



LEARNING WELL, ENJOYING LIFE, EXCEEDING EXPECTATIONS

<i>Term 1 - Issue 1</i>	Wednesday 14 September 2011	<i>www.cisdoha.com head@cisdoha.org</i>
<p>In this issue: *** <i>From the Head of School</i> *** <i>Admissions</i> *** <i>Rayyan Campus</i> *** <i>Qatar National Standards for School Accreditation</i> *** <i>Term Dates 2011 / 2012</i> *** <i>General Information</i> *** <i>Dates for your Diary</i> *** <i>Miscellaneous</i> *** <i>Mission, Vision and Definition of Learning</i> *** <i>WCL Group Mission, Vision and Principles</i> ***</p>	<p>Dear Parents,</p> <p>I would like to welcome you back to a new and exciting year of learning at Compass International School Doha. Whether you are returning to school or starting fresh at Compass, I am confident that you will have a fun and exciting year of learning with our experienced and inspiring teachers.</p> <p>Our staff have been busy over the summer with a number attending professional learning programmes in the UK and The Netherlands and also in Qatar over the last few weeks. I know that they are energised to offer great learning opportunities and great fun to all our students.</p> <p>I am delighted to welcome new members of our teaching staff to the school and I am sure that you will get to meet them over the coming weeks as they settle in and provide outstanding learning opportunities for your children.</p> <p>We have been busy during the summer making improvements to the infrastructure on both sites and hope that you will particularly enjoy the enhanced play spaces. I do hope that I will soon be able to officially relaunch the Rayyan Campus as a new kindergarten.</p> <p>Whether you are new to Compass or returning for another year, we hope that your family will have a successful year at our school Learning Well, Enjoying Life and Exceeding Expectations.</p> <p></p> <p>John Todd Head of School</p>	
		 CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL CENTRE
<p><i>An international school located in the State of Qatar owned and managed by Education Overseas Qatar LLC (CR No. 33520)</i></p>		



Admissions

We still have limited places available on both the Gharaffa and Madinat Khalifa Campuses, although not in every Year Group. Please contact our Admissions Officer, Sam Ford, for more information or check out the Admissions Page on our school website: <http://www.cisdoha.com/Admissions>. We do have growing waiting lists in a number of classes. There are still new families moving into Doha and we do hope that you will recommend the outstanding learning programme at Compass to any new neighbours or colleagues.

Rayyan Campus

We have been working hard over the summer to prepare the Rayyan campus to be relaunched as a new kindergarten. We expect to develop this into a primary school over the next few years. Construction work is almost complete and we are now working to finalise the official approvals required to open this new site.

Initially, we intend the school to offer programmes for Early Years 1 (ages 3 / 4) and Early Years 2 (ages 4 / 5). This is a very attractive site with some great outdoor play facilities for younger children. Smaller classrooms sizes than the Gharaffa Campus mean that class sizes will be smaller. Mrs. Nichola Maclean will be the Senior Teacher at Rayyan.

If you are interested in transferring your Early Years child to Rayyan, please speak to or email Sam Ford in the Admissions Office (4487 7445 / admissions@cisdoha.org) and she will contact you as soon as the Campus is ready to open.

Qatar National Standards for School Accreditation (QNSA)

A new initiative by the Supreme Education Council (SEC) of the State of Qatar made it mandatory for private schools to apply for candidacy through the Qatar National Standards for School Accreditation (QNSA). The goal of QNSA is to ensure that all private schools in Qatar are accredited, and collectively committed to consistent and continuous school improvement.

I am delighted that Compass International School Doha was one of the first 15 schools in Qatar to be awarded candidacy status. The process involved submission of documents and evidence to show evidence that standards were met, followed by a two day visit from SEC inspectors who met with staff and students to verify the materials submitted. 21 schools and kindergartens applied for candidacy, but only 15 were awarded the candidacy certificate. I am proud that Compass was actually the first school in the State of Qatar to be presented with the QNSA Candidacy Certificate at a special awards ceremony in June 2011.

The QNSA initiative, under the SEC's Evaluation Institute, aims to improve the quality of schools using established standards to ensure that each child in Qatar is receiving "an optimal learning experience based on their individual educational needs". The accreditation is mandatory.



Making a speech at the award ceremony, SEC Evaluation Institute director Dr Hamda al-Sulaiti said the education council was keen to improve the quality of education in Qatar "in order to achieve its national vision 2030 and its strategic plan for comprehensive attention to all sectors and institutions of the educational process in the country".

Also in a presentation, School Evaluation Office director Aysha al-Hashemi said the QNSA initiative aimed to achieve the principles of the education system in Qatar. "The goals of QNSA are to ensure that all private and community schools in Qatar are accredited, and to develop a system with schools to validate their programmes, and ascertain that each child in Qatar is attaining an optimal learning experience," she noted.

<http://www.english.education.gov.qa/content/resources/detail/14064>

Term Dates	<i>Term 1:</i>	Sunday 11 September 2011 6 - 10 November 2011 Thursday 15 December 2011	Term starts Eid Al Adha* End of Term 1
	<i>Term 2:</i>	Monday 02 January 2012 19 – 23 February 2012 Tuesday 03 April 2012	Term starts Half term holiday End of Term 2
	<i>Term 3:</i>	Sunday 15 April 2012 24 May / 27 May Thursday 28 June 2012	Term starts Half Term weekend End of Term 3

**Dates subject to change in line with declared official holidays in Qatar*

General Information

Arrival Time	The school gates open at 7.00 AM and staff are available in covered areas to supervise students. The bell rings at 7.20 AM and students may then move to their classes. 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 students. 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 / Form Tutor 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. For secondary school there is an Attendance Policy.
Uniform	We do expect all students to attend school in the appropriate school uniform. Wheelie bags are not permitted in school. Please ensure that all items of clothing and other personal belongings are clearly labelled with your child's name. School uniform and personalised iron-on labels are available from our official school uniform suppliers, Schoolwear International, www.si-org.co.uk/cisd
Road Safety	Please take extra care when arriving and leaving school. Ensure that your children are aware of the traffic and the dangers of crossing the road. For younger children, please hold their hand to ensure they cannot run out in front of cars. If you are driving around the school area, please be vigilant for children.
Swimming	Swimming lessons are part of the school curriculum and children should be reminded to bring their swimming costume and a towel. If children are too ill to swim, then a doctor's note should be provided and it likely that they should not be in school either if they are so ill. We would certainly not expect them to go out to play if they are too ill to swim.
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. Remember the lessons of Eco Week and use re-useable containers.
Lost property	There is a lost property box in the Security Office at Gharaffa and in the Secretary's Office at Madinat Khalifa. If you lose something, please check there in the first place. There are many items waiting to be claimed.

Spare uniform At school we have a supply of spare school uniforms and swimwear which children use as needed. Any donations of these items would be greatly appreciated.

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

Before School Students may wait in the covered area from 7 AM. Members of staff supervise the students and the students are expected to sit quietly and sensibly at the tables whilst waiting for school to start.

Dates for your diary

Gharaffa Campus

September 2011

Thu 15 Y3-Y6 Regatta Sailing Club Presentation
7.45am
Dutch Info Morning (Madinat)

Week 2

Awards: Teacher's Choice

Sun 18 Student Council Elections
Y5/6 Welcome meeting 7.30am
Mon 19 Y3/4 Welcome meeting 7.30am
Tue 20 EY's Welcome meeting 7.30am
Wed 21 EY1-Y2 Principal 7.45am
Dutch NTC welcome meeting
Thu 22 Y3 – Y6 assembly 7.45am
Y1/Y2 Welcome meeting 7.30am

Week 3 *Indoor Extra-Curricular Activities (ECAs) begin*

Awards: Thoughtfulness

Wed 28 EY1-Y2 Student Council Presentations 7.45am
Staff Professional Development Meeting 2–
3.30pm
Thu 29 Y3-Y6 Student Council Presentations 7.45am

October 2011

Week 4 *Outdoor ECAs begin*

Awards: Maths

Sun 02 Y6 Overseas Trip
Tue 04 Maths Parent Info Morning Y1 / Y2
Wed 05 EY1-Y2 Assembly Y2 Pilkington 7.45am
Staff Professional Development Meeting 2–3.30pm
Thu 06 Y3-Yr 6 Assembly Y3 Cunliffe 7.45am
Y6 return.
School Newsletter

Week 5

Awards: Respect

Tue 11 Parent Information Morning – IPC 7.45am
Parent Teacher Consultations 2 – 4pm
Wed 12 EY1-Y2 Assembly Y 2 Taylor 7.45am
Parent Teacher Consultations 4 - 6pm
Thu 13 Y3- Y6 Assembly Y4 Djedid 7.45am

Madinat Khalifa Campus

September 2011

Thu 15 Year 1-3 Assembly - Welcome back
Dutch Info Morning

Week 2

P Awards: Teacher's Choice

S Awards: English, ICT, Music
Sun 18 Student Council Elections
Y5/6 Welcome meeting 7.30am
Mon 19 Secondary Assembly – Mr Sharry
Y3/4 Welcome meeting 7.30am
Wed 21 Year 4-6 Assembly – Personal Goals
Thu 22 Year 1-3 Assembly – Personal Goals
Y1/2 Welcome meeting 7.30am

Week 3 *Indoor Extra-Curricular Activities (ECAs) begin*

P Awards: Thoughtfulness

S Awards: Science, History, EAL
Mon 26 Secondary Assembly – School Council
Wed 28 Year 4-6 Assembly – Student Council
Staff Professional Development 2 – 3.30pm
Thu 29 Year 1-3 Assembly – Student Council

October 2011

Week 4 *Outdoor ECAs begin*

P Awards: Maths / S Awards: Maths, Geography, French

Sun 02 Yr. 6 Overseas Trip
Mon 03 Secondary Assembly – Mr Hannah
Tue 04 Maths Parent Info Morning (Gharaffa) Y1/2
Wed 05 Y4-6 Assembly
Staff Professional Development 2 – 3.30pm
Thu 06 Y1-3 Assembly – Mrs Parenteau Y2
Y6 return
School Newsletter

Week 5

P Awards: Respect / S Awards: PE

Mon 10 Secondary Assembly – Ms. McAinsh
Tue 11 Parent Information Morning – IPC 7.45am
(Gharaffa)
Parent Teacher Consultation Evening 4-6pm
Wed 12 Y4-6 Assembly – Ms. Nazra Y4
Parent Teacher Consultation Afternoon 2-4pm
Thu 13 Year 1-3 Assembly – Ms. Nazra Y4

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, the Campus Principal or the Head of School, 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.

Head of School: Mr. John Todd head@cisdoha.org
Telephone: +974 6686 9304 Fax: +974 4487 7446

Gharaffa Campus:

Principal: Mrs. Pauline Markey gharaffapincipal@cisdoha.org
Secretary: Mrs. Helen Stevenson gharaffa@cisdoha.org
Telephone: +974 4487 7445 Fax: +974 4487 7446

Madinat Khalifa Campus:

Principal: Mrs. Donna Brackstone-Drake madinatprincipal@cisdoha.org
Secretary: Mrs. Kay Tilley madinat@cisdoha.org
Telephone: +974 6683 8022 / 4493 2036 Fax: +974 4487 7446

Admissions: Mrs. Sam Ford admisisions@cisdoha.org
Telephone: +974 4487 7445 Fax: +974 4487 7446

School Website: www.cisdoha.com

Thank you for your continuing support. Have a great school year!



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.**



Our Vision

To be recognized globally as a world leader in learning.

Our Mission

A world class group that adds real value to students' learning through exceptional schools, learning products and services.

Our Principles

- Deliver exceptional learning
- Treat all people with respect
- **Be financially** responsible
- Learn continuously



World Class
Learning Group