover some of the jobs the children could pursue in the scientific field.

One of the key learning opportunities of the day was when the children became crime scene investigators, undertaking a range of investigations including chromatography and fingerprint analysis to catch two very naughty, food stealing members of staff!



Dates for your diary:

Wednesday 4, May
Pizza and Games Night

Thursday 5, May
Drop in for Coffee 7.30am
Assembly, 7.30am EY2b Hopper

Thursday 12, May
Assembly, 7.30am Y3A O'Toole

Wednesday 18, May
Marhaba Coffee, 7.30am

Thursday 19, May
Assembly, 7.30am EY2a Sweeney

Thursday 26, May
Assembly, 7.30am Y4 Pitt

 COMPASS INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
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Let's Celebrate!

In Year 1, our new unit is called "Let's Celebrate!" For our Entry Point we held a 'terrible' party in which we had no music, no dancing, very little food and no fun at all.

We talked about what we liked and didn't like in the 'terrible' party. There was not much that we liked. We then discussed how we celebrate different events and what celebrations mean to us.

We painted pictures of our favourite celebrations. We talked about celebrations in the Carnival in Brazil and we made masks and pasta necklaces, which people wear during Carnival. We are very excited for this new unit.

Melissa: "I loved making my Carnival mask. It looks like the real pictures that we looked at".

Eilayah: "My favourite celebration is Eid. I love it because all the family sit together and my Auntie always visits".

Salma: "I like learning about all the different celebrations from around the world. Victoria in our class told us about celebrations in Denmark".



Traditional Tales

EY2B have enjoyed exploring the world of Traditional Tales. We looked at four of them - 'Little Red Riding Hood', 'Jack and the Beanstalk', 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears' and 'Cinderella'.

We listened to different versions of the tales where we identified what the change was. For instance, in 'Jack and the Beanstalk' story there was an ogre rather than a giant. This led us to think about how we could use our own ideas to change the storyline in traditional stories.

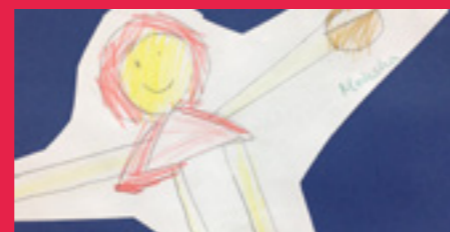
We demonstrated our acting skills playing the characters. In 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears', we tried to use a different voice for the character. We were very good at remembering key phrases in the right order.

We discovered that there was lots of maths for us to explore. We learnt about 2D shapes and then made our own pictures of the characters from Little Red Riding Hood.

We explored ordering pictures of the Beanstalk to retell the story and used standard measuring tools, such as a ruler and tape measure to measure the beanstalk.

We also used non-standard measuring tools and discussed the importance that the objects had to be the same size.

We finished our topic on Traditional Tales with a Ball in the style of Cinderella. We dressed up as Princes and Princesses and brought in food to share. We ate very politely just like royalty. We then danced with a partner, to the music from the latest Cinderella film, 'Lavenders Blue.'



Live and Let Live

In Year 2, we are beginning 'Live and Let Live', for which we needed to identify living things in our school environment.

In each class, the children were separated into small groups in order to complete a nature trail around the school. The children used the iPads to capture photos of their findings, which were later used as part of a sorting activity. It was great to see that we have such a range of plants, trees, birds and insects. The children were really engaged in their learning and were very philosophical about at which point a leaf dies. We are looking forward to finding out about what all living things have in common and the life cycles of a range of plants and animals.

Marie: "We saw a bird on top of the Year 3 and Year 4 classrooms. It was so exciting!"

Abdullah: "I counted 21 trees. Wow!"



“We searched for dragonflies around the picnic benches”
Ewan



IPC in Year Three

Year 3A have started Term 3 with a very positive, fun and ambitious attitude.

In IPC, our topic is 'Saving the World' which is based around rainforests. We have been very busy learning about deforestation and wrote our own reports on endangered animals. We created PowerPoint presentations and carried out our own research projects about people, products and animals from the rainforest.

We also got very crafty and created 3D animal art by using oil pastels to blend the background. We made paintings in the style of Henri Rousseau and worked collaboratively

to make a diagram of the layers in the rainforest by using a variety of materials.

This week was the final week of our amazing topic. We learned about plants and what they need to grow and even planted our own herbs.

For our Exit Point, we tasted a variety of fruit from the rainforest. We then asked our parents to come in and help us make smoothies using our favourite fruits. It was very messy, but great fun.

We are now looking forward to starting our next topic 'Chocolate' which we are sure will be very appetising!



Year Five Desert Trip

After a short trip to Gharaffa we organised ourselves into small groups to travel to the Inland Sea in a 4x4 convoy.

When we arrived, we were treated to an exhibition of dune bashing as we glided and skidded all the way to the camp. It was there that the children were greeted with their own spot of paradise.

It was a chance for our students to show their independence and interact with children from Year 5 from the other two campuses. It was really great to see child lead play on a massive scale and everyone getting on, meeting others and playing together. There was a superb sandcastle contest as well as a carousel of activities from football, swimming, volleyball, bouncy slide

and sand boarding. The talent contest was a chance for children to work independently or in a group to show off their skills. I was very impressed with everyone's talents and their attitudes towards others, bringing together the ethos of the camp environment.

The students were a credit to the school and the experience is sure to be a memorable one as the children go into Year 6.



Year Six Science Fair

Y6 concluded our Fairgrounds topic with a Science Fair last week. During the topic, we learned about forces and electrical circuits. Our task was to design a game that might be seen at a fairground. It sounded like a lot of fun so we were very motivated.

Our imaginations are boundless but unfortunately Mrs Mulligan had to rein us in a little and remind us that we only had basic electronics at our disposal! We got creative and designed some impressive games using everything and anything we could get our hands on.

Children from Y1-5 visited our class to play with our games as well as some staff and parents. We were able to describe how they worked and we even have ideas for how they could be improved in the future. It was great fun to show the younger children what we had made. We enjoyed giving out small prizes and even managed to win more than our fair share ourselves.

We were proud of our projects. We worked hard to make them look as professional as possible and Mrs Mulligan was impressed by our dedication and teamwork. It was a great way to end an interesting topic.



Year 3/4 Young Entrepreneurs

This term Y3/4 have been working on a new IPC topic, Young Entrepreneurs.

Businesses are more than just a product or a service; behind everything we buy there is a story. We learned that running a business involves many skills – creativity, leadership, team work, communication, budgeting, planning, design, customer-awareness and so on. We created teams, or businesses with a small budget to design, create and sell a product to our friends and family. The children all rose to the challenge brilliantly! We had chocolate and sweet products, bath products and some toys. All these products were

designed and made in class and sold in our super sale. The profit we made has gone towards items for the whole class to enjoy. However, it wasn't all about the money, the children also got to experience some of the challenges faced by those creating businesses. It is important that we understand the thought and hard work that goes into planning and setting up a business. Thank you to all our family and friends at Rayyan who joined us and bought our products!

“All of our products needed redesigning when they didn't work! We had to make something completely different to sell but it was great!”



Well Done

Congratulations to Compass Rayyan Arabic Department especially Miss Rania who has been awarded a certificate for excellent teaching and learning in Islamic Studies (Year 3) by the Supreme Education Council (SEC) in Qatar.



Spot the Mascot Competition...

Well done to **Hana Hicks Y1C** 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!

