Dear Parents,

No single person has all the knowledge, skills, and talent to improve a school, or meet all the needs of every child. It will take a collaborative effort and widely dispersed leadership to meet the challenges confronting education in general and the PDO School in specific.

At the PDO School we decided to work in collaborative teams because we know, based on research, that this is the most effective way to fulfill the purpose and priorities of our school to be ‘a nurturing yet challenging environment, in which all children can strive to reach their full potential’ (Mission PDO School).

Leadership Team
Within the PDO School we formed a Leadership Team. The team consists of the Head Teacher and Deputy Head Teacher together with the new appointed Leaders for Learning:

Math Leader for Learning – Hannah Loudoun

Literacy Leader for Learning – Katherine Norris

IPC Leaders for Learning – Joh Weekley + Claire Bonham

Learning Support Leader – temporary Juliette van Eerdewijk

The Leaders for Learning will lead their own team of teachers who choose to be a part of their team. In the coming weeks we will organise that the Leaders for Learning will have one day off to focus on their new duties.

By working in collaborative teams, we want to improve the school continuously, based on three big ideas:

1. The fundamental purpose of our school is to ensure that all children learn at high levels. In order to bring that idea to life, the team will work together to clarify:
   - What is it we want our children to know?
   - How will we know if our children are learning?
   - How will we respond when children do not learn?
   - How will we enrich and extend the learning for children who are proficient?

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2. If we are to help all students learn, it will require us to work collaboratively in a collective effort to meet the needs of each child

- we organized our teachers in meaningful collaborative teams (Maths/Literacy/IPC/Learning Support) in which they work interdependently to achieve common goals for which they are mutually accountable

- we try to ‘create’ time for teachers for collaboration into the routine practice of the school

3. We create a results orientation in order to know if students are learning and to respond appropriately to their needs. We want to have the evidence of children learning and use that evidence to drive continuous improvement.

We will continue to inform you about our curriculum and our passion for learning and in this Newsletter we attached the 10 things parents should know about the IPC and the learning experiences of the children from P3.

Please visit the IPC website for more information: www.internationalprimarycurriculum.com

On behalf of all of us, have a happy weekend!

*Groeten, regards,

**Peter Wassink**
Head Teacher
PDO School
Passion for Learning!

**New child**

Welcome to Akhil who started in our Pre-Nursery class this week. We hope that our school is going to give much learning pleasure to Akhil.

**Picking up Reminder**

Please do not park your car in front of the school gate in the afternoon if the barrier is closed, all entrances need to be kept free in case of emergencies.

**PTA**

Please support us with the Oman National Day Celebration. You should have received information about the event.

We are eagerly waiting for your recipes for our cookbook, please use the format that was e-mailed to you.
The children in P3 have been very busy learning and have already made great progress. They are now developing their Literacy and Numeracy skills and are becoming increasingly confident. In Literacy they have been developing their use of expression and their ability to speak loudly and clearly. In Numeracy they are facing problems and having to decide how they will solve these and which methods they will use.

They have recently finished their IPC unit ‘Day and Night’. Although the children literally started their learning in the ‘dark’, they have been enlightened by art work, which uses dark and light, and music that has been inspired by day and night. They have discovered why we experience day and night and have gained some understanding about different climates around the world. They have increased their skills in using maps and atlases and in carrying out fair tests. Every day, the children were keen to see what had happened to our cress seeds growing in different conditions. This week the children visited the Planetarium and learnt even more about the moon. It was a great way to finish their unit of learning.

The children are now starting their new IPC unit Our World and are already making connections. They are also very excited about their assembly next week.
**Important Dates**

Please double check the swimming gala dates as these have been changed!

**November**
- 19 November: Swimming gala P4 – P5
- 20 November: Swimming gala P2 – P3
- 23 November: Oman National Day Celebration

**December**
- 10 December: Reports to parents
- 18 December: Last day of Term One
- 19 December: Start of Winter Break

**January 2012**
- 7 January: Start of Term Two