



To inspire every child to recognise their full potential, believe they can make a difference and respect themselves, others and the world in which they live.

September 2013

IPC & IMYC learning journey at iCAN

Dear iCAN families,

Learning Block 1 is coming to a close already, where did the time go?

Our new teachers and children have settled and it seems as if they have always been part of our iCAN family.

Our children and members of our community have been working hard to develop the values and skills necessary in meeting our '8' Personal goals. **ADAPTABILITY, COMMUNICATION, COOPERATION, ENQUIRY, MORALITY, RESILIENCE, RESPECT and THOUGHTFULNESS.** Many of our community have been very 'adaptable' during recent weeks here in Phnom Penh.

If all the adults worked towards the same personal goals as our children, wouldn't it be a wonderful world to live in.

The reason I come to school every day is because I hold onto a strong belief that the children learning with us will have the skills, knowledge, understanding and values to make a difference to this world in the future. I have to hope that they will do a better job than us!

I wish you all a peaceful Pchum Ben break.

Ms. Lori



DIARY DATE REMINDERS

October

- 7th Start of LB2
- 9th 3D class assembly
- 10th Year 4 sleepover
- 14th Parent/Carer drop in session
- 15th Commemoration Day
- 21st-25th Year 7 residential
- 22nd Swim friendly with ALIS
- 23rd 2T class assembly
- 26th Inter-school swim meet CCC

November

- 3rd-9th Year 8 residential
- 6th 4L class assembly
- 8th Family learning day
- 12th MP1 family event
- 13th MP2 family movie night
- 14th MP3 family event
- 15th End of LB2

Parent & Carers drop-in

There are 3 of these drop-in sessions on the School calendar for the 2013-14 academic year. They are all on Mondays:

14th October 2013

13th January 2014

10th March 2014

As you can see, the first one is just after the Pchum Ben break. On this day you will be able to explore your child's classroom, guided by your child. Their teacher will be available to answer any questions you may have about their learning journey.

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Celebrating Pchum Ben



Our Milepost 1 team celebrated Pchum Ben with their classmates recently. We hope you all enjoy a peaceful and safe Pchum Ben.



The INTERNATIONAL MINDEDNESS section of MP1 first unit was a real highlight! With the Pchum Ben festival approaching, they handed control of MP1 over to our amazing Learning Support Assistants and asked them to teach us all about the traditions of this festival here in Cambodia. The results were incredible! We learned about visiting Pagodas, rolling sticky rice balls, making banana cake and even how to fold a Lotus flower. What an incredible experience and fantastic learning.



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Family social at Le Jardin



It was great to see so many smiling, happy faces at our family socials at Le Jardin. What a lot of fun and what a lot of ice-cream!

Start of our iCAN school day

Our school day officially starts at **7:30a.m.** Please make sure that your child/ren are at school before this time ready to start their learning.

Arriving late at the start of the school day is not a positive way to begin learning and can make it difficult for your child as they may have missed the day opener and important instructions.

We **open the school gates at 7a.m.** so that children can be dropped off earlier than 7:30am.



'Wake Up & Shake Up' takes place at **7:15a.m.** Tuesday-Friday and is a great way to join the iCAN community for a bit of physical action before the school day officially starts.

Please don't be late like the white rabbit...

It has been difficult to arrive on time for many families with all the road closures over the last few weeks but hopefully things will get back to normal soon and we can all focus on starting school on time each day.



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iCAN PLAY



Our learners in iCAN PLAY have settled in well and have loved becoming engaged in a range of fun learning activities as part of their their first topic, **All About Me.**



The children have been developing their fine motor skills by drawing around footprints, cutting up bananas and making marks on large balloons.



We love getting messy and creative outside and have been exploring different media such as paint, gloop and crayons. What fun!



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EYFS Learning through play



The children have taken on the role of doctor in our role-play area and have been looking after all the sick dolls!



We have been getting creative in Nursery and are learning to explore rhythm on the drums, what fun!

Nursery have been getting really busy during our fun P.E. sessions. We are learning to balance on beams and have been improving our hand-eye coordination by throwing beanbags into hoops. Great job Nursery!



Nursery have loved having Year 6 come and share stories with them each week!

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Reception Learning Journey



Reception have been tuning into sounds and had great fun on their listening walk! Those large ears, really helped the children to hear all the different sounds in our school environment.

During our topic of **All About Me**, the children have learned about the different countries that our families are from. The children then had fun painting their home flag.



Reception have loved having the children in Year 5 to come and share stories during paired reading. We can take an interest in books and illustrations.



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Reception Learning Journey



In Reception we have started to match sounds to letters, here the children are enjoying their delicious **strawberry sandwiches** for the sound S! We also sliced our sandwiches into squares.



The class had great fun drawing the outline of their friends' body and filled in the eyes, hair etc in the tennis court.



Reception have had fun settling in to their new class environments. They have been learning to make choices and share interesting toys together. Through fun games and puzzles we have been developing our skills in initial sounds and our number recognition.

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International Middle Years Curriculum

The International Middle Years Curriculum
 Making Meaning, Connecting Learning, Developing Minds

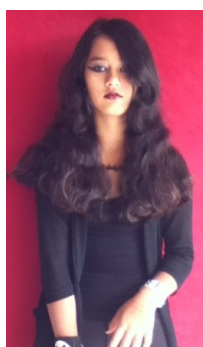
MEMBERS' LOGIN

**Middle schoolers' brains deserve special attention.
 That's why we designed the IMYC.**

The International Middle Years Curriculum (IMYC) is used in state, independent and international schools all over the world.

Students learning with the International Middle Years Curriculum focus on a combination of academic, personal and international learning designed specifically to engage and inspire them. The IMYC provides the opportunity for students to enjoy being challenged in their learning of a wide range of subjects. It helps them to develop an enquiring mind, the personal attributes that will support them throughout their later teenage and adult years, and a sense of their own nationality and culture, at the same time developing a profound respect for the nationalities and cultures of others. Through the IMYC approach to learning, students develop the knowledge, skills and understanding necessary to confidently face the world of the future.

The International Middle Years Curriculum uses abstract, conceptual themes to provide a focus for student learning. These conceptual themes, which each last for six weeks, stimulate students to think about their meaning and connection through their subject and personal learning. Each six week unit incorporates opportunities for regular journaling and blogging to encourage students to reflect on their learning. This helps them to develop their understanding of how the conceptual theme relates to them personally and to the world around them. To end the unit, each student presents their understanding in the form of a personal media project.



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International Primary Curriculum



Helping your Child with their Learning

The ten things you can do with your child to help them develop an understanding of who they are and their place in the world

1. Value similarities and differences

From their earliest years, help your child to be aware that we all share similarities as well as differences. People, just like plants and animals, all have the same basic needs of shelter, food and care but, like plants and animals, there are differences in people too; in their appearance, where they live, the food they eat, their interests and lifestyles, their beliefs and cultures. The differences are what make people so interesting. Find opportunities in everyday life to help your child to develop an understanding of this.

2. Look for similarities before the differences

When talking with your child about others, value the differences but, importantly, emphasise the similarities. Sometimes just looking for similarities first, before talking about the differences, can change the way we think about people.

3. Help your child develop a sense of their own identity

Look at your own family history. Talk about where all your family members were born and have lived. Talk about the celebrations you have and the traditions you follow and help your child to know why these are important to your family. Talk about other things that make your family unique.

4. Help your child to develop a sense of others

Help your child to see things from the point of view of other people. Talk about the celebrations and traditions of your friends and neighbours. Everyone does things in different ways and for different reasons. Help your child to understand that different doesn't mean wrong.

There is a quote from Harper Lee's book *To Kill A Mockingbird* that might help you: "You never really understand a person until you consider things from his point of view... until you climb into his skin and walk around in it." Encourage your child to put themselves into 'other people's shoes and have a good walk around'. They could think about other children or people in their school or in their community or in other places in the world. What does your child and your family have in common with these children or people?

5. Get a world map and display it where you can all see it

The kitchen is a great location, or somewhere that your whole family gathers together. Then every time you talk about a different place in the world, you can take a look at the map to find out where it is. Ask your child to find the country it is located in and perhaps identify who has visited or lived there and what makes the place similar and different to your own.

6. Explore the food you eat

Think about the food you eat each day and try to find out where the ingredients come from to make your meal. For example, if you are making pizza, ask yourselves: where does the cheese come from, and the tomatoes, and the flour for the dough? What about the olives? Alternatively, you could look in your fridge or store cupboard and look at the labels to see where the food you have bought comes from.

Talk about how we depend on so many different countries for the food that we enjoy. You could even eat your way around the world, exploring a food, dish or recipe from a different country each week.

7. Find out where things are made

Help your child to look at the labels of their clothes, their toys and the everyday things around you to find out where they were made. Talk about how these items have found their way from the country they were made in to your local store – this can lead to some really interesting discussions about trade and transport. You could use your world map to locate these different places.

8. Enjoy music and stories from other countries

Collect stories from around the world. This can include traditional folk and fairytales from other countries, and stories about other countries too. You could read your way around the world. You can do the same with music too.

9. Find out what's happening around the world

Encourage your child to follow news around the world on a child-friendly news website or news source such as CBBC or First News, or you may find this page of the Newseum website helpful: www.newseum.org/todaysfrontpages/ Choose a global news story and talk about this with your family. Think about the impact of this news story on the children and adults of that country, and of your own country too.

10. Talk about the roles people play and the jobs people do

Talk about the people that your child comes across in everyday life – the cook, the office manager, the teacher and the caretaker at school. Help your child to realise that each one of these people has an important part to play in making the school function well. Think about all the people in your local community and talk about how important it is to have someone who runs the shop, who helps people when they are ill, who collects the rubbish, and who teaches children. Help your child to value the work that everyone does.

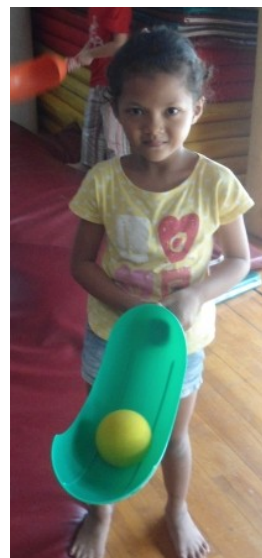
All of these activities will help your child to start developing a sense of themselves and of others. This is essential for the development of international mindedness; a vital part of learning and a fundamental part of the International Primary Curriculum. To find out more about the IPC visit www.greatlearning.com/ipc

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Milepost 1 You choose!



We started off the year in Milepost 1 with a mini-topic called 'You Choose!'. We got to explore how we learned best, the type of activities we enjoyed doing most and even the crazy things we liked to dress up as! A great start to the year!



We continued using our creativity during **MUSIC**. We heard two pieces of music inspired by insects and we listened for the pitch and the tempo. Then each class chose a piece and choreographed a dance to mimic the insect represented by the music.

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MP1 Flowers & Insects



For our entry point, Milepost 1 had an amazing UGLY BUG BALL! We all chose an insect to dress up as and then designed and made a costume, including a mask, antennae and even wings. We also created some amazing decorations for the hall which looked incredible! Then we had a brilliant time parading, playing games, and dancing like fantastic ugly bugs!



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Years 1 & 2 Milepost 1

In **SCIENCE** we have found out lots of amazing things.

We started off by thinking about things that are alive, were alive and that have never been alive. We looked at pictures of lots of different things and had to decide which category they were in.

Then we looked at some seeds. We had to predict what fruits they came from and then check if we were correct. After that we drew pictures showing what we had seen.

Next we investigated what would happen if we put flowers into coloured water. Amazingly, our beautiful white roses turned colourful!!! It was incredible.

After all of that we moved on to learning about insects. We found out about what special features insects have and tried to label them. We also studied the lifecycle of a butterfly and tried to put each part in the right order.



For **GEOGRAPHY** we learned all about insect habitats.

That means that we found out where ladybirds, grasshoppers, butterflies, bees and lots of other insects like to live. We also learned about using a key to make a useful map. This helped us make a map of some insect habitats we created in class.



In **ART** we began by learning about the work of some famous painters who had painted flowers. We then worked with Ms. Laura and tried to learn some of the skills they had used when they created their original works. After that, each class had a go at reproducing one of the famous paintings. We were really proud of the results.



During our music sessions with Ms. Julie we investigated how sounds were created. We then worked in our teams to design and make our own musical instruments by recycling empty containers, tubes and boxes. Once our instruments were ready we composed a piece of recycled music and gave a performance.

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Milepost 2 Active Planet



MP2 are currently investigating our Active Planet. During the entry point, the school hall was turned into an earthquake evacuation centre! Year 3 and 4 had to make sure that injured people were bandaged up, that people were reunited with their families, and that everybody had something to eat and drink.



When learning about Earthquakes, Milepost 2 built make shift houses on the edge of tables to represent the edge of the techtonic plates. We then simulated earthquakes and made videos of what happened to the houses. We measured the strength of our Earthquakes on our own homemade seismographs.

Year 3 Music

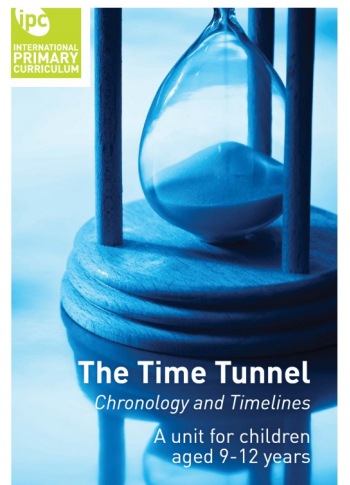


Year 3 have been learning to follow notation during their music sessions with Ms. Julie. The children worked together to perform pieces of music.

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Milepost 3 Time Tunnel

MP3 had great fun journeying through time for 'The Time Tunnel' entry point. The children worked in mixed class groups and had to move through a range of challenges from different periods in history, these included spy codes from World War 2, the first Olympic Games, pyramids in Egypt and many more!
It was a great start to our first topic of the year!



Milepost 3 showed remarkable team work during their Art project in our Time Tunnel topic. We took 16 sections of the Bayeux tapestry which tells the story of events that lead to the conquering of England by the Normans. Each home-base team took a different section of the tapestry and tried their best to recreate the original tapestry as accurately as possible. This was not easy as the original tapestry is incredibly detailed and impressive! We are hoping to have the finished work on display as soon as possible. We were focusing on using a range of materials in our work.



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Milepost 3 Time Tunnel



MP3 worked so hard towards their exit point this week. They had learnt so much about both recent and ancient history. Visitors to MP3 were led around the communal timeline and tapestry by historical figures!



The goal of the IPC is for children to focus on a combination of academic, personal and international learning. Here at iCAN we want children to enjoy their learning; develop enquiring minds, develop the personal qualities they need to be good citizens of the world, and develop a sense of their own nationality and culture, at the same time developing a profound respect for the nationalities and cultures of others. Most of all, we want children to develop all the skills they will need in order to confidently face the world of tomorrow.

building on prior knowledge applying skills independence
lifelong journey independent thinking
learning is
researching repetition
making relevant to real life situations recording
applying information life skills
learn by doing making connections skills knowledge
learning styles retaining social skills
understanding new skills
challenging yourself new approaches



In order that parents know what their child is learning, they will be e-mailed a letter prior to each Learning Journey unit which outlines what learning will be covered and how parents can help continue that learning at home if they choose.

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Art Self portraits



In Art we practised drawing our self portraits using mirrors to carefully look at proportions, details and light and dark tones. In MP1 we used oil pastels to create very expressive and colourful self portraits. In MP2 we gathered lots of colours and tones from magazines to create beautiful collages. While in MP 3 we took on the challenge to recreate our portraits using wire, adding wools, threads, beads and other interesting materials to complete our exciting sculptures. Keep an eye on our display areas to view our fantastic art work.



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Art Self portraits



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Tobi visits iCAN

iCAN school were extremely lucky to have a special visit from TOBI who came all the way from the UK just to see us as the hosts for his trip to do lots of good and raise money for CamKids. TOBI performed to the whole school and ran workshops with his fantastic bass player Aidan, which KS3 loved. In addition we managed to raise \$500 (special thanks to Year 9) for the cause whilst all these great things were happening. All the learners at iCAN were totally inspired!



Extract from The Advisor interview:
TOBI has BEEN NOMINATED FOR nine Grammys. Tobi Earnshaw, just 18 years old and already being critically compared to rock monoliths John Mayer, Stevie Ray Vaughn and Eric Clapton, is rather more boy-next-door than such accolades might imply. Until, that is, his fingertips meet the strings of a guitar. What happens next shouldn't be possible for someone who produced an unholy cacophony when he cradled one for the very first time aged 12, but the success of his debut album *Spirit In Me*, recorded just three years later, suggests the improbable is precisely what this young, London-born biker does best. The only artist handpicked by Andy Fraser, of Free fame, for his label Mctrax International, Tobi is poised to release his second album as he sets out in August on his first tour of Asia (expect workshops and performances at iCAN British International School and The Youth School in Phnom Penh).

TOBI on www.tobiofficial.com

I feel extremely lucky at eighteen to be doing what I am doing with regards my music. I am signed to a record label and travelling the world playing and working with first class musicians. I feel I need to give something back for this privileged life so I made a decision to use my visit to Cambodia to raise money for poor children in Phnom Penh via a local charity called CamKids. The funds raised will help buy musical instruments for the Youth School.

I will be travelling out to Cambodia with my bass player Aidan. As well as giving workshops and performing at iCAN International, we will be visiting and working with pupils at a local school for underprivileged children in Phnom Penh called Youth School, which is set along the railway tracks in the 'slum' district of the city. The Youth School is a Community Centre and School bringing education and health projects to children and young people using a variety of programmes and activities. Run by Empowering Youth in Cambodia (EYC) and funded by CamKids, this small school is showing some very effective ways to give young people a 'hand up' and have fun along the way. Youth School has over 100 children attending daily and is primarily an after-school programme since Government Schools teach only four hours each day. During the morning and afternoon sessions, students are primary school age, while in the evening they are high school age as well as youths who have dropped out of school and are unemployed and living on the streets.

iCAN will be our host while Aidan and I are in Cambodia and will be supporting our fundraising activities by holding various fundraising events themselves. We will also be performing an acoustic set in public venues in Phnom Penh of which all proceeds will go towards the 'Youth School' campaign.

I hope this visit to Cambodia is seen as the beginning of what hopefully will be a three to four year fundraising project.

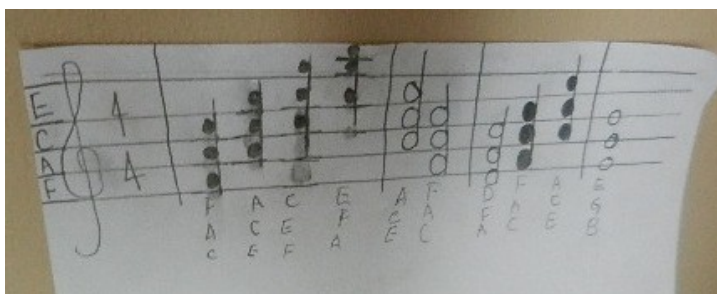
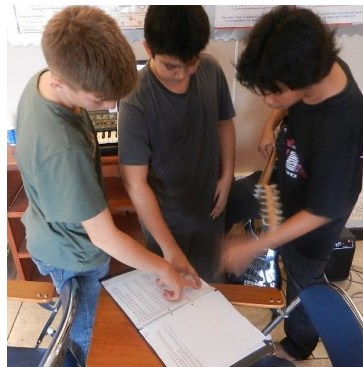
I cannot believe I have just written this but if you would like to help me raise money for the 'Youth School' Project please donate via CamKids www.camkids.org

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KS3 Musical Futures



Tobi performed for our whole school, as well as leading music workshops with our KS3 learners. Tobi also joined many of our teenage musicians at the 'Teen Jam' live music evening at The Terrace on 95.



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Inter-school swim meet at CCC

Our iCAN Swim Team enjoyed several friendly swim meets with local schools before our first inter-school swim meet was held on Saturday 21st September at the CCC. There was a huge turn out from all 5 schools and the many spectators came to watch the races. The top 3 in each age group:

8/9 year olds

- 1st ISPP 68pts
- 2nd iCAN 63pts
- 3rd NISC 37pts

10/11 year olds

- 1st iCAN 64pts
- 2nd ISPP 51pts
- 3rd LOGOS 47pts

12/13 year olds

- 1st iCAN 69pts
- 2nd LOGOS 51pts
- 3rd HOPE 48pts



Birthdays at iCAN



If you would like your child to celebrate their birthday with their friends at school please follow these simple guidelines so that the children do not have their learning disrupted.

Ask your child's teacher at least one day in advance.

Bring in cupcakes ONLY * before 1pm on their birthday.

*No large cakes, other foods items, drinks or gifts should be brought into school. If these are brought into school they will be returned uneaten or opened.

The cupcakes will be given to the children at the end of the school day after a birthday song.



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Family-School Communication

We are really committed to developing more effective channels of communication with members of our community. **Improving communication between home and school is a priority for us.**

There are a number of communication systems in school both formal and informal.

There is **written communication** which is usually e-mailed home, unless a consent form needs to be completed, in which case a paper copy also goes home;

- incidental letters,
- **fortnightly newsletters** published by each year group which are posted on the school website every second Friday. These newsletters contain information about the learning that is taking place in each year group and across mileposts and other information on events that are planned.
- the **iCAN Times** which is posted on the school website at the end of each learning block which is always packed with photos and information relating to that learning block.
- Our **iCAN website** and our **online school calendar** which is updated with the latest school events. This online Google calendar can also be downloaded to your computer, tablet or smartphone, where reminders can be set up so that you don't miss any of the upcoming school events.
- Our **family notice board** in our school canteen. Upcoming events and notices are posted on this board for all families to access.
- The '**reading records**' that go home each day in your child's reading folder are another means of communication with your child's class teacher about your child's reading.

At iCAN PLAY there are '**Home-School books**' which families and teachers use to write messages about individual children in.

There is also **verbal communication**

If you have a question or concern please do come and talk to one of us at school. Generally, if your question or concern is related directly to your child e.g. progress, health or behaviour then your first port of call is your child's class teacher. Class teachers are usually happy to have a quick chat in class at **7.20am** but if you need longer then please make an appointment to meet with them.

Parent/Carer drop in sessions You are also invited to visit your child's class on the **second Monday of learning blocks 2, 4 and 5** for an hour after school, so that your child can share their learning with you. This also offers you the opportunity to talk with your child's teacher about their learning.

If you need further clarification or your question is related to a wider school issue please make an appointment to see either **Ms. Lily**, Head of Early Years, **Mr. David**, Vice Principal, **Ms. Lori**, Principal or **Ms. Margaret** Head of KS3.

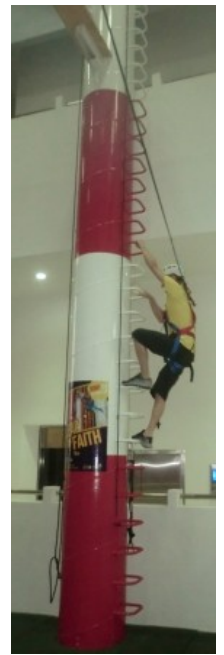
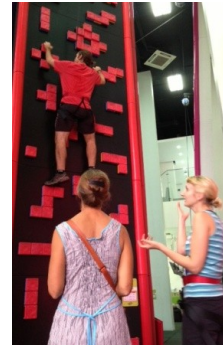
If the matter is related to general day to day administration such as the payment of fees please speak to **Ms. Raxmey**, **Ms. Roseta** or **Mr. Sophak**

If you have ideas or suggestions on how we can improve our channels of communication please do let us know.

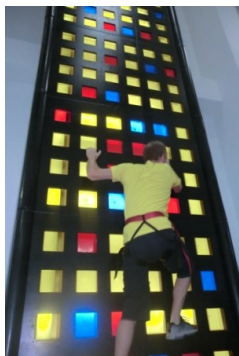
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Team building Climbing

Our EYFS, MP1, MP2 and MP3 teachers recently enjoyed a team-building professional development session climbing together.



Just like our iCAN learners, the teachers needed to establish their team goals for the session. Once they had done this they needed to decide together what the barriers were to achieving their goals.



REFLECTOR—led the team on looking back on how well the team worked together.



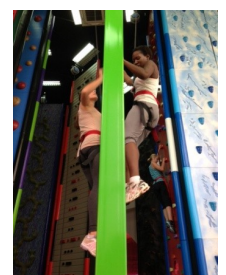
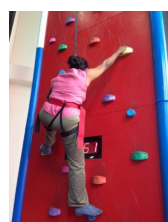
COACH—coached team mates on solving a problem.

ENCOURAGER—encouraged the climber to reach their chosen goal and team mates to participate and do well.



CHEERLEADER—led the team in celebrating individual or team accomplishments.

Can you see which teachers were the ENCOURAGERS, COACHES, CHEERLEADERS and REFLECTORS?



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Crazy Hat Day in KS3

KS3 enjoyed a fun day early this year and had the chance to show off their personal crazy style during Crazy Hat Day. KS3 learners brought in \$1 donations that went to Cam-Kids and with that \$1 got to walk around all day wearing their hats, some of which they made themselves. All together they raised \$61. Way to go! KS3 is looking forward to another CRAZY day coming up in Learning Block 2.



Have you heard about the 'Big Idea'? Check out the International Middle Years Curriculum (IMYC) information on page 8.

Family events at iCAN

We have planned a number of family events this year and hope that you will all join us and take the opportunity to meet and enjoy the company of other iCAN families.

We started the year with the Parent/Carer social in the second week and this was very successful! We also held the ever popular Movie nights for KS2 families and the ice cream socials for EYFS families. We are planning to hold our family kite flying picnic in January and the fourth iCAN Amazing Race when the weather cools down in February.

Upcoming events are also now highlighted on your iCAN school calendar which you received in August. If you would like to buy additional iCAN calendars for your family, then please contact our school office where you can buy them at a cost of \$3.

It is already shaping up to be another action packed year at iCAN, full of fun learning.

We wish you all a safe and enjoyable Pchum Ben holiday.

iCAN		OCTOBER 2013					WWW.ICAN.EDU.KH
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	
COMING UP IN NOVEMBER - -Family Learning Day -KS1 & KS2 Family events -Progress reports date home -water Festival break		1	2	3	4	5	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
27	28	29	30	31	EVEN MORE IN NOVEMBER - -YS residential visit to Bali -YS residential visit to Kampong & Kep		

To inspire every child to recognise their full potential, believe they can make a difference and respect themselves, others and the world in which they live.

IPC Units Coming Up ... 'The Magic Toymaker' in MP1, continuing the 'Active Planet' unit in MP2 and exploring planets with 'Mission to Mars' for MP3! Check future issues of our iCAN Times for yet more photos highlighting children's learning.

We continue to develop our 8 personal goals at iCAN, which we will be encouraging and celebrating each month throughout the year. Our 8 personal goals are:

Adaptability	Communication
Cooperation	Enquiry
Morality	Resilience
Respect	Thoughtfulness

iSPACE

Remember to check out this amazing resource. It will provide hours of fun learning, for your child (and you!)

You can access it by going to our school website, www.ican.edu.kh and then clicking

iSPACE

ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

If your child is unable to attend school due to sickness or another reason please ring the office in the morning and inform

Ms. Roseta on **023 222 416**

Many children miss a significant amount of time from school which has an impact on their learning. We understand that there are times when this is unavoidable but it is important that we are informed prior to the child being absent. We would recommend that if you wish to take your child out of school during school time for a particular event or a holiday you pop in and see Ms. Lori in the office first. If this is not possible please write a letter to Ms. Lori.

NEXT ISSUE ...

- **Football**
 - **Basketball**
 - **Swim meets**
 - **Family learning day**
 - **Y4 sleepover**
 - **Y7 & Y8 residential visits**
 - **Family socials**
- ... and so much more great learning!

MEKONG RIVER SWIM

Sunday 27th April 2014

Keep the last Sunday in April free in your diaries ... as the annual Mekong River Swim organised by iCAN will be taking place. More info to follow!

CONTACT US...

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