

THE WEEKLY CURRENT

Cayman International School's Newsletter

March 25, 2016



Vol. 3, Ed. 29

SPRING BREAK— SCHOOL RESUMES APRIL 04



We wish every CIS family a safe and enjoyable Easter Weekend and Spring Break. School resumes on Monday, April 04.

After-School Clubs— Session Three

Clubs will start on April 4 and run until June 3, 2016. There will be no club sessions from April 25–29, nor on May 13 and 16. A club schedule is attached to the end of the newsletter. Kindergarten to grade 2 activity times are 2:20 – 3:00 p.m. and grades 3-5 are 3:15- 4:00 p.m.



CIS Science Fair

On Thursday, March 23, CIS Middle School students had their annual Science Fair in the ARC.

Projects included hypotheses and conclusions about concentration, hand writing, wind energy, and reaction time, just to name a few. Students did an excellent job with their projects and with the experiments and research it took to come to a conclusion about their inquiries.

Well done!



MLTS Discussion

Many thanks to the parents who attended the discussion session on project based learning and the documentary film, Most Likely To Succeed. Some parents from the group felt that it would be helpful to share one of the handouts from our session. This handout is included as a full page attachment at the end of the newsletter. If you have questions or you are interested in talking further about teaching and learning at CIS, please contact Dr. Jeremy: jeremy.moore@cayintschool.ky



Events

- Mar 25 Good Friday–Holiday
- Mar 28 Spring Break until Apr 01
- Mar 28 Easter Monday–Holiday
- Apr 04 School Resumes
- Apr 04 After-School Activities begin
- Apr 07 Interscholastic Debate, 2:30 -8:30 p.m., ARC
- Apr 08 ES Sports Day, Gr 3-5, 8:30 -9:30 a.m., Field
- Apr 09 PTA Car Boot Sale, 9:00-11:00 a.m., front parking lot
- Apr 11 Healthy Habits Week
- Apr 12 EC Assembly, Nursery in charge, 7:40 a.m., ARC
- Apr 12 PSA Basketball Tournament, 11:30 a.m.– 3:30 p.m.
- Apr 15 Half-Day Students, Teachers In-Service
- Apr 15 Third Quarter ends
- Apr 15 ES Sports Day, Gr K-2, 8:30 -9:30 a.m., Field
- Apr 16 DI Tournament, 9:00 a.m.– 3:00 p.m., ARC
- Apr 18 Fourth Quarter begins
- Apr 20 PSA Volleyball Tournament, 12:30 - 6:30 p.m.,
- Apr 22 CIVVIES Day, Earth Day, \$2 to wear Green Civvies.
- Apr 23 SSAT Exams, 9:00 a.m.– 12:30 p.m.

Click the calendar below to view the CIS Calendar for more upcoming events.



Cayman International School

P.O. Box 31364, Grand Cayman, KY1-1206

Phone: 345.945.4664 Fax: 345.945.4650 Email: cis@cayintschool.ky

ELEMENTARY HEADLINES

You Gotta Tri-Triathlon

The roads of CIS were blocked off on Friday, March 18 as the Elementary students took on an intense triathlon. Students swam laps in the pool, then jumped on to their bicycles and did a few laps around the school, and finished up the triathlon by running laps around the field.

Students were all greeted with a medal at the finish line to commemorate and celebrate their great achievements.

Congratulations to our elementary students for their perseverance and good sportsmanship.



Inter-Primary School track-Meet

Students represented CIS at the Inter-Primary School Track Meet that was held from March 15-18 at the Truman Bodden Stadium. More than 200 children from across the island participated.

From the opening ceremony and the parade of athletes through to the sprint finals on Friday afternoon, CIS was well represented with the effort from every athlete contributing points towards the school's total. While all of the athletes who took part deserve acknowledgement for their efforts, two athletes exceeded all expectations and delivered school record-breaking performances across various events.

Alexia B. added to her successes in previous years by finishing as the silver medalist in the Girls' Open 800m and followed that up with joint first place in the long jump. Alexia also reached the 200m final and 100m final. She finished her elementary athletics career by collecting more points for the school than any other student to date.

Hot on Alexia's heels and a new rising star in track and field, Jackson M finished second in the Boys' Open 800m and made it into the finals in both the 100m and 200m heats. In the 100m and 200m finals, Jackson showed his determination and grit finishing second in both events bringing back to CIS a total of three medals, all silver.

Congratulations to Alexia and Jackson, and to everyone who took part and gave their all to help the school finish in seventh place out of the sixteen schools, with only seventeen participants.



Yellow2Green Initiative

Ms. Tatum's grade one class brought in 117 Yellow Pages for the Yellow2Green Initiative. Their class collectively brought in the most amount of books in the school. We are very proud of their efforts to help the environment by recycling!

We would like to also recognize Joshua C in grade 4, for solely bringing in the most Yellow Pages. He brought in a total of 42 books. He took personal time to go door-to-door in his neighborhood to pick up books that needed recycling. Modeling environmental stewardship, he can be very proud of his caring attitude and his drive and determination to make a difference. Congratulations, Josh! CIS collected a total of 273 Yellow Pages to be recycled.



ES Sports Days

Grade 3-5 Sports Day has been scheduled for the Friday after we return from the break, April 8 at 8:30 for an hour on the Soccer Field.

Kindergarten to grade 2 Sports day has been scheduled for Friday, April 15 at 8:30 a.m. and is also planned for only an hour on the Soccer Field.



SECONDARY HEADLINES

IB Pinning Ceremony

The Grade 12 IB students were surprised on Thursday, March 23, with their IB pinning ceremony in the MPR. Parents, teachers, and students gathered to celebrate the success of these students. A video was put together with well wishes and photo memories. It was a joyous and emotional event. CIS is very proud of these students achieving another milestone and we wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

But first... the countdown to graduation is on!



IB Art Exhibit— March 18-19, 2016



Grade 10 Skype with Major Kerwin

Last week, Mr. Mark's 10th grade English students were fortunate to talk with Major Ryan Kerwin who serves as a Judge Advocate in the United States Army. The visit with Major Kerwin was in support of the students' reading of *The Kite Runner*, by Khaled Hosseini. The story chronicles the life of an Afghan boy and his family's trials growing up in Afghanistan, and later immigrating to the United States.

Major Kerwin was deployed in Afghanistan two times: Once in support of Operation Enduring Freedom: a fifteen-month deployment with the 82nd Airborne Division from January 2007 through March 2008, and later a nine-month deployment with the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division, from February 2014 to November 2014. During both deployments he did a variety of jobs, including helping local Afghans establish their legal system, and advising generals on battlefield law and Geneva Conventions.

Over the course of the FaceTime discussion students learned that Major Kerwin actually read *The Kite Runner* while he was deployed in Afghanistan for the first time in 2007, and he reported that the lessons he learned about Afghan customs and traditions from the novel helped him greatly in his dealings with tribal elders. Students were well prepared with a variety of questions ranging from the scariest thing that happened to him in Afghanistan (A: a rocket attack on his base) to what it was like to swim from Alcatraz through San Francisco Bay (A: very cold).

Major Kerwin relayed his positive impression of the Afghan people, and he told a few stories of their legendary hospitality and kindness. He looks back on his deployments to Afghanistan as two of the most interesting times in his 11-year career as a lawyer in the U.S. Army.



Grade Six Class Trip to Kaibo

Grade six had a great time during the Kaibo Camping trip. They visited the Botanical Gardens, camped at Kaibo, and cleaned up Star Fish Point. The students were accompanied by Ms. Stephanie, Ms. Mariska and Mr. John.



SENIOR SPOTLIGHT *with Sydney R.*



- What is your background and heritage?
-I was born in Cayman, however both of my parents are from the UK.
- Which countries have you lived in?
-I have lived in Grand Cayman my whole life.
- How long have you been living in the Cayman Islands?
-18 years.
- How many years have you been at CIS?
-I have been attending CIS since 6th grade, so 7 years.

- Are you a collector of anything? What? Why?
-I accidentally became a collector of tickets. Such as plane tickets, movie tickets, concert tickets, and sporting event tickets. I have a box of tickets in my room which is nice to look back on when feeling nostalgic.
- Describe your most cherished childhood memory. What were you like as a kid?
-My most cherished childhood memories would probably be the simpler things such as building forts and playing games with my sisters. As a kid, I always wanted to be able to do what my older sisters did. On one occasion I saw my sister cutting her doll's hair, and I decided to take it a step further and cut my own hair into an uneven bob, my parents were not impressed.
- Which is your favorite place on earth? Why?
-Although I enjoy traveling and experiencing other places, I would have to say my favorite place in the world would probably have to be Cayman, mostly because of the beautiful beaches, diverse culture, and the endless memories I have made here.
- What is one quality you admire most in others?
-I'd say humor or friendliness is something I admire in others. I really admire when people are able to find humor in a difficult situation, I feel it says a lot about the kind of person you are.
- What are your plans after you graduate from CIS?
-After I graduate from CIS, I plan to attend University (undecided where yet) and earn my Bachelor of Arts in Interior Design.



CIS Mission Statement:

Cayman International School endeavors to provide each of our students the opportunity to achieve his/her academic and personal best within a U.S./International educational environment that encourages and inspires leadership, character, and community service while embracing cultural diversity.



CIS PTA

Staff/teacher appreciation for Spring/Easter.

To our "egg-stra" special teachers and staff at CIS. They all found a special, personalized goodie bag in their mail-box this week.



Saturday 9th April



Have junk in your trunk??

CIS Carpark
Saturday, 9th April
9am - 11am

Cost - \$25 per vehicle to enter

Contact - careykubik@yahoo.com

Happy Spring Break

The PTA wishes all of you and your families a Happy Spring Break and we hope you enjoy some quality time with family and friends.



SEEN ON CAMPUS



If your child has an achievement or experience you would like to share in the Weekly Current, please email cis@cayintschool.ky



CIS Mission Statement: Our students achieve academic and personal excellence and prepare for higher education within an international environment that inspires learning, character and service.



Context for Modern Approaches and Project Based Learning (PBL) at CIS

- **CIS is not trying to be High Tech High (school from the film)**
 - CIS is utilizing approaches and ideas from HTH and other contemporary strategies and applying them to our school context to improve teaching and learning
 - CIS will not be a “full PBL” school as you saw in *Most Likely To Succeed*
 - CIS is making notable strides in advancing its teaching and learning practices
- **Cultivating 21st century skills, soft skills and modern approaches are essential**
 - Deliberate development of collaboration, critical thinking, creativity, and communication in student educational experiences
 - More experiential, active, engaging learning; less “sit and get”
 - More meaningful and relevant connections of learning; less regurgitation of isolated facts
 - More depth; less breadth
 - More real-world problem solving and student exhibitions of learning
 - More utilization of technology as a tool to enhance teaching and learning
 - More facilitation of learning the way it’s done in the real world with full access to information and other people
- **Focus on mastery of skills (including the 3 R’s) through embedded experiences**
 - Reading, Writing and Arithmetic (the 3 R’s) are important, taught and assessed within the context of a project or real-world experience that is relevant to students
 - At younger ages, direct skill instruction and practice are even more critical
 - Skills exercises can be more meaningful by embedding them in a project, increasing student motivation, performance, and long-term retention and competence
 - Curriculum standards are important; skills practice is important
 - Emphasis on non-fiction reading and writing skills is essential to PBL and Common Core Standards
 - Long-term retention of knowledge is very low in a traditional testing scenario
- **Assessment, Grading & Reporting**
 - Educators at CIS have identified these systems as areas of focus, review and development
 - Assessment, grading and reporting of student learning will be modified in the future
 - Standards and skills based reporting may be more utilized in future systems
 - Improvements will not be radicalized or isolated systems; the positive progress in these areas will be beneficial to students and parents and will be in line with university systems
- **Big Shifts in Education (Pat Bassett, NAIS)**
 - From knowing to doing
 - From teacher-centered to student-centered
 - From the individual to the team
 - From consumption of information to construction of meaning
 - From isolated schools to extended networks
 - From single sourcing to crowd sourcing
- **PBL and International Baccalaureate (IB)**
 - PBL and IB are compatible and share some similar philosophies
 - CIS will continue with the IB Diploma Programme and PBL can enhance its implementation
 - Extended dialogue and planning will be ongoing in order to provide for the needs and programming of students
- **University Preparation**
 - CIS is a college preparatory school, and this fundamental component of our vision and mission is not being jeopardized by progressive education; some of the most prominent independent schools in the world utilize progressive pedagogy
 - Students who wish to prepare for a future in specialized fields (medicine, law, etc.) will continue to experience the high levels of rigor in their IB courses that will prepare them for higher education in a university setting
 - Education at the highest levels in the most prestigious universities is PBL; for example the engineering lab at MIT and research cohorts at Johns Hopkins Medical School are groups of students working together to solve real-world problems
 - University teaching and learning practices are also being modernized
- **University Admissions**
 - Students from CIS have recently been accepted to prestigious universities in the US, UK and Canada, and the level of acceptances at the highest levels will continue to increase
 - The university admissions process is experiencing a notable shift as well; in the future, universities will be focusing more on the whole student, 21st century skills, and portfolios that represent student learning in admissions processes
 - Harvard University recently released a report regarding admissions, and a coalition of 85 universities is also leading an admissions transformation. Link to Harvard Report: <http://www.gse.harvard.edu/news/16/01/turning-tide-inspiring-concern-others-and-common-good-through-college-admissions>



CHALLENGE

TOURNAMENT

WITNESS CREATIVITY

Attend a Destination Imagination (DI) tournament and witness creativity, engineering, acting and problem solving by local students. Students will present their creative solutions to a number of mind-bending academic Challenges in the fields of STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics), fine arts and service learning. Parents, educators and students are encouraged to attend a tournament to discover everything Destination Imagination has to offer firsthand.

THE TOURNAMENT

- ✓ More than 200 tournaments take place across 40 states and in more than 30 countries.
- ✓ Elementary, middle and high school level teams have spent weeks perfecting their Challenge solutions.
- ✓ The event is open to the public, and visitors and media are encouraged to attend.



Learning Objectives

Science, Technology, Engineering, Design, Arts, Mathematics, Creativity, Innovation, Critical Thinking, Problem Solving, Communication & Collaboration



Proven Results

“DI is all about the experience. It’s about teamwork, collaboration and learning how to think creatively and critically. All of those things are where the real learning happens.”
– Gerald Fussell, Principal



Creativity & Innovation

Come support our area’s children and schools, and treat yourself to an emerging view of 21st century education—one that has creativity, teamwork and innovation at its core!

	Monday - 7 sessions	Tuesday - 8 session	Wednesday - 8 sessions	Thursday - 8 sessions	Friday - 7 sessions
EC :2.20-3.00			Pre-Handwriting Club -B2, \$150, max 10	Lego Club - Manuela - A4, max 10	
K-G2 - 2.20-3.00	iPad Club - Anna, room A3, 12 max	Handwriting Club - Kidsability, A8, Cost \$150, max 10	Swimming - CBAC, \$132, pool, Max 6, (A4 rain day)	Tennis - Cayman Sports, courts, Max 8, min 3, \$176, (A3 rain day)	Swimming - Fitcon, Max 12, cost \$115.50, (A4 rain)
K-G2 - 2.20-3.00	Grade 1-2 Girls Soccer - Gisela, max 16	Tennis - Cayman Sports, courts, Max 8, min 3, \$176, (A3 rain day)	Hair Bow Making - Amy -A6 Grade 1 & 2 ONLY, max 12, \$15	Yoga - Cayman Sport, \$132, A2, Max 8, , \$154,	Budding Chef Cooking Club - A10, Max 12 (min 6), \$189
K-G2 - 2.20-3.00	Skipping Club - \$49 outside Arc - Max 10	Yoga - Cayman Sport, \$132, A2, max 10, min 3	Lego Club - Ariel - Room A9 - Max 12	Meditation/Mindfulness - Philippa - room C4, max 12	Tennis - Cayman Sports, courts, Max 8, min 3, \$154, (A3 rain day)
K-G2 - 2.20-3.00	Swimming - Fitcon - \$115.50 (A4 rain) max 12		Theater and Music Exploration - Anne and Dana, B5(G1 and 2 only) Max 15	Minecraft Club - Tatum - room C3, max 16	Lego Club - Dawn - Room B4, max 12
K-G2 - 2.20-3.00	Tennis - Cayman Sports, courts, Max 8, min 3, \$154, (Arc/A2)				
G3-5 - 3.15-4.00		Cursive and Typing Club - Kidsability, Cost \$150, Max 10, Library	Art Club - Jen, B7, Max:16	Tennis - Cayman Sports, courts, Max 8, min 3, \$176, (A3 rain day)	Budding Chef Cooking Club - A10, Max 12 (min 6), \$189
G3-5 - 3.15-4.00	Skipping Club - \$49 outside Arc - Max 12	Tennis - Cayman Sports, courts, Max 8, min 3, \$176, (A3 rain day)	Basketball - Jason, courts, G4-6 only	Yoga - Cayman Sport, \$132, A2, max 10, min 3	Swimming - Fitcon, Max 12, cost \$115.50, (A4 rain)
G3-5 - 3.15-4.00	Swimming - Fitcon - \$115.50 (A4 rain)Max 12	Yoga - Cayman Sport, \$132, A2, max 10, min 3	Swimming - CBAC, \$132, pool, Max 6, (A4 Rain)	Mini-Hockey - Jody, MPR, Cost \$15, max 14	Tennis - Cayman Sports, courts, Max 8, min 3, \$154, (A3 rain day)
G3-5 - 3.15-4.00	Tennis - Cayman Sports, courts, Max 8, min 3, \$154, (Arc/A2)	Cayman Chess School - \$132 - Library, max 16	Young Actors Club - Kaiha, Room A8, Max 12	LEGO Club - Elizabeth, Art room, max 12	

RED = Cancelled