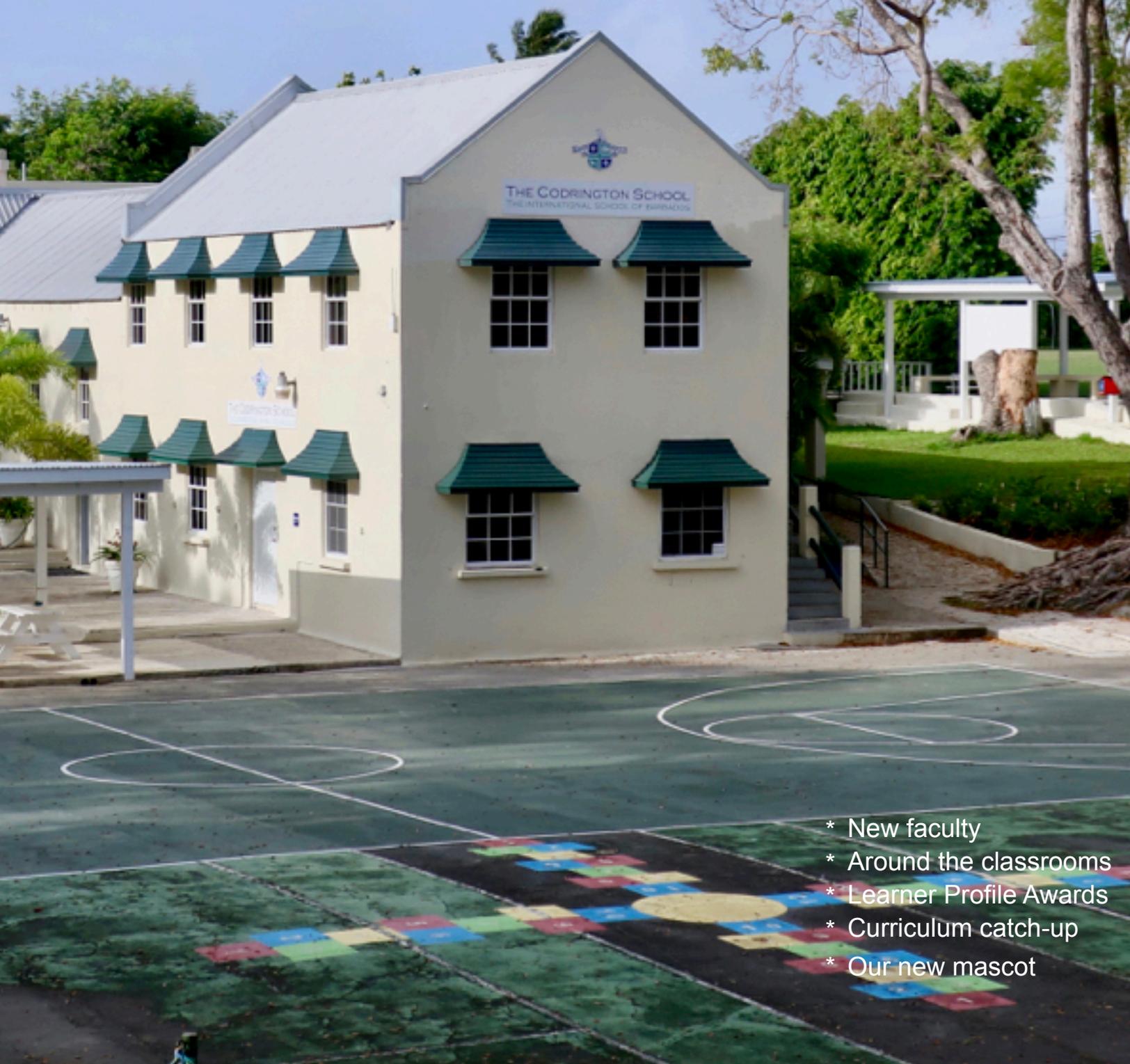


25th February 2022

The Pelican Brief

The Codrington School ~ PYP Newsletter



- * New faculty
- * Around the classrooms
- * Learner Profile Awards
- * Curriculum catch-up
- * Our new mascot

Dear PYP Parents and School Community,

It was a delight to watch our PYP students stride enthusiastically onto the Codrington campus on Monday morning for their first day of face-to-face learning for a considerable time. They had smiles on their faces as wide as Carlisle Bay (under their masks!). It was a magic moment to see everyone return to campus after a lengthy time apart. It certainly felt like it was the first day of school!

We've had a wonderful week of re-connecting with one another. It was remarkable how well the students picked-up as if they'd never been away from campus. The adaptability of young people never ceases to amaze.

We've also had an opportunity this week to finally link-up with a large number of students that had been with us online since September but had never set foot in a Codrington classroom. They've already forged some new friendships and it's a delight to have so many new faces on campus.

So, it's been a super start to a very long-awaited reunion. The place is buzzing and it's just a sensational feeling to be back together again. We're looking forward to next week already!

All the best for the weekend.

Regards,
Rob Fuller
Head of Primary



New(ish) Faculty

Unfortunately our new teachers that commenced at Codrington in September have only been seen through the Zoom lens until this week. So we thought it was fitting to re-introduce them to our PYP community.

As you're aware, Mr. Tanner is our new PE teacher this year and Mr. Zak is teaching Art. Both teachers joined the Codrington faculty with international IB teaching experience and a high level of energy and enthusiasm for their respective disciplines. They have already made a significant mark in their respective subjects.



Name: Zak Gifford

Role: Art teacher PYP 3 to DP 2

Place of birth: Lincolnshire, England.

Most recent school: Sir John Nelthorpe School

Why did you become an Art teacher: to nurture the talent of the next generation of artists.

Likes: The Story of Tracy Beaker; exploring and quoting movies.

Dislikes: Dolores Umbridge and Miss Trunchbull.

Favourite ice cream flavour: anything with cookie dough, brownie pieces or cake batter!!

Favourite vacation spot: somewhere with history.

What do you like most about Barbados: sitting outside of Rihanna's house.

What do you like most about Codrington so far: the picturesque campus.

Teaching philosophy: to enrich the lives of students, opening their minds, knowledge and creativity to the world, encouraging them to look at it critically, through the teachings of art.

Name: Tanner Nickel

Role: PE teacher PYP 1 & 2 to MYP 5

Place of birth: Calgary, Canada

Most recent school: Osaka YMCA International, Japan

Why did you become a PE teacher: passion for sport and being physically active

Likes: baseball; surfing; hiking; pizza

Dislikes: COVID19; apple juice

Favourite ice cream flavour: caramel

Favourite vacation spot: Bali Indonesia

What do you like most about Barbados: beaches; lifestyle

What do you like most about Codrington: friendly school community

Teaching philosophy: to build self-confidence in students so they can shape and control their own destiny.



Next week: Ms. Liz

Learner Profile Awards

We had a backlog of Learner Profile awards to present to students this week as we haven't had an opportunity to award them because of the online learning situation. The certificates were presented retrospectively today to students who earned them from September to February. The awards recognise student effort and behaviour above and beyond the usual expectations of their teachers. Congratulations to all our winners!



Back row (L to R):

Ali Bergeron, Zack Cawkwell, Alex Juman, Ethan davies, Leif Ward, Jonathan Drewry, Maia de la Mota; Eleanor Combs, Farah Heiling, Avery Lemay-King

Front row (L to R):

Edward Schnier, Federigo Tozzi-Calderon, Conor Dow, Charlotte Jankovic, Mason Gale, Amber Davies, Gemma Ndlovu, Ana Stefanescu, Isobel Ndlovu, Sara Echeverria, Alexander Jaltema

Around the Primary School







Curriculum Catch-Up: Short, Mid and Long-Term Plans

Our online learning programme over the past five months was purposeful and effective, due to the dedication and commitment of our faculty and the hands-on support of parents, but we're fully aware there has been some loss of learning for students.

Unfortunately the online learning situation was not necessarily the same experience for every student. Some students coped more effectively than others, for a variety of reasons. Moreover, we understand that some gaps may exist in student's knowledge and skills that need specific attention now we've returned to face-to-face learning. Getting children 'back-on-track' in both an academic and emotional sense is our absolute priority as we commence face-to-face teaching & learning.

We're also cognisant of students reacting in different ways to returning to campus and to the regular classroom environment. While addressing learning loss is a priority for the remainder of this academic year, the effective transition of students in regard to routine, structure, friendship and socialisation is also paramount in our planning. While this week went very smoothly, hiccups may emerge in the next 2-3 weeks.

So, we've commenced a programme of re-engagement that we're confident will reignite the flame for learning in every student, leading them back to being fully engaged and motivated students in a positive school environment. It includes three major goals:

PYP Schoolwide Goals:

1. To facilitate a smooth transition back into the regular classroom environment for all students.
2. To maintain the social, emotional & physical health and well-being of every student.
3. To ensure students are meeting, or exceeding, academic grade level expectations by June.

Assessment and evaluation will be an initial priority to identify any stalled learning. What gaps, if any, do they demonstrate in their learning? What key skills and knowledge do they not have? What do they know and remember? What do they need to work on in order to progress their learning? What is the crucial knowledge that we need to build into our immediate planning for Term 2 and our long-term planning through to June and beyond?

There may also be a need for adjustments to medium and long-term plans as the term progresses.

We have created a framework to guide our return to face-to-face learning in the classrooms. It encompasses three specific areas of focus, which may vary slightly across the year levels:

Areas of Focus:

1. Routines & Expectations:

- reteaching of classroom routines
- reteaching & reinforcement of COVID protocols – social distancing, hand sanitisation, mask wearing etc.
- re-establishing boundaries & procedures – revise Essential Agreements in each class
- communicating behavioural expectations
- creating formal goal-setting for individuals and whole class

2. Pastoral Care & Support:

- closely monitoring child's emotional & social well-being
- being wary of medical or COVID safety anxiety in students
- monitoring student anxiety from transitioning back to school
- re-connecting & rebuilding positive relationships
- building physical and mental stamina in students to get through the school day
- regular communication with parents if a student is experiencing difficulty readjusting to school life
- referral to professional counselling services if necessary

3. Adjusted Curriculum

- initial assessment and evaluation to identify gaps in skills, knowledge and understanding and to establish 'starting points'
- prioritise curriculum – emphasis on the essential concepts that students need to understand before moving on to the next concept
- recapping and regular retrieval of prior learning
- differentiation of content
- is there a common thread that needs attention as a class or should specific areas be targeted on a one-to-one basis or in small groups
- inclusion of 'stand-alone' numeracy and literacy lessons

Other considerations:

- revisit, refresh and practise previous curriculum content
- handwriting/fine motor skills practice - many students may have done little writing whilst online
- build up stamina gradually - students may not be used to concentrating or working independently for any length of time
- breaking tasks into small, manageable chunks
- build in time for movement breaks or 'brain breaks'. Inclusion of 'down time' will be important. Endeavour to find a balance between academic rigour and sufficient rest

Are the PYP 6 class escaping over the east wall already???????



No! Phew! They're doing a provocation activity for their new Unit of Inquiry.



Our New PYP Mascot

As we return to campus and launch ourselves into the second half of the school year, it's a fitting time to introduce our new PYP mascot to the Codrington community. We searched high and low for a suitable Bajan character that embodies the spirit and character of our Primary School and this week the students voted to adopt the national bird of Barbados - the Pelican! So it's a big Codrington welcome for our new mascot.....Paz the Pelican.



Happy Birthday!!!!!!!!!!

February 22 marked another lap around the sun for PYP 6 student Kourosch Jones. Upholding our Codrington birthday tradition, we sang Happy Birthday to the K-man at class line-up at the conclusion of Tuesday's lunchtime break. It was a rousing rendition for one of our longest serving students. The 'old-timer' turned 9 years of age. Congratulations Kourosch!



Goodbye, Farewell & Good Luck

The downside of being part of an international school community is when families move on to another part of the world.

It's with much sadness we must say goodbye to the Drewry family this week. Jonathan (PYP 8) and Sofia (PYP 4) are relocating back to the U.S. with their family after almost 3 years at Codrington. Both Jonathan and Sofia have been dedicated students since their arrival, exemplifying the PYP Learner Profile traits and being excellent role models for their peers. They have made many friends at Codrington and will be dearly missed from our school.

It's also sad to see their parents Jonathan and Lyanna leave our community. They have been wonderful supporters of Codrington. We wish the family all the best in the next leg of their global journey and hope they come back to visit us very soon!



House Team Points Totals (25th February 2022)



Important Dates

- 23rd March:** International Maths Day
- 28th March:** Spring Break commences
- 11th April:** School resumes
- 15-18th April:** Easter break
- 28th April:** Heroes Day National Holiday
- 2nd May:** Labour Day National Holiday
- 27th May:** Parent Teacher Conferences
- 6th June:** Whit Monday National Holiday

