



PDO School
Passion for Learning

PDO School
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Newsletter

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Issue: 2

Dear Parents,

What a wonderful first week we have had. We have been delighted to welcome back so many students and our new arrivals are already settling in well. We were particularly happy to see all the children together during our assemblies. By the end of next week we hope to have welcomed all of our students back from leave.

This week has been Learning Week and every class has been focused on developing their knowledge, skills and understanding related to learning. The focus has very much been twofold. Firstly developing our understanding of us as individual learners and secondly developing a cooperative learning environment in which we can all flourish. Within each class we have found positive learning environments where the children are happy and eager to learn. It truly has been a fabulous start to the academic year.

Our challenge to you as parents is to talk to your children about how they are clever and how they prefer to learn. This information will prove incredibly valuable as you support them with their home learning. It is quite an eye opener to realise that there are so many different ways in which we are each clever and so many different means of accessing new learning. You never know you may even learn something about yourself as a learner from talking it all through with your children. Whether in the nursery classes, who have been experiencing a variety of visual, auditory and kinesthetic activities or P5 where they have been exploring neurons, the learning has continued at full speed.

On behalf of our team,

Yours sincerely,

Peter Wassink

Head Teacher



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Eight I.P.C Personal Goals as floor stickers!

The eight I.P.C Personal Goals are an integral part of the curriculum. We aspire to develop all learners through these goals. To make it easier to implement these goals, you will find the Personal Goals displayed as big stickers throughout the corridors of the school. We are sure you will agree that they are fantastic!

There will be a whole school focus on each personal goal at the same time. For the month of September, our focus is on being **Adaptable**.

To be adaptable means to adjust in a positive way to different situations, both at school and at home. It also includes considering other cultures and be able to cope with different situations. For learning, it is about exploring different strategies and ideas and using these in different situations.

During the coming weeks, children will learn about the personal goal Adaptable, and can also receive a stamp in their Personal Goals Passport, for when they are displaying this goal, from teachers and peers. Of course, children are adaptable in many different aspects of their lives, and if you catch your child being adaptable outside of school, they could also be praised.

Every personal goal has an animal associated with it, and for Adaptable it is the Chameleon. The Chameleon is an animal that displays these same traits, adapting itself to its environment in a positive way.

Parent Information Afternoon

As you will already be aware this is taking place on Monday 10 September. Please see the following table to find out details of when the different sessions will be taking place.

4pm	5pm
Nursery	Pre-Nursery
Primary 2	Primary 1
Primary 4	Primary 3
Primary 6	Primary 5
	Primary 7

We hope that the distribution of sessions will enable you to attend for each of your children. The teachers are keen to explain specific details for their year group.

Outstanding vacancies Parents Teachers Association (PTA)

Parents can support the well being and education of the children by playing an active role as a PTA member. Please come forward if you would like to support this important school body, by speaking or emailing Miss Hannah (Deputy Head) Hannah.L.Loudoun@pdo.co.om.

PTA News

Up until now I have not met the PTA-members, but I'm aware that there are some outstanding vacancies. The objective of the Parents Association is to support PDO School in furthering the well being and education of the children. The PTA are an important 'body' within the school. Please join them to help them to achieve their objectives!

September dates

Monday 10 th September	Parents' Information Afternoon
Saturday 15 th September	Start of After School Activities (ASA)

Second Language Teachers

We are currently in the process of organizing second language lessons. If you are able and willing to commit to teaching groups of children a second language on a Tuesday morning, we would love to hear from you. In particular we would welcome people interested in teaching German as we currently have a gap in this subject. However we are open to suggestions for any other languages as well; please speak to Juf Ceciel for further clarification.

Teaching Assistants

With the school year underway it has come to our attention that we would greatly benefit from some additional Classroom Assistants. If you are a PDO spouse we would particularly like to hear from you if you are interested. We hope to be able to offer these positions to non PDO spouses in the near future. So please do not hesitate to register your interest with Miss Hannah (Deputy Head). Teaching Assistants play a vital role in helping children to learn effectively.

Swimming Teachers

Are you a confident swimmer? Do you have a good level of English? If the answer is yes then we need you! Swimming is a vital element of the school curriculum, it is one of the few skills that we teach that can save lives. We are very pleased to have a dedicated team of swim teachers that we are now hoping to expand. Please contact Claire or Hannah if you are interested and able to commit to either a Saturday or a Sunday morning each week.

NTC-PO Lessons

It is with great pleasure that we announce that NTC-PO lessons will begin for all groups next week (week beginning 8 September 2012). If you would like your child to participate in these lessons please speak to Juf Ceciel so that you can be admitted to the NTC-PO.

Subject leaders and coordinators

In our continuous drive to move learning forward we have dedicated members of staff who have specific roles related to developing subjects and teams across the school. With this in mind please be aware that those teachers involved will be released from their classes to focus on this. They will be covered by fully qualified teachers who will continue to deliver learning in accordance to the plans written by the class teachers, that are tailored to their classes needs.

Teacher	Covered by
Miss Joh (IPC Leader for Learning)	Miss Joice (Sunday)
Miss Hanneke (IPC Leader for Learning)	Miss Hannah (Sunday)
Miss Ruth (Maths Leader for Learning)	Miss Claire (Tuesday)
Miss Helen (Literacy Leader for Learning)	Miss Joice (Tuesday)
Miss Suzanne (Milepost 1 co-ordinator)	Miss Nicola (Monday afternoons)
Miss Marleen (Milepost 2 co-ordinator)	Miss Nicola (Tuesday afternoons)
Miss Katherine (Milepost 3 co-ordinator)	Miss Joice (Monday afternoons)

HSE - School Car Park

Every year it is important to remind parents about the rules in our car park to keep all of our children safe!

Please remember that:

- * There is a one-way system
- * Reversing is not allowed
- * All car engines should be switched off when stationary
- * Children are not to be left unattended in cars
- * When dropping off children, drive to the end of the drop-off zone to avoid hold-ups
- * It is important to drive slowly

Arsenal Soccer School

It is that time of the year again when Arsenal Soccer School are offering a 10 week programme beginning on 9 September 2012. If your children are football crazy please feel free to book on 24483344 or 24488565. Alternatively visit their website on www.playthearsenalway.com/oman or email info@arsenalsoccorschooloman.com.