

# The Pelican Brief

12th September 2025



The Codrington School ~ PYP Newsletter

Dear PYP Parents,

Welcome to the first edition of The Pelican Brief for 2025/2026! This weekly publication is your window into daily life at our school. Our goal is to highlight and celebrate the wonderful teaching & learning happening in every corner of our campus, the exciting events and activities that bring us together, and the vibrant personalities that make our school such a unique community. The Pelican Brief is also your go-to source for important updates and announcements - everything you need to stay informed, engaged, and connected to the Primary School.

Some miscellaneous notes and updates for this week:

### **Key Dates**

Please take a moment to review the important dates listed for Term 1 on the following page. Our school calendar at the end of this newsletter is also a useful resource for key dates.

### **Student Absence Notification**

If your child is unable to attend school, please notify the classroom teacher as early as possible with a brief email explaining the reason for the absence. Kindly remember to CC both Ms. Sabrina and myself in your message. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

### **Class Blogs**

We're excited to announce the launch of our PYP Class Blogs today. These blog sites have been thoughtfully designed and created by our dedicated teachers as an additional way to keep you informed about what's happening in the classroom each week.

Blogs will be updated every Friday afternoon, providing a regular window into your child's learning journey. We encourage you to check in weekly, share the posts with family and friends, and celebrate the wonderful learning experiences taking place. You're also very welcome to explore blogs from other classrooms - it's a great way to see our broader PYP community in action. Please use the tabs at the top of this page to access the sites.

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[PYP 6](#)

[PYP 7 ADI](#)

[PYP 7 PEGGY](#)

[PYP 8](#)

### **Celebration of Learning**

At the conclusion of our first Unit of Inquiry, parents will be invited into our classrooms to celebrate and share in their children's learning experiences from the initial six weeks of school. This special event takes place in an Open House format, where students will have the opportunity to share the work they have completed throughout the unit. Presentations may take the form of collaborative class displays, small group performances, or individual student presentations - allowing each child to showcase their learning in a meaningful and engaging way. Our first Celebration of Learning will be held on **Friday 17th October**.

## Parent/Teacher Conferences

Our first Parent/Teacher Conferences for the year will be held on **Monday 27th October**, immediately following the mid-term break. These conferences offer an important opportunity for teachers to discuss your child's progress across the first six weeks of school. Please note that this is a non-teaching day for faculty, and students do not attend school on this day. Regular classes will resume on Tuesday 28th October. Further details, including a sign-up sheet to schedule individual appointments with teachers, will be shared with parents closer to the date.

Thank you once again to all our parents for your continued support during the first seven days of school. We've been very pleased with how smoothly and positively the transition back into school life has gone. It's been wonderful to see students settling in so well, and we're excited to build on this strong start in the weeks ahead. It's shaping up to be a busy term but we're looking forward to all that lies ahead.

All the best for the weekend.

Regards,  
Rob Fuller  
Head of Primary

## Important Dates

- |                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| <b>September 15:</b>  | After-school Enrichments commence                    |
| <b>October 11:</b>    | PTA Social event - <i>'Lime at Lancaster'</i>        |
| <b>October 17:</b>    | Celebration of Learning                              |
| <b>October 18-26:</b> | School closed for mid-term break                     |
| <b>October 27:</b>    | Parent/Teacher Conferences 7.30am-3.30pm; no classes |
| <b>October 28:</b>    | Classes resume                                       |
| <b>October 31:</b>    | Halloween Dress-up Day                               |
| <b>November 20:</b>   | PTA Pizza Day  |
| <b>December 1:</b>    | Independence Day National Holiday (school closed)    |
| <b>December 5:</b>    | Christmas concert                                    |
| <b>December 12:</b>   | Final day of school                                  |
| <b>Dec 13-Jan 5:</b>  | School closed for Christmas Holidays                 |
| <b>January 5:</b>     | Teacher Work Day                                     |
| <b>January 6:</b>     | Classes resume for students                          |



## New kids on the block!

We welcomed a large number of new students to the Primary School last week. It's been wonderful to see so many new faces joining our school community from around the globe and from other schools here in Barbados. They've all done a admirable job transitioning and adjusting to their new learning environment at Codrington. We wish them well for a prosperous 2025/26 and beyond.



## Getting to know our new teachers

**Name:** Ms. Cyrielle Rougier

**Role:** Visual Arts

**Place of birth:** Clermont-Ferrand, France

**Most recent school:** Trivandrum Int. School, India

**Why did you become a teacher:** Teaching felt like a natural extension of my journey as an artist and I discovered that guiding others to create was as fulfilling as creating myself.

**Likes:** Anywhere nature unfolds, where mountains, forests, or oceans remind me of life's quiet beauty and endless wonder.

**Dislikes:** Poverty; ego; dishonesty, and cruelty toward living beings, for they strip away the harmony, compassion, and dignity that give life its true meaning.

**Favourite ice cream flavour:** mango or passionfruit

**Favourite vacation place:** Sri Lanka

**What do you like most about Barbados so far:** The beaches, beautiful countryside and its cultural heritage.

**What do you like most about Codrington:** My Art room and the beautiful view, the natural environment and the warm support of my colleagues.

**Teaching philosophy:** I teach art to awaken imagination, celebrate curiosity, and turn every vision into a living expression of creativity.

**House Team:** Elliot-Sealy (Green)



**Name:** Ms. Danielle Haynes

**Role:** Teaching support

**Place of birth:** Barbados

**School attended:** Christ Church Foundation School

**Favourite ice cream flavour:** cookies & cream

**Favourite vacation place:** the beach

**What do you love about Barbados:** It's scenery and the creativity/talent

**What do you like most about Codrington so far:** How friendly and unified everyone seems to be.

**House Team:** Gooding-Emtage (Blue)

# Open Day BBQ

We had a fantastic Open Day BBQ last Sunday. A huge thank you to all the parents who came along and supported the event. The atmosphere was incredibly positive, and it was wonderful to see our school community coming together. What a great way to kick-off the new school year!



## Units of Inquiry

Our Programme of Inquiry is underway! We launched our first cycle of Units of Inquiry on Monday, marking an exciting start to our learning journey across the Primary School. These Units form the backbone of our curriculum, integrating key subject areas such as Mathematics, Language, Science & Technology, Social Studies, the Arts, and Personal, Social & Physical Education.

Each unit is guided by a Central Idea of global significance, serving as a compass for both teachers and students. Through thoughtfully crafted Lines of Inquiry, this framework encourages deep exploration and understanding. It not only strengthens subject knowledge but also cultivates critical thinking, collaboration, and meaningful real-world connections for students.

### PYP 1&2: Homes

Central Idea: Homes can look differently around the world.



### PYP 3: Human Relationships - Families

Central Idea: Families have different traditions.

### PYP 4: Expression Through Movement

Central Idea:

Feelings, ideas and emotions can be expressed through motion and movement.



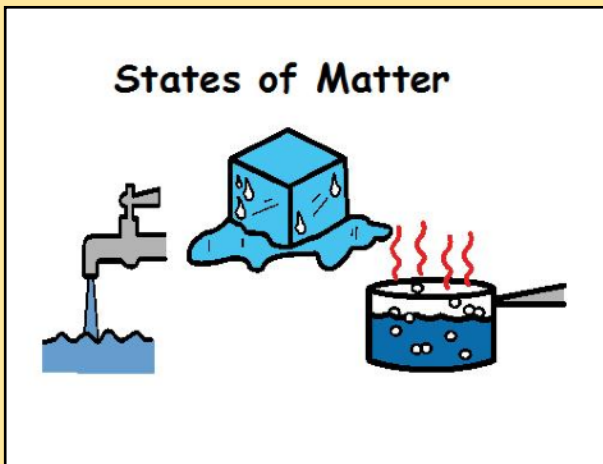


## PYP 5: Cultures around the world

Central Idea: Appreciating other cultures makes us more open-minded.

## PYP 6: Exploration & Discovery

Central Idea: Exploration leads to discoveries and new understandings.

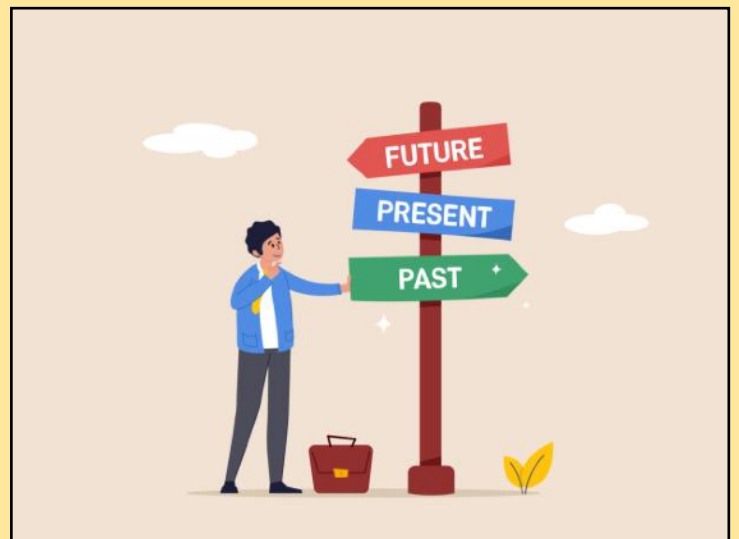


## PYP 7: Matter

Central Idea: Matter exists in different forms which can be changed and used for a variety of purposes

## PYP 8: Past & Future

Central Idea: Learning from the past can help us understand present day society and shape goals for the future.



# Around campus this week





# Essential Agreements

At the commencement of every school year, our PYP classes create 'Essential Agreements' to ensure their classroom is a respectful learning environment. Rather than teachers imposing their rules on students, everyone in the class collaborates on agreements of how the class will function. This develops greater responsibility amongst the students, but also sets up a level of ownership for their own behaviour, attitude & application to their learning.

**PYP 8 Essential Agreement**

**We will:**

Be Respectful	Work as a Team	Self-Manage	Use our Communication Skills
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• being mindful of cleaning up after ourselves</li> <li>• treating others how we would want to be treated</li> <li>• taking care of class materials</li> <li>• caring for each other</li> <li>• taking care of ourselves</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• listen to others' ideas</li> <li>• be open-minded</li> <li>• trying to compromise when needed</li> <li>• sharing our own ideas</li> <li>• doing our part of the work</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• keeping our property + hands to ourselves</li> <li>• thinking before we act</li> <li>• using calming strategies</li> <li>• using "common sense"</li> <li>• Showing patience</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• listening to the speaker</li> <li>• focus and make eye contact</li> <li>• raising our hands</li> <li>• trying not to interrupt</li> </ul>

**What That Looks Like**

Lauren, Caroline, Carolle, Allie, Niam, Esan, Ms. Barbara, Nabeel, Rio, Alexia, Lucia, Seb

**PYP 8**

**We Promise To:**

- Don't leave the classroom without permission
- Be honest
- Keep the classroom clean
- No arguing with our friends
- Be respectful
- Help other people
- Take care of our resources
- No standing on desks or chairs
- Speak kind words
- Push in chairs to avoid tripping

**PYP 5**

**ESSENTIAL AGREEMENTS**

- Actively listen to others
- Focus on our work
- Make thoughtful choices
- Respect the feelings of others

**PYP 6**

**PYP 1+2 Essential Agreements**

1. Listen to the teachers and our friends.
2. We will share and take turns when playing.
3. Loud voices outside and quiet voices inside.
4. Keep our hands and feet to ourselves.
5. Raise your hand when you want to talk.

**PYP 1&2**

# We Agree To:

Be nice to each other.

Help people when they are hurt.

Listen to all teachers.

Say please and thank you.

Take care of classroom materials.

Respect each other.

Raise your hand before speaking.

Say sorry when you hurt someone.

Not interrupt.

Keep our hands and feet to ourselves.

**PYP 3**

Ms Renee 2018-2021

## Essential Agreements

Always be kind and respectful.

Respect the rights of others. Keep your hands to yourself.

Listen when your teacher is talking!

Don't run in the classroom.

Clean up after yourself. Keep your classroom organised!

Be HONEST  
Be SENSITIVE  
Be ENCOURAGING

No arguing. No attitude.

No interrupting. Be quiet when someone is speaking.

Always try your best!

Work hard!  
Have fun learning!

## PYP 4

**Classroom Expectations:**

**Caring**

- I can show kindness and respect to others.
- I can use kind words and take turns.
- I can listen to others and find ways to be helpful.

**Classroom Expectations:**

**Balanced**

- I can help my group to stay focused on the task.
- I can be prepared and organized.
- I can take responsibility for my actions and my well-being.

**Classroom Expectations:**

**Over-achiever**

- I can listen to others and respect their ideas.
- I can admit mistakes and learn from them.
- I can reflect on other's point of view.

**Classroom Expectations:**

**Principled**

- I can share and play well with my peers.
- I can be honest, fair and tell the truth.
- I can do the right thing and follow the rules.

**Classroom Expectations:**

**Knowledgeable**

- I can pay attention to the instructions.
- I can ask questions for clarification.
- I can talk about my ideas with my peers and teachers.

**Classroom Expectations:**

**Risk Taker**

- I can accept challenges.
- I can ask for help when needed.
- I can confidently share my ideas.

**Classroom Expectations:**

**Communicator**

- I can listen to others and share my ideas.
- I can express my self in many ways.
- I can work well in a group.

**Classroom Expectations:**

**Inquirer**

- I can ask questions to find out new things.
- I can find ways to learn by myself.
- I can use my skills to find answers on my own.

**Classroom Expectations:**

**Problem Solver**

- I can participate in class discussions.
- I can use my skills to solve a problem.
- I can observe carefully.

**Classroom Expectations:**

**Reflective**

- I can find ways to improve my learning and behavior.
- I can think about my actions and work.
- I can follow-up on the feedback from teachers and peers.

## Our Essential Agreements

During written tasks, we shall maintain Pin-drop Silence....

We listen to each other with focus, intent & an open-mind!

We work like a team and aim to resolve our conflicts peacefully...

We raise our hand before speaking with the teacher...

Teachers can't be too harsh on us!

**PYP 7 Adi**

# Making a Splash!

Our PYP swimming programme kicked off this week at the Barbados Aquatic Centre. Students from PYP 3-8 are diving into lessons every Tuesday and Thursday morning, led by Ms. Sonia and her team of dedicated coaches.

The programme focuses on key aquatic skills such as water safety, stroke technique, and rhythmic breathing. In addition to building competent swimmers, it also aims to boost students' self-confidence in the water.

The programme will culminate in our annual Swim Gala in Term 3 - a celebration of progress, perseverance, and friendly competition in the pool!



# Dry as Ice

Our PYP 7 students kicked-off their Unit of Inquiry on 'States of Matter' this week with an exciting hands-on experience with frozen carbon dioxide, more commonly known as dry ice.

The focus of the lesson was the process of sublimation, when dry ice changes directly from a solid to a gas, skipping the liquid phase entirely. The students were amazed to witness the dry ice reacting with water, dishwashing liquid, and a drop of food dye to create colourful, bubbling effects.

One of the highlights of the lesson was witnessing the gas build-up from the sublimating dry ice until it blew the lid off a Pringle cylinder (6 times!!!!).

The session certainly sparked curiosity amongst the students, deepening their understanding of matter in its various states and setting a strong foundation for the rest of the Unit.



# Learner Profile Awards

Each week, Learner Profile certificates are awarded in recognition of exceptional student effort and behaviour. These popular awards are aligned with the traits of the International Baccalaureate's Learner Profile and are presented to students who have demonstrated performance that goes above and beyond our usual expectations. Earning a Learner Profile certificate is a significant achievement and one that is not easily attained - which makes it all the more valued by our students.

To receive one in the very first week of school is truly outstanding. Congratulations to this week's recipients, one of whom is new to Codrington. What an impressive start to the year!



**Benjamin (PYP 2) - Knowledgeable**



**Libby (PYP 6) - Principled**



**Eason (PYP 8) - Inquirer**

## Paz the Pelican

We are thrilled to announce that our PYP 8 class has won the Paz the Pelican Trophy as our PYP Class of the Week! Ms. Barbara's students have had a fantastic start to the new school year, already standing out as positive role models for other students throughout the Primary School. Their enthusiasm, teamwork, and dedication to learning set a shining example for the rest of our school community. Congratulations PYP 8 and keep up the good work!



## Another lap around the sun

This week we celebrated the birthdays of Cossie Holladay (PYP 1), Gwen De Simone (PYP 4), Eli Abramson Hernandez (PYP 7) and Leif Scarlett (PYP 7). Congratulations to all four students for their milestones. We hope you had a memorable day!



## PYP House Team Competition

We launched our House Team points competition this week, and as expected each team were confidently claiming they're the one to beat! This friendly rivalry is what we love to see and has been a mainstay of our school spirit in recent times.

The competition offers students a chance to earn points for their House throughout the week by demonstrating exemplary behaviour, displaying Learner Profile traits, producing outstanding work, making personal progress, helping others, and more.

Points are collected from each PYP class and tallied up, with weekly results revealed during assembly. It's a fantastic way to encourage teamwork, build school spirit, and strengthen students' sense of belonging.

Defending champions Gooding Emtage are off to a strong start once again, but Anstey and Elliot Sealy are more determined than ever to make 2025/26 their year!



PYP 8 students Sebastian (Gooding Emtage), Nina (Anstey) and Alexa (Elliot-Sealy) display the progressive House Team scores at the end of Week 1.



# *"Lime at Lancaster"*

A CODRINGTON SCHOOL PTA SOCIAL EVENT

***Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> October***

LANCASTER GREAT HOUSE, ST. JAMES

6:30PM

**\$70 BBD per person**

INCLUSIVE OF

\*APPETIZER BUFFET

\*LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

\*WELCOME DRINK (SET SELECTION) CASH BAR TO FOLLOW

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**RSVP Google form by 3<sup>rd</sup> October**

ADULTS ONLY

SMART CASUAL DRESS

# The Codrington School, The International School of Barbados

## 2025-2026 School Calendar

August 2025						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

September 2025						
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28	29	30				

October 2025						
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26	27	28	29	30	31	

November 2025						
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

December 2025						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

January 2026						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
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11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

February 2026						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

March 2026						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

April 2026						
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26	27	28	29	30		

May 2026						
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24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

June 2026						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

July 2026						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

- School Closed
- Early Release Day (noon)
- PD Professional Development Day (no school for students)
- End of Term
- First Day of School for DP students
- First Day of School for MYP & PYP students
- Graduation

Aug 26- Sep 2	Planning/Development Days
Sept 2	First Day of School for DP students
Sept 4	First Day of School MYP & PYP for students
Sept 7	Back to School BBQ
Oct 20-24	Half term - no school
Oct 27	Parent/teacher Conferences (no school)
Dec 1	Independence Day (national holiday)
Dec 13 - Jan 5	Winter Break - no school
Jan 5	Teacher Work Day (no school)

Jan 21	Errol Barrow Day (national holiday)
Feb 16-20	half term - no school
Apr 2	End of Term 2 (half day)
Apr 3- Apr 19	Easter Break - no school
Apr 20	Start of Term 3
Apr 28	Heroes day (national holiday)
May 1	May Day (national holiday)
May 25	Whit Monday (national holiday)
May 30	Graduation
Jun 24	Last Day of School (half day)