



# Clavis International Primary School

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## The Clavis Chronicle

### NEW CHANGES COMING

Dear Clavis Community,

It was with mixed feelings hearing the news from the Ministry of Education on Tuesday. While we are glad that staggered learning days may come to an end, we unfortunately have to wait until mid-October before this will take effect (p.3). The other news we were waiting for also came out from Le Bocage International School this week. They have approval for new admissions policies involving Clavis and our Year 6 students. It ensures that there will be enough seats set aside each year for every student who meets the admissions requirements (p.3).

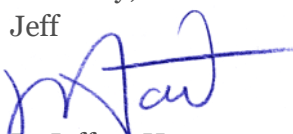
Aside from our partnership with LBIS, we have started to develop another relationship with a local organization called Success English. We hope that this will provide additional options and resources to help support English acquisition and development with our students (and parents?) (p.5).

In this issue you will also find a few more updates involving Sports Days (p.4) along with a review of important reminders regarding school times and the Returning Student Survey. It is very important that all families complete this, informing us if you will be returning next year. Speaking of next year, in our Chronicle in a couple weeks, we hope to be able to present our 2022 calendar.

We have begun digesting the PYP Evaluation Report that we received recently from the IB. You will find a summary of the recommendations that the IB has suggested for school improvement. These suggestions will be integrated into action plans for our developing Strategic Plan (p.6).

Finally, this is to say thank you to the PTA for a wonderfully presented and informative AGM on Wednesday. Congratulations on a successful year!

Sincerely,  
Jeff

  
R. Jeffery Hart  
Head of School  
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### WHAT'S COMING UP?

- **10 September:** School holiday for upcoming Ganesh Chaturthi celebration
- **27, 30 Sept. and 7 Oct:** Proposed Sports Days (TBC)
- **1 to 5 October:** School holiday (mid-term break)
- **1 to 5 November:** School and public holidays (All Saints, Arrival of Indentured Labourers, Diwali)
- **10 November:** Student-Led Conferences
- **16 November:** Year 6 Graduation
- **19 November:** Last day for students (half day)
- **During Week of 10 January:** Students return for 2022 school year (day to be determined)

## WHAT'S GOING ON AT CLAVIS?



### Upcoming National and School Holidays:

#### October

- 1 Friday:** Mid-Term Break
- 4 Monday:** Mid-Term Break
- 5 Tuesday:** Mid-Term Break

#### November

- 1 Monday:** All Saints' Day
- 2 Tuesday:** Arrival of Indentured Labour-
- 3 Wednesday:** No School
- 4 Thursday:** Diwali
- 5 Friday:** No School
- 22 Monday:** First Day of Summer Holidays



ers



**School Timings:** A reminder that for Pre-Reception to Year 1, pick up is at **14:15 (12:05 Fridays)** and for Years 2 to 6, pick up will be at **14:45 (12:35 Fridays)**. Please help our staff and those supervising students by respecting these times and be there for your children on time.



**Masks:** For those students in Years 1 and above, please ensure they are wearing their mask into school and that they have an extra one in the event of loss or damage. Having a mask is everyone's responsibility for the safety and welfare of everyone. Reusable masks are available for purchase from the PTA in the School Shop.

## PARENT SURVEY ON RETURNING TO CLAVIS IN 2022

**D**espite needing to complete the survey a week ago, we still have not heard back from some families.

We need families to let the school know your intentions if your children are returning in January. Some families may still be uncertain and not know yet. In these cases, please let the school know what you hope will happen or what might possibly happen. This information is very important to us and our planning for the coming year.

The link below to the [survey](#) must be filled out separately for each child, whether they are returning or not. Please resubmit at the bottom for each additional child. Families do not need to fill this out for students who are currently in Year 6 who are assumed to be graduating.

This must be completed as soon as possible so we can begin budgeting for next year, planning our new class lists, and contacting families on our waiting lists about new spaces. If you have any questions or would like to share additional information, please contact the school's secretary, Ms Christine Tang, at [christine.tang@cips.me](mailto:christine.tang@cips.me).

**Are you  
returning in  
2022?**

**[Feedback link if returning or not in 2022](#)**

## MORE UPDATES ON ADMISSIONS TO LE BOCAGE

We are happy to finally be able to confirm that the policy proposal that was discussed in the previous Chronicle has been approved by the LBIS Board. LBIS will move forward with a system that sets aside 72 seats for Clavis students each year, essentially giving every Year 6 student an opportunity to join LBIS if they want and meet the admission requirements.

This was only agreed to this week and a final policy agreement is now being written up, along with more details on minimum criteria and expectations that students must meet. This criteria is not planned to deviate from what has been in place previously but Clavis will be working closer with LBIS on how we can prepare students (as early as Year 4) who may not be able to be successful meeting the criteria at LBIS.

Mr David Jenkins, the Head of School at LBIS, has suggested he would do a Zoom session with parents who would like to know more; however, we will wait for the final policy wording to be completed and shared out first. This way, the presentation will serve to help clarify and answer any questions surrounding the new policy.



## CHANGES TO YEAR LEVEL ATTENDANCE DAYS

**This week the Ministry of Education announced changes coming to the school year and staggered days.** Government schools will continue their year until the end of April with Term 2 going from 13 September to 17 December and Term 3 going from 10 January to 29 April. While this has no impact on our school year, the eventual removal of staggered days is an exciting change that does affect Clavis. Starting 18 October, all students and year levels will be able to return to school five-days-a-week. We eagerly hope that no issues arise that postpone this date and we will be even happier if authorities decide to move it earlier. Below is the schedule we will follow until the planned return of everyone on 18 October.

Mon, 6 Sept	Tues, 7 Sept	Wed, 8 Sept	Thurs, 9 Sept	Fri, 10 Sept
In school: Pre, Rec, Year 4, 5, and 6	In school: Pre, Rec, Year 1, 2, and 3	In school: Pre, Rec, Year 4, 5, and 6	In school: Pre, Rec, Year 1, 2, and 3	No school
Mon, 13 Sept	Tues, 14 Sept	Wed, 15 Sept	Thurs, 16 Sept	Fri, 17 Sept
In school: Pre, Rec, Year 1, 2, and 3	In school: Pre, Rec, Year 4, 5, and 6	In school: Pre, Rec, Year 1, 2, and 3	In school: Pre, Rec, Year 4, 5, and 6	In school: Pre, Rec, Year 1, 2, and 3
Mon, 20 Sept	Tues, 21 Sept	Wed, 22 Sept	Thurs, 23 Sept	Fri, 24 Sept
In school: Pre, Rec, Year 4, 5, and 6	In school: Pre, Rec, Year 1, 2, and 3	In school: Pre, Rec, Year 4, 5, and 6	In school: Pre, Rec, Year 1, 2, and 3	In school: Pre, Rec, Year 4, 5, and 6
Mon, 27 Sept	Tues, 28 Sept	Wed, 29 Sept	Thurs, 30 Sept	Fri, 1 Oct
In school: Pre, Rec, Year 1, 2, and 3	In school: Pre, Rec, Year 4, 5, and 6	In school: Pre, Rec, Year 1, 2, and 3	In school: Pre, Rec, Year 4, 5, and 6	No school
Mon, 4 Oct	Tues, 5 Oct	Wed, 6 Oct	Thurs, 7 Oct	Fri, 8 Oct
No school	No school	In school: Pre, Rec, Year 4, 5, and 6	In school: Pre, Rec, Year 1, 2, and 3	In school: Pre, Rec, Year 4, 5, and 6
Mon, 11 Oct	Tues, 12 Oct	Wed, 13 Oct	Thurs, 14 Oct	Fri, 15 Oct
In school: Pre, Rec, Year 1, 2, and 3	In school: Pre, Rec, Year 4, 5, and 6	In school: Pre, Rec, Year 1, 2, and 3	In school: Pre, Rec, Year 4, 5, and 6	In school: Pre, Rec, Year 1, 2, and 3



## ACTION IN THE PYP IN YEAR 1

Action falls under the IB PYP standard: Approaches to teaching, Practice 1, “Teachers use inquiry, action and reflection to develop natural curiosity in students.”



Action is part of the learning process that invites the child's initiation to inquire about things and finding the answers to their questions. The action invitation encourages the child to be responsible and confident about their own learning. It also makes the students reflect on their learning.



After inquiring about different types of molluscs in class through videos and books, a Korean student created a poster at home. He illustrated different molluscs using attractive colours and labelled each drawing in English and Korean. During the “Show and Tell” activity, he had the opportunity to share his project with his friends in English. The other members of the class were excited to learn some Korean words related to the unit that we are inquiring about.



Children shared their understanding about the differences between vertebrates, invertebrates and the different types of molluscs they have seen.

In class children observed the bugs, discussed and shared the wonderings and findings with their teachers and classmates. They even went further and were able to classify the different groups of molluscs such as “gastropods, cephalopods and bivalves”. At home some of them drew and wrote about the molluscs and then brought it to share with the rest of the class.

## STUDENT-ONLY SPORTS DAY 2021

Unfortunately, changes to the staggered day calendar are not scheduled to come into effect until 18 October and, even then, we do not know what will be recommended regarding additional people on campus. Because of this, we must still continue with the Sports Days dates announced previously on staggered days. However, it is still not recommended to allow large groups on campus from outside the school. As a result, unfortunately, we will not be able to have parents on campus during Sports Days this year. We are looking at ways to ensure parents do not miss out on their children's excitement and participation of the day, but this will likely be through video and pictures that we are working to arrange for each year level.



Being proficient in effective communication is essential for everyone. English is our language of instruction at Clavis but it is not the first language spoken by much of our community. It is also a very difficult language to master, even for those who speak it as their mother tongue.

Because of the importance we place in language acquisition and fluency, we would like to update everyone about a collaboration we are looking at forming with an organization called Success English. The purpose of pursuing this is to look at opportunities where we can improve our strategies for teaching English to students who are new to it but also provide resources for our community, including staff and parents. We can help to improve our students English acquisition by building up the English they are surrounded by and exposed to.

In addition to where we can advance our resources and strategies at school, Success English will also offer additional courses outside of school. They have places in St Pierre and Cascavelle that offer courses designed to help kids (ages of 5 to 18) with their English skills, as well as boost their confidence as young communicators. They explained that they use fun, interactive and communicative methods to keep the kids engaged, and all of their teachers are highly experienced and well-



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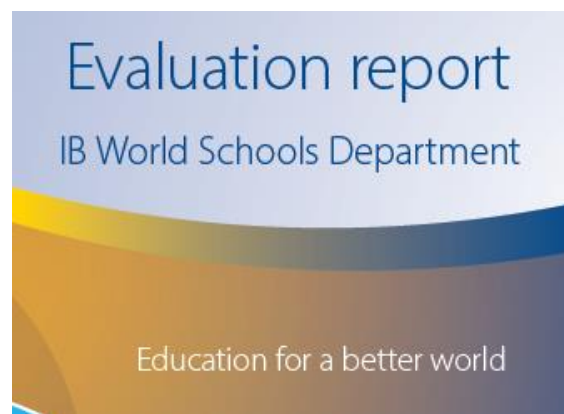
qualified. They follow a Cambridge English syllabus woven into a range of fun activities which include use of drama, art, music and play. They also provide an online e-learning platform so students can continue to practice, play, and extend their English learning at home. Their classes run all day on Saturdays and after school on weekdays. They are offering a 10% discount to all Clavis students who register for one or more of their EAL programmes.

When Covid requirements are lifted and we can offer After-School Activities again, Clavis will be working with them to provide different levels of support for students with courses at school; however, we will also like to be able to offer options for anyone in our parent community as well. We will explore what the interests and logistics of this would be before knowing if it is viable.



## PYP EVALUATION FEEDBACK AND TAKING ACTION

We have written about the purpose and process surrounding the PYP Evaluation that takes place every five years. We recently received the final (official) report from the IB head office. As a staff, we began dissecting it to review the IB's commendations, look at general observations, and understand the recommendations. These recommendations need to be put into an action plan that will form part of the school Strategic Plan over the coming years (more on that in the future). Overall, the IB did not identify any matters to be addressed, but the recommendations provide feedback for areas that can be improved. These are as follows, copied directly from the report:



1. The school may wish to review its approach to addressing the needs of mother tongue languages within the school community in addition to the host country language.
2. The school may wish to adhere to their two year review cycle for policies and review all policies to ensure they reflect the requirements of the PYP including the enhancements in addition to reflect the practices happening in the school.
3. The school may wish to collaboratively review the language policy to ensure it is up to date with programme requirements and reflect the practices happening in the school.
4. The school may wish to collaboratively continue revising the assessment policy to ensure it includes the programme requirements and the assessment practices in the school and share this policy with the greater community.
5. The school may wish to establish a process to share the curriculum and programme of inquiry with the school community.
6. The school may wish to revisit the timelines and accountabilities for reviewing the programme of inquiry regularly and systematically.
7. The school may wish to collaborate and develop a shared understanding of inquiry and the different types of inquiry while reviewing the school's inquiry cycle and ensure that all teachers across the curriculum are using an inquiry approach to learning and teaching.
8. The school may wish to review their understanding of action and develop systems and process to acknowledge, celebrate and document student action.

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Overall, as a school, there is a lot to be excited about and feel proud of. In almost 115 areas where we got feedback, there were only eight which they identified as areas to review or consider changes. We are in agreement with the IB on these and were already aware of some of these areas to be considered; however, we might be a little more critical of ourselves than the IB and we have identified other areas to focus on as well.

As we work on our action plan for these items, we will also be incorporating many other areas into our goals and strategic plan. These come from self-identified concerns, staff and student feedback, and input from our parent community which has been repeated on surveys and communications from across year levels.

We will be working on a Clavis Strategic Plan over Term 3 and hope to present a final version in January of 2022. This document should provide a vision and guidance to where and how we want to see Clavis evolve in the short term, in five years, and even ten years from now!