

22nd September 2023

The Pelican Brief

The Codrington School ~ PYP Newsletter



Dear PYP Parents,

With so many new families joining us this year it's an ideal time to outline how we report on student learning and academic attainment throughout the school year.

At Codrington we're committed to involving parents in their child's learning journey by providing regular insights and feedback on their performance at school. Our Parent/Teacher conferences, the Student-Led conference and our regular Celebration of Learning presentations all provide opportunities to keep you informed of your child's learning. These platforms compliment the formal component of our feedback process, the Student Progress Report. The report provides a detailed insight into your child's academic attainment, but also provide feedback on the physical, social and emotional growth of your child.

Parent Teacher Conferences

The first of our Parent/Teacher conferences is being held on Monday 30th October, immediately following the mid-term break. The conferences provide an opportunity for teachers to discuss the performance of students over the initial seven weeks of school. It is a non-teaching day for faculty so students do not attend class on that day. School resumes for students on Tuesday 31st October. Further details will be issued to parents shortly, including a sign-up sheet to schedule a specific time with your child's teacher.

Student Progress Reports

We issue student reports twice a year. The first report is issued to parents just prior to the Winter break on December 8. The second report is released on the final day of school on June 21.

Teachers are also available to meet with parents to discuss a child's academic, social or emotional progress/needs at any time during the school term. Please contact your child's teacher directly to schedule a time to meet with them.

Ultimately, our goal is to ensure there are no surprises for parents. We believe that transparency is an integral part of providing feedback and we're confident these platforms provide multiple opportunities for parents to keep abreast of how their child is tracking at school.

Hope you have a great weekend.

Regards,
Rob Fuller
Head of Primary

Learner Profile Awards

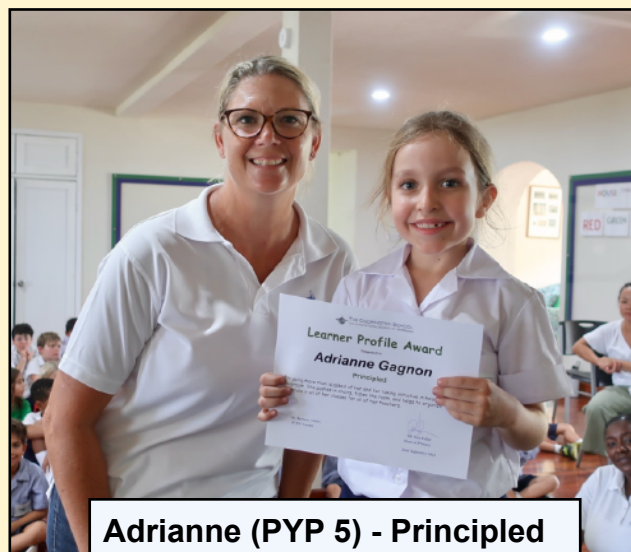
Our major Learner Profile focus this week was on students being Principled. We had a wonderful response with five PYP students being recognised as principled students, including two from the one family - the Chapmans! Congratulations to this week's winners:



Annabelle (PYP 4) - Thinker



Mia (PYP 5) - Principled



Adrianne (PYP 5) - Principled



Niah (PYP 4) - Principled



Henry (PYP 5) - Principled



Sophie (PYP 6) - Principled

Cultural Diversity

Two special guest speakers graced the floorboards of Ms. Barbara's PYP 5 classroom on Tuesday. Ms. Nathalie Ferguson spoke enthusiastically about French culture & France's contribution to the world while our own Ms. Judy made a colourful presentation on her beloved homeland, St. Lucia. The PYP 5 students have been studying 'Cultures around the globe' for their Unit of Inquiry and both speakers made some wonderful connections to the student's recent research. Huge thank you to Ms. Nathalie & Ms. Judy for giving up their time.



Points of Difference

A commonly asked question from prospective families when they tour our school campus is 'What makes the Primary Years Programme different than others?'. The answer is multi-faceted but one of the most notable contrasts is the flexible and adaptable delivery of the curriculum. This allows teachers to differentiate the learning, modify content, and adjust their methodology to suit a student's specific level of development or preferred learning style.

The programme is more than a passing fad in education. It's now been in place for over 25 years and is used by over 5,000 schools in 145 countries around the globe. Originally designed for international schools, the PYP has recently been implemented as the preferred curriculum in mainstream public and private schools in the UK, USA, Canada and Australia, to name a few.

There are other points of difference between the PYP and a more traditional approach to education. These include, but are not limited to, the following:

Traditional Approach to Education	Primary Years Programme at Codrington
1. Over-reliance on a single style of instruction by the teacher <i>ie. dissemination of information; 'chalk & talk'</i>	1. The teacher uses a wide variety and balance of teaching strategies and methodologies to accommodate different learning styles
2. Static curriculum with inflexible framework of outdated standards and practices	2. Inquiry-based, trans-disciplinary curriculum that encourages flexibility and innovation in it's delivery
3. Over-reliance on one teaching resource from one origin/culture <i>eg. a single textbook from Australia.</i>	3. Use of multiple resources representing a variety of perspectives <i>eg. textbooks; online resources; field trips; guest speakers; experiments; manipulatives; story books; case studies, etc.</i>
4. The teacher is viewed as the sole authority in the learning process	4. Students are viewed as thinkers with the capacity to build their own knowledge and understanding
5. Students memorize facts on a specific topic to regurgitate in a test or exam <i>eg. ROTE learning the names of dinosaurs</i>	5. Students develop deeper knowledge and understanding of concepts <i>eg. understanding why dinosaurs became extinct</i>
6. Focusing on what students don't know	6. Building on what students <u>do</u> know
7. Teacher-directed focus on rigid objectives	7. Students pursue open-ended inquiry and real-life investigations
8. Over-reliance on a single assessment strategy <i>eg. end of unit test/exam</i>	8. Use of a range & balance of assessment strategies and tools <i>eg. quiz; oral presentation; poster; written response; group project; model; observations; play/skit; etc.</i>
9. One size fits all	9. Students learn in different ways and at different speeds. Content & instruction is differentiated to fit individual student needs.

Celebration of Learning

An opportunity for parents, family & friends to visit our classrooms to see the skills, knowledge and understanding students have attained through their latest Unit of Inquiry



Wednesday 18th October

Time	Classes presenting	
1.00 - 1.30pm	PYP 1	PYP 2
1.30 - 2.00pm	PYP 3	PYP 6
2.00 - 2.30pm	PYP 4	PYP 5
2.30 - 3.00pm	PYP 7	PYP 8

Toasted Jam Sandwiches

To further develop their instructional writing skills, Ms. Ada challenged her PYP 4 students this week to describe the step-by-step process of making a toasted jam sandwich. The students had to list the necessary items and then write concise, sequenced instructions on how to make the sandwich (beginning with a 'bossy' verb!). Ms. Ada then followed the instructions to the letter in the hope of successfully making a tasty toasted jam sandwich. The results were..... edible. Kind of. Sort of. Almost.



Around campus this week



Around campus this week



PYP Assembly

Our PYP assembly on Friday afternoons is always a great way to wrap-up and reflect on the week gone by. We always commence each assembly by paying our respects to Barbados by singing the National Anthem with plenty of spirit and gusto. Today Ms. Barbara's PYP 5 made a class presentation to the audience. Her students told the Nandi tale '*Bringing the Rain to Kapiti Plain*' and shared the collaborative mural they created of the story. We also presented Learner Profile Awards to students, announced the House Team point scores and crowned the PYP 8 class this week's winners of the Paz Award.





International Day

Flags, Food and a heap of Fun



Friday 20th October

The Paz Award

The coveted Paz the Pelican award was won this week by Ms. Allie's PYP 8 class.

The class had an excellent week, setting a fine example as role models for the rest of the PYP students.

The students have made an excellent start to their final year in the Primary School and we look forward to them setting the right example as our school leaders throughout the year.

Congratulations and keep up the good work PYP 8.



Another lap around the sun

We always enjoy acknowledging birthdays within our PYP community. The week we celebrated another lap around the sun for Ms. Peggy on Tuesday and for Charles Went (PYP 3) on Wednesday. We also sung rousing versions of Happy Birthday to them both on their special days following afternoon break. Charlie was celebrating his 6th birthday, and for the sake of my own health & safety, I will not be commenting on how many laps it is for Ms. Peggy!

Happy Birthday to both. We hope you had a great day.



PYP House Team Competition

Progressive Scores for Term 1



PYP 8 students Elie (Gooding Emtage), Gaby (Anstey) and Noah (Elliot-Sealy) display the progressive House Team scores at the end of Week 3.

Important Dates

October 4:	PTA coffee morning: 8.30am at Splurge, St. Michael
October 18:	Celebration of Learning
October 19:	PTA Pizza Day
October 20:	International Day; Final day of school before mid-term
October 21-30:	Mid-term break
October 30:	Parent/Teacher Conferences 7.30am-3.30pm
October 31:	Classes resume