

Letter from the Principal

“Don’t cry because it’s over – smile because it happened.”

Winston Churchill



Dear All,

This is the final Newsletter of the 2014-2015 Academic Year. Next year, we are changing the format of the Newsletter so that it is more user-friendly when read on a mobile device. We do hope that you will look out for the new-style Newsletter in September and that it meets with your approval.

This has been a year of consolidation alongside considerable change. We have tried to build on the positive aspects of the school whilst also working to improve those aspects that parents, staff and students felt needed attention. We have not managed it all but we have made significant progress and the feedback from the Annual Parent Survey recognised the improvements that have been made. With 93% of respondents feeling confident to recommend Compass International School, Madinat Khalifa, we know that we are on the right track. However, there is still much more to do to achieve our ultimate goal of pleasing all of the parents, all of the time.

The changes made this year have been designed to meet the needs of our students in preparing them for their life beyond school. Our drive for next year will come under the headline of “Be Ambitious”. This builds on the work done this year by staff to improve the quality of learning and the level of challenge for students. Our plans will take account of your feedback through the Annual Parent Survey alongside ideas and suggestions from staff and students. Our aim is to drive forward with a planned strategy for improvement across the key areas of the school. Working together with staff, students, parents and the wider communities supporting us, we can build the best school in Doha.

Many of you will be working on finalising your plans for the summer. It is a great opportunity to catch up with friends and family as well as having some time to recharge batteries in order to return in September, re-energised for the new academic year. I encourage everyone to pick up a book or several, and maintain a healthy interest in continuing to learn even when there is no teacher to guide you. For those who are leaving for new challenges, we wish you well in your new location and with your new school. Just remember the good experiences that you have had this past year, and look to the future with optimism and enjoyment.

Kind regards,

Terry Creissen

Dr Terry Creissen OBE MA MBA FRSA
Principal, Compass International School
Madinat Khalifa



Dear Parents,

Every year, I am amazed at just how quickly the school year seems to pass by. The 2014-15 Academic Year has been a very good one for our Primary students, with good to excellent progress in attainment being made across our Primary school. We have even had our first ever Level 6s being attained by some of our Year 6 students, far exceeding expectations for students of that age.

We have held numerous themed days and special events this year, and each one of these contributes to the development of our students as well-rounded international citizens. These events are featured in our school Year Book. If you have not yet purchased one, I strongly encourage you to do so as each of our Primary classes are also featured, along with selected samples of work from our Primary students.

At 09.00 on Sunday 28 June, we will be holding a short assembly to say goodbye to those Primary students who are leaving Compass, Madinat Khalifa to return to their home countries or continue their international adventures elsewhere. Parents of these students are welcome to attend. We will also be taking this occasion officially to hand out the remaining QPPSSA swimming medals to our lower school students who competed a few weeks ago.

As well as saying goodbye to some students, we also have to say farewell to a few members of our Primary staff. Miss Lindsay Critchley is returning to her home town of Liverpool in England; Miss Iffat Aslam is leaving us to further her international experience; Mr Daniel Martin is also heading to England with his wife; and, Mr Peter Cowie is returning to New Zealand with his family to take up a post as Vice Principal. In addition to these, we are losing Mrs Ann Strobel who has been a Learning Assistant with Compass for the past six years. I would like to thank each and every one for their commitment and dedication during their time at Compass and wish them every success in the future.

Finally, I would like to thank you, our parents, for your support over the year. It has been fantastic to see parental attendance at our assemblies and special events grow as the year has progressed. Education is a partnership between the school and the families of our students, and with you on board, we are able to be ambitious and achieve even more. Whether you are travelling abroad, leaving Doha for good or staying in Qatar over the summer months, I wish you a safe and relaxing vacation and look forward to seeing the majority of you in September.

Ramadan Kareem.

David Burt

Head of Primary



A Few Highlights from our Primary Year



Mrs Ioannide's Ice Lolly Day



Mrs Hobday's Assembly



Miss Lovett's Assembly



Miss Iffat's Assembly



Miss Brick's Assembly



Science Week



Year 6 Internal Transition Hunt



Year 1 Circus Day



International Day



Eco Warriors



Eco Warrior Logo Winner



French Trip to Katara



Global Campus



Global Campus



Student Council



Year 1 Exit Point Transport



Year 6 Transition Day



Trip to Zubara



Friendship Bench



Year 5 Great Desert Trip



Year 6 Fujairah Residential



Sports Day



Basketball



Football



Netball



Year 6 Graduation Party



Rocky Monster Show



Year 6 Graduation Ceremony

The Global Classroom Lower Secondary Debate League Winners – The Madinat Mavericks



Throughout the year, teams from our family of schools have battled it out, arguing for or against motions on a wide range of current topics. After our impressive overall win in the third round, our very own Madinat Mavericks earned a place in the live final against 'King Khalid's Minions' from Bratislava, who had been sitting comfortably at the top of the league after the first two rounds. Undeterred, our team argued convincingly against the motion: 'We should only eat food produced in the country in which we live'.



Expert judge, Richard Macdonald, Chairman of the Government Better Regulation Task Force on food and farming gave the following feedback: "Madinat Mavericks made a strong start with their opening statement and closed very persuasively. Their final paragraphs in their closing statement were particularly effective with good use of language. It was great to see both teams using real examples to back up their arguments."

Congratulations to the new lower Secondary Debate League Champions: Chae Won Park, Francisco Pereira, Isle Visser, David Irvine, Sai Nithyashree Loganathan and Adnan Alkhalil.

Duke of Edinburgh International Award and the Year Ahead



Since January 2015, when the Duke of Edinburgh International Award was first launched at Compass International School, Madinat Khalifa, we have seen our registered participants develop

team spirit through adventurous journeys and become ambitious, caring, and skilled individuals.

We will soon be celebrating with our first cohort of Bronze Level participants who will officially pass and receive their certificates at the start of the new school year. They are already becoming excited about facing the challenges of the Silver Award.

Added to this, we are excited to announce that we will be joining forces with the Regatta Sailing Club in September, giving some of our participants the opportunity to take part in an Adventurous Journey by boat to Bahrain for their Bronze Level expedition.

The Duke of Edinburgh International Award will be open for new registrations at Bronze Level in September and offered as a weekly ECA.

We will be hosting a student and parent information session but in the meantime, if you would like to read more about this great opportunity, please visit our website page or read about it in the Yearbook.



Au Revoir Paris

Our trip to Paris was filled with many French inspired activities including stops at Paris' iconic landmarks, a traditional game of Petanque, bowling, a French language trail and a fun day at Disneyland. The students enjoyed every moment, immersing themselves into the French culture and language. Thank you all for a wonderful journey.

Looking Forward to a Successful 2015/2016 Sporting Year

We have some exciting activities planned for the parents, staff and students of the Madinat Khalifa Community for next year.

The PE Department will start the Autumn term off by celebrating its sporting successes with the Sports Personality Evening, which will be held early in September. We will publicise this event closer to the time. The Sport ECAs will continue to drive the students towards excellence.

Our footballers will once again be challenged to qualify for the VW Junior Masters Middle East finals.

We will continue to develop our netball and basketball teams to drive towards success in the leagues and tournaments in Doha this year.

Swimming ECAs and competitions have proved very popular and the PE department plan to meet these needs with extra training sessions and additional competitions throughout the year. H2O and the Doha Fencing Academy will offer further extra ECAs at the school in September.

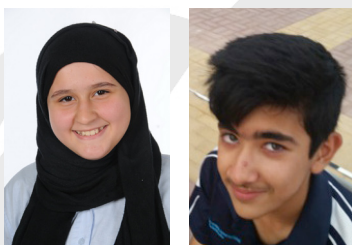
We are looking forward to our Activities Week next year, as well as Sports Day and the return of the triathlon series.

Due to popular demand, hockey and fitness lessons will be included in the Outdoor Adventurous Activities Programme (OAA) for Primary KS3 and KS4 curriculum lessons.

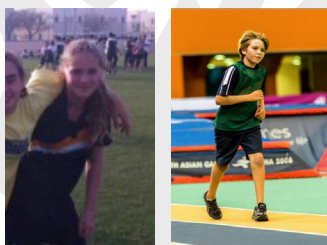
Towards the end of the year, we will once again have our GCSE lock in, which sees all of our exam students "locked in" at school over the weekend. They will take part in sessions and assessments on different sports, sit in seminars on the different PE topics and practise exam techniques.

This is just the tip of the iceberg of what to expect from the Sport and ECAs in Compass Madinat Khalifa for next year. Many thanks for all the support from our parents and staff. We look forward to seeing you at our fixtures in the new school year.

Year 7



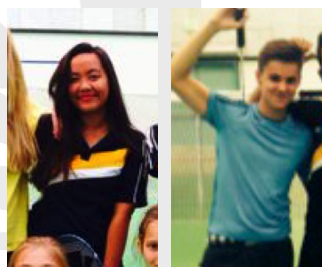
Year 8



Year 9



Year 10



Dates for your Diary

Sunday, 28 June	Year 1 to 5 Presentation Assembly - 9:00 Sports Hall Year 7 - 11 Achievement Assembly - 13:00 Sports Hall
Wednesday, 1 July	Last day of school: All finish at 12:00
Sunday, 6 September	Academic Year Begins





Science Summer Photography Competition

Theme: *It's a Wild and Wonderful World*

As we all soon head off for our summer vacation, we thought it would be a great idea to celebrate how truly international our school community is by asking you to record your amazing adventures around the globe. As nature provides us with the most breathtaking scenery, stunning landscapes and interesting creatures, what better way to celebrate than by capturing it on film? So, wherever you may travel this summer, we would love you to share your experience by taking a picture of our wild and wonderful world. Winners will be chosen from each year group and all pictures will be displayed.

Please send one photo per student with your name, year group and location of your picture to:
Jacqueline.banfield@nais.qa

Deadline for entries is Thursday 17 September, 2015



"Driftwood"

Mrs Banfield, Asdhoo Island, Maldives



"Searching For Penguins"

Marcel Blignaut, Bolders Bay, South Africa



"Elephant"

Mr McIntosh, Tangire National Park, Tanzania