



# Clavis International Primary School

Montagne Ory, Moka, Mauritius

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## The Clavis Chronicle

### VACCINATIONS FOR 5-11 ARE COMING

Dear Clavis Community,

We received the information and news yesterday that COVID-19 vaccinations will be available to all families **who want it** for their children aged 5 and above. They will be setting up in Clavis on Wednesday 25 May and parents will have to accompany their child and bring specific documents. As a result, the Ministry has said there will be no school on that day for students. If you have questions, the Ministry of Health has a hotline to call at 8924. This is an important choice that parents must make and I can only advise that anyone makes this decision based on evidenced information from reputable resources. Unfortunately, the medical training your relative got from Facebook may not be the most reliable source. Here are some places to help parents make an informed decision as a starting point: [1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), and [5](#). See more information on page 3.

Congratulations to everyone who participated in Book Week, our week-long celebration of all things related to books and reading last week. It was a huge success and you can see some images and learn more about it on page 6. A huge thanks to all of our staff who were involved in making that week happen, but a special thanks goes out to the unbelievable work done by our library staff of Virginie Autrey, Varuna Deéal, and Graziella Oxenham. From all of us in the Clavis community, thank you!

This past week introduced some big changes to how we manage after-school parking and traffic. Starting this past Wednesday, Pre-Reception, Reception, and Year 1 pass-holders were granted access to the parking lot before 2:10pm. Please turn to pages 4-5 for more.

Interested in cycling? Basketball? Zumba? If so, we have lots happening in support of our students' physical education coming up! Please read about the "Let's Ride, Clavis!" activities taking place over the mid-term break in a couple weeks, along with some other great opportunities on page 8.

Our next Chronicle will be coming to you a day earlier on Thursday 2 June, as our mid-term holidays happen from Friday 3 May until Tuesday 7 May. Students return to school on the Wednesday.

Take care,

Jeff

R. Jeffery Hart  
Head of School  
[jeff.hart@cips.me](mailto:jeff.hart@cips.me)

### Let's Go For A Bike Ride



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### WHAT'S COMING UP?

- **25 May (Wed): Optional Vaccination for 5-11 year-olds, no classes**
- **3 June (Fri) to 7 June (Tues): Mid-Term Break**
- **3 June (Fri): Student bike riding at school**
- **4 June (Sat): Community bike ride (for adults)**
- **22 July (Fri): Term 2 Parent-Teacher Conferences (face-to-face or Zoom). No school for students. More information to come.**
- **25 July to 19 August: Term 2 holiday break**
- **22 August (Mon): First day of Term 3**

# WHAT DO YOU NEED TO KNOW THAT IS HAPPENING AT CLAVIS?



## **Parent-Teacher Conferences are on Friday 22 July:**

Report cards and PTCs are still two months away but it is important that you are aware of this since some families may leave and be travelling ahead of the last day of school, prior to the Term 2 July/August holidays. The students' last day will be Thursday 21 July, while parent conferences and reports will take place on the next day, 22 July. More information and the online sign-up will not be ready until mid-June; however, many teachers may be able to offer conference times before the 22 July date. The conference format will be the parents' choice of either a face-to-face in school meeting or over Zoom, whichever is more convenient or preferred by parents.

**Far too many parents are coming to school throughout the day to drop off food, water, birthday cakes, library pouch, books, etc..** These items are left with security, who then call the admin offices, who then call the teachers to collect these for their students. Teachers and teaching assistants are rarely free to leave their students or their classes so these items often get left with the security until someone is free to go down and collect. It is very disruptive for teachers when they are teaching. And when we cannot get a hold of teachers, items can be forgotten. We know that plans do not always go as planned but we ask that you do whatever you can to ensure students have everything they need before they leave home. And, if something is forgotten and it can wait until the next day, then bring it in the morning the next day. Thank you!

**Much like the above item, when children from Early Years arrive late,** teachers or assistants have to leave their classes and the already started lessons they are teaching, to go down and collect them from security. Again, while life's unexpected twists can get in the way of your good intentions, it is often the same families and students over and over again. This poor planning or indifference to others comes down to a lack of respect for the teachers and the hard work they put into preparing lessons to teach our students.

**Important reminder about students travelling on the school vans:** Please inform the driver of your child's van if they have been picked earlier from school. Vans will not leave until they have all of the students they are expecting.

**Contacting the School Shop:** Please be aware that the School Shop does not have an extension that we can transfer calls to. The shop must be reached directly at 433 7991. The shop is opened throughout the day but parents must call to arrange an appointment. Often this can be arranged for parents in the morning when they are dropping off their children; however, parents still need to call to confirm an appointment time before they can be allowed up.

**Lost Items:** More and more items are showing up in our lost and found or being left around the school. Nearly all of them without a name. In many instances, children have accidentally picked up another child's things (usually a water bottle) to bring home. Please make sure your child's belongings are labelled and that you check they have brought home their own property (particularly for our youngest ones).

**Pokémon Cards and student spending:** These are becoming a distraction and a problem in some classes and year levels. Cards are being lost, taken, and traded, often resulting in someone feeling wronged. These issues are causing problems in some classes and we are asking those students to keep them at home. Even more problematic are students buying and selling cards for money brought to school that was never intended for these. If Pokémon Cards are a part of your child's life, please ensure that they are not involved with the trading or buying of them at school. Better still, please ask them to keep them at home.

**The accounts department are sending out an urgent appeal about unpaid fees.** Please take some time from your busy schedules and make sure that your standing orders are in place with your banks and that fees are now up to date. If in doubt, please contact Miss Gail Rault on [gail.rault@cips.me](mailto:gail.rault@cips.me).

**Birthdays and sending treats:** Celebrating this day in each child's life is an important moment that means a lot to them. We are happy to observe their birthdays in class and provide a time to do this; however, birthday celebrations at school should not take a large time away from learning, typically happening near the end of the day or before break time. We want to recognise each child, but the big birthday party is something that should be done at home. Please ensure that treats sent are things that can be easily distributed and even brought home, if needed. We have asked previously not to send cakes that require teachers to spend time cutting, and finding appropriate utensils, plates, or napkins. This is very difficult to manage in the classroom and usually very messy. If cake is being sent, please make it cupcakes instead.

**Mobile Phones:** Because of traveling or activities outside school, some of our older students may have been allowed to have a phone at school to contact parents for different reasons. The school is OK with this provided the following is understood: 1) Any high-value items at school will always be at risk of being damaged, lost, or even taken; 2) Phones and other non-education related items (eg, not necessary for school) are the responsibility of the owner and not the school; 3) Phones must be powered off and secured in your child's bag. If they are used at school or become a distraction to anyone then they will be confiscated and be available for parents to collect from the teacher. They will not be allowed back at school. Please ensure you and your child understands the risks and responsibilities of having devices or other unnecessary school items at Clavis.

## VACCINATIONS FOR CHILDREN & SCHOOL CLOSURE

On Thursday 18 May, Clavis was invited to a meeting by the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education to discuss upcoming vaccinations being made available to all children aged 5 to 11 years of age. Mr Kabir Gobin, our PTA President, and Ms Nalini Heerralaul, our nurse, were present for the meeting with Mr Jeff (a big thanks to Mr Gobin for his contributions during the meeting and his help with all the information).

Representatives explained the rationale and importance of why they are promoting vaccinations for our primary aged students, as well as the logistics and steps for carrying this out in schools. **We received information yesterday afternoon that our 5-11 year-old students will be eligible for their first dose on Wednesday 25 May which will take place at Clavis.** Please take careful note of the following:

- **Accompanying this Chronicle are information letters from the Ministry of Health and Well-being ([French](#) and [English](#)).** Please read them carefully.
- **Vaccinations are optional** but, for those electing to have their child vaccinated, there will be a second dose scheduled approximately 21-28 days after.
- **A parent (or guardian who knows the child's medical history) must accompany the child to be vaccinated** and bring:
  - 1) Birth Certificate of the child
  - 2) Health Card of the child
  - 3) National ID Card of the parent or guardian
  - 4) Participating adults must have their vaccination information or a negative PCR test with them to accompany the child into the school.
- **As a vaccination centre, our school must close for all classes during that day.** Activities will be assigned to work on from home but teachers will not be able to run Zoom classes on this day.
- **A schedule of timings will go out on Monday;** however, this will depend on the number of parents having their child vaccinated.
- **Vaccinations are for students ages 5 and above** by 25 May. There may be a future date for more.
- If your child is definitely getting their first vaccination shot next Wednesday or you are considering it, **please let us know on [this anonymous survey](#).** If you will definitely **not** have your child vaccinated, please do not fill out the survey. If you have any questions, please call the Mauritius hotline at 8924.

# TRAFFIC AND PARKING CHANGES

We have updated some of the below information that was emailed to parents on the weekend of 14 May. Please review and help us with following our new requirements.

All parents and staff were made aware of the below changes in our traffic and parking procedures that started this past Wednesday. We have had to make these changes because we have continued to see too many people parking before their child's dismissal time (often more than two hours beforehand). This was causing problems for our Early Years' parents who need to be there before 2:10pm to collect our youngest students. As a result, the following changes have come into effect:



## PARKING

- A chain barrier has been placed at the start of the entrance, coming from the road. The Clavis main parking is now closed to everyone before 13:30 (Mon to Thurs)/11:30 (Fri) unless visitors have an engagement or appointment on campus before those times.
- The Clavis main parking is now opened between 13:30 - 14:10 (Mon to Thurs) or 11:30 - 12:10 (Fri) only to parents/drivers who have a child in Pre-Reception, Reception, or Year 1 (these students are dismissed between 14:00-14:15 or 12:00-12:15).
- The Clavis main parking is now opened for Year 2 and Year 3 families only after 14:10 and for Years 4 to 6 only after 14:25, Monday to Thursday (12:10 and 12:25 respectively on Fridays).
- Parents and drivers arriving before their time should wait in the lower parking slots by the roadside near the green container. **Anyone arriving before 14:10 who does not have a child in Pre-Reception, Reception, or Year 1 will be turned away and will have to drive around the loop and re-enter the traffic line again.**
- Parents and drivers who have a child in Pre-Reception, Reception, or Year 1 have been issued a numbered yellow parking pass with their child's name on it. If cars arrive and do not have the pass they will be turned away until 14:10. There will be no exceptions. Security monitoring the entrance does not have time to check student lists to confirm if a parent or driver has a child in the Early Years (that will slow down traffic - which is what we are trying to avoid!). No pass, no entry before 14:10.
- For families with more than one car or person collecting a child and you need an additional pass, please contact Ms. Naseemah Sumodhee at the school ([naseemah.sumodhee@cips.me](mailto:naseemah.sumodhee@cips.me)). We will create an additional one or two passes only.
- Please do not lose your pass. With your child's name on it, hopefully we should be able to return it if found.
- Finally, please remain patient. There are still more parents in Pre-Reception, Reception, and Year 1 than we have parking spots. When the lot is full, we will line up the people with passes outside the entrance. People without passes will have to continue around the road.

**Please note:** Passes remain the property of CIPS and must remain in the care of the intended recipient. Passes will be revoked at any time due to inappropriate use or sharing.

# TRAFFIC AND PARKING CHANGES (....CONTINUED)

## ROAD USE & STOPPING

- After meeting with police this week, cars will not be allowed to park anywhere along the roadside. This includes school vans, taxis, and residents' cars.
- Cars turning into Clavis must stay to the far left side, allowing space on the right for cars to pass by. This can only be possible when no cars are parking anywhere along the road.
- Cars stopped or waiting on the road without a pass (because they have arrived before their entrance time) will be directed to continue along the road.

## BAGATTELLE SHUTTLE SERVICE

- The Bagatelle Shuttle continues to operate after school between Clavis and the Bagatelle Mall
- Students using the service can be picked up at 15:00 at a designated spot at Bagatelle so parents can avoid the traffic congestion around Clavis and LBIS
- The cost is only Rs500 per month, as the overall cost is subsidized by Clavis. Clavis will pay the full amount during holidays so parents only pay during the months that students are using it.

## WET WEATHER DROP-OFF & COLLECTION

During morning arrival, we have begun allowing parents to drop students off in the upper parking to avoid walking in heavy rain. This is conditional on parents NOT parking in the upper area. Parents can drive up to stop and allow their child out (make sure students have their bags with them and staff will be there to help them out), but parents should not park and get out of their cars. This holds up the traffic. The parking slots cannot be used as they are designated for the schools vans. If parents need to park then parents should use the main parking area and gate by the field.

During afternoon collection, we will direct parents in the upper years to collect students from the assembly terrace and go up to the upper parking. Early Years will be waiting for collection from the parking pavilion. Access to the upper parking is only opened for cars after 14:45, once all school vans have left.

## WHAT IS NEXT?

While a lot has been done over the past two years to improve traffic and parking congestion, we feel these additional changes will help improve them. What we saw this week certainly showed a huge change. These changes will not, however, eliminate all traffic and parking problems. Given the space we have and the number of families using cars, traffic and parking will continue to be something everyone must be prepared to contend with. **We implore everyone to have patience with each other, drive carefully for the safety of our children, and be respectful to not block or impede traffic for families and our neighbours around the school.**

**“Patience is something you admire in the driver behind you, but not in the one ahead. ”**

*Bill McGlashen*

# BOOK WEEK IN PICTURES

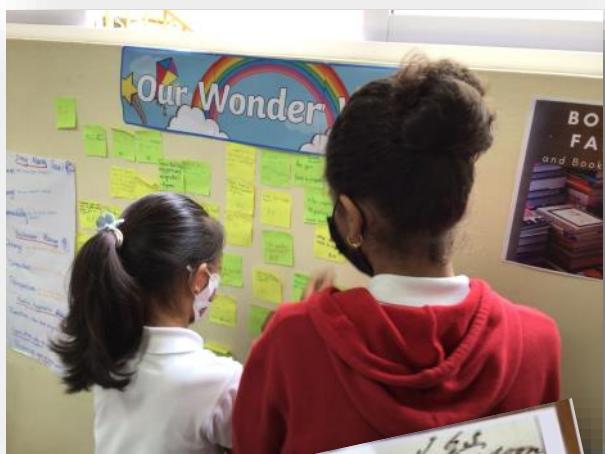
Last week we celebrated the success of our Book Week. As mentioned on the main page, a huge thanks is extended to all of our staff who were involved in making that week happen, but a special thanks goes out to the unbelievable work done by our library staff of Virginie Autrey, Varuna Deéal, and Graziella Oxenham. Finally, a big thanks to all of you who donated books: **We have had around 800 books donated (and counting)**. Fantastic work, everyone!



## ACTION AT CIPS - FROM YEAR 6

Action is the core of student agency and an integral part to the learning process. Our PYP learners are encouraged to become agents of their own learning and partners in the learning process. Learners with agency use their initiative and take responsibility and ownership of their learning. Teachers support this process through continuous discussion, evaluation to redirect where needed and by creating learning environments that foster their curiosity and create further opportunities.

While navigating through the unit 'Migration', the Year 6 learners have taken charge of their learning by deciding their own lines of inquiry, primary and secondary resources. This experience will gear them towards the skills needed for the exhibition. The learners brainstormed ideas and posted them on the 'wonder wall'. They evaluated what ideas work better than others and used them to develop lines of inquiry. Some students interviewed members of the school and parents who have moved to Mauritius. Students explored where their family members came from, they looked up ancestor photos and also analyzed data. They have taken action by creating, organizing and communicating their learning.



# CLAVIS KEEP FIT! - BIKE DAY AND ZUMBA

We are excited to introduce a fun and active opportunity for our students next week: Zumba! On Friday 27th May our school will be engaged with Zumba classes through a training we are working with, Miss Vieillesse, and with the support of the PE department. At the moment, the proposal for Zumba next Friday on the Assembly Terrace will be:  
9.00 – 9.20 (Pre-Reception and Reception classes)  
9.30 – 9.50 (Years 1 -3)  
10.00 – 10.20 (Years 4-6)

## “LET’S RIDE, CLAVIS!”

**On the following Friday, the 3rd of June**, it is International Bike Day. What better way to recognise this day than to get on our bikes and ride! Even though this is the first day of our mid-term holiday, our PE department has a plan to invite students on to campus for some cycling fun and practise. There will be three areas and skill levels for the students to work in.

- 1) Upper parking next to reception classes, only for children in Pre-Reception to Year one (or complete beginners).
- 2) Level 3 – Intermediate level, where children can ride alone on their bike. We have designed a plan for the routes they will have to follow with some challenges and obstacles.
- 3) L-Shape ground – Confident riders where children will ride to beat the clock.

Children should have their own bike and they must be accompanied by their parents or guardians.

**Interested? Please let us know [here](#).**

**Saturday 4th June is a Clavis community ride** – Approximately 40kms in the region of Moka (dirt and road). This is for adults or confident riders above 15 years of age. You will need to bring:

- Your own bike and to please check your bike before the ride to avoid any unforeseen mechanical issues.
- Your own snacks and water.
- A helmet would be advisable for your own safety.
- A comfortable riding kit.

The pace will be from moderate to fast depending on the areas and abilities of the participants. The meeting time will be at 08:00 am at school and the ride will take approximately 2hrs to 2hrs 20 minutes.

**Interested? Please let us know [here](#).**

## IS YOUR CHILD INTERESTED IN BASKETBALL?

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**CIPS**



We are partnering up with a fantastic opportunity for our students of all levels to get involved with basketball. Coaching and games take place in different places in Mauritius and students can get started now.

The activity is run and operated by a very experienced basketball trainer named Alvin Athave. If your child is at all curious or interested in basketball then we would highly recommend YUT Basketball. Find out more through the [presentation link](#) and also at:  
Alvin Tel: + (230) 697 5152

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Email: [yutbasketball@gmail.com](mailto:yutbasketball@gmail.com)

Web site : <http://yutbasketball.com/>  
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