

A young child with dark hair, wearing a blue polo shirt, is smiling and holding several colorful gears (red, blue, and yellow) up to their head. The child is wearing a white ID badge around their neck. The background is a blurred indoor setting.

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER, 2026 | VOL 1

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

19TH SEPTEMBER
PIPS LOHAS OPEN DAY

25TH SEPTEMBER
MID-AUTUMN FESTIVAL PARTY

1ST OCTOBER
NATIONAL DAY (PUBLIC HOLIDAY)

19TH OCTOBER
THE DAY FOLLOWING
CHUNG YEUNG FESTIVAL

20TH-23RD OCTOBER
MID-TERM BREAK

30TH OCTOBER
CHARACTER DAY

4TH-5TH NOVEMBER
UNDER-2S ANNUAL FAMILY OUTING

6-7TH NOVEMBER
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY
(NO SCHOOL)

19TH NOVEMBER
PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCE
(NO SCHOOL FOR PN, N, LKUK)

20TH NOVEMBER
ANNUAL FAMILY OUTING

A MESSAGE FROM OUR SCHOOL PRINCIPAL, MS ELIZABETH LOYND.

Welcome back to a brand-new school year! The energy across our campus is truly contagious, and our team is thrilled to welcome both returning families and new faces to our lively school community.

This season brings wonderful opportunities for us to connect and celebrate together. We are eagerly preparing for our upcoming Mid-Autumn Festival celebrations, where our students will explore rich cultural traditions through arts and crafts, storytelling, and festive activities.

We look forward to hosting our Open Days soon. These special events offer a fantastic chance for families to tour our facilities, meet our dedicated educators, and experience firsthand the inspiring learning environments we cultivate every day.

Partnership with our families is at the heart of everything we do. Thank you for your continued trust and support as we embark on this fresh chapter. We look forward to a brilliant, joyful, and successful year ahead filled with growth, discovery, and memorable moments for all of our students!



UPCOMING EVENTS

19TH SEPTEMBER

PIPS LOHAS OPEN DAY

PIPS is hosting a special open day on Saturday, 19th September 2026.

Come join us for an exciting day of carnival activities and a glimpse into all that our PIPS LOHAS campus has to offer your child. This is the perfect opportunity to see our facilities, meet the teachers and learn more about our curriculum and extracurricular programs.

We can't wait to welcome you, your friends and your family on September 19th!

25TH SEPTEMBER

MID-AUTUMN FESTIVAL PARTY

To celebrate Mid-Autumn Festival at PIPS, we would like to invite you and your child to design and make a lantern using any recycled materials.

Please bring the lantern to school on or before Friday, 18th September. Your lantern will be displayed in your child's classroom or around our school. Our teachers will organise a tour with the children to look at all the fabulous creations.

The lanterns will be sent home on Friday, 25th September, so that your child can enjoy playing with it during the Mid-Autumn Festival.

We look forward to seeing all the wonderful creations!

29TH OCTOBER & 30TH OCTOBER

CHARACTER DAY & COMMUNITY CHEST'S DRESS CASUAL DAY

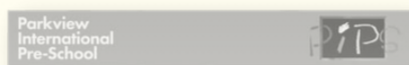
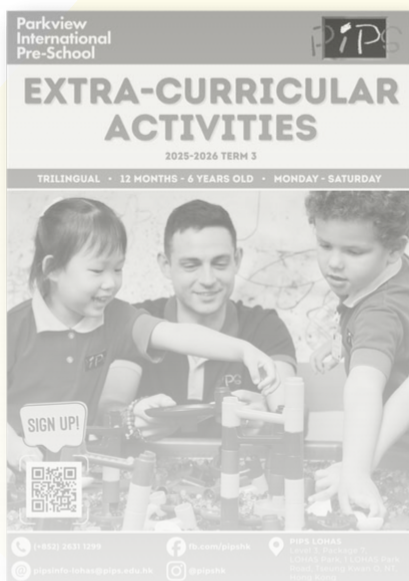
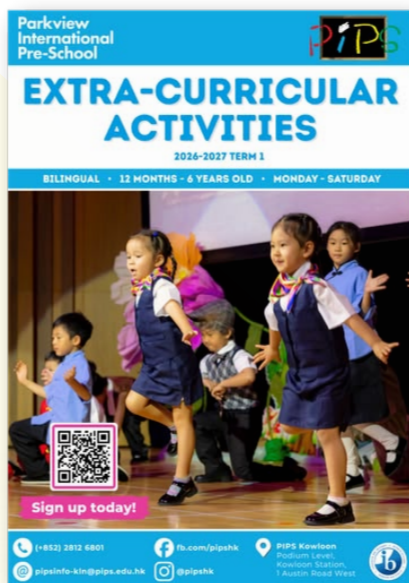
This year's Character Day will be held on Friday, 30th October (or Thursday 29th October for our U2s groups 2, 4 and 6). We invite all students and teachers to dress up as their favourite characters on this special day to play trick or treat. This is also the occasion where we celebrate Community Chest's 'Dress Casual Day'. Please consider bringing a small charity donation. We look forward to seeing everyone's costumes.

TERM 1 ECAs STARTING SOON...

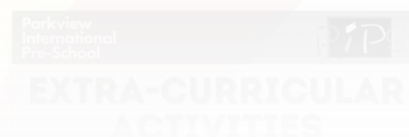
Term 2 Extra Curricular Activities

Our term 2 ECAs are starting this September and we wouldn't want you to miss out! Not long ago, we sent a brochure home in your child's school bag to let you know about all of the wonderful classes that we have lined up.

Get in touch with our school office to sign up!



Sign up today!





PARENT PARTNERSHIP IN THE IB LEARNING JOURNEY **by Don Cruz (PYP Coordinator - KLN Campus)**

In the IB Primary Years Programme (PYP), learning is at its strongest when it is shaped not only in the classroom, but also through a genuine partnership between school and home. For our early years learners, this partnership is especially important. Young children learn through play, relationships, exploration, and curiosity. When teachers and parents work together, the inquiry journey becomes shared, consistent, and meaningful.

At PIPS, collaboration means more than sending messages or sharing information at set times on Seesaw. It means creating a supportive connection where teachers and parents understand how learning unfolds in the early years. Parents are not simply “visitors” to learning; they are valued partners. When families share insights about their child’s interests, experiences, language, culture, and everyday routines, they are contributing and inspiring teachers to plan learning opportunities that feel familiar and relevant. Just as importantly, when teachers share what children are exploring and why it matters, parents can strengthen inquiry in the moments that naturally happen at home or during family adventures.

Inquiry-Based Learning in the Early Years

Inquiry-based learning is not about worksheets or looking for immediate, correct answers. In the early years, it is about curiosity, questions, active engagement, and gradually developing understanding over time. Children explore the world through many learning pathways, such as stories, music, movement, sensory experiences, construction, role play, art, and outdoor learning. As learning unfolds, children show their thinking in different ways:

- experimenting with materials
- choosing to repeat, build on, or try again
- asking questions
- making connections between ideas and experiences
- developing their imagination and creativity

Understanding this approach will help families to support inquiry simply by noticing, listening, and responding to their children; just as teachers do as facilitators of learning.

PARENT PARTNERSHIP IN THE IB LEARNING JOURNEY by Don Cruz (PYP Coordinator - KLN Campus)



Parents leading cooking activities and sharing culture through food, help children explore traditions authentically while building confidence and teamwork.



Parents sharing the culture of Diwali enrich children's understanding and celebrate diversity in a meaningful and engaging way.

Parents do not need specialist resources or extra work to support inquiry. Inquiry can happen naturally in everyday life, whether at home or while you are out and about. We also help families feel confident to support learning by sharing clear starting points of inquiry through our unit newsletters. These include the unit's central idea, lines of inquiry, learning outcomes and suggestions for activities that you can do with your child. These activities link to what is explored in class.

For example, you might:

- notice what your child is curious about and ask open-ended questions
- encourage your child to explain their thinking, for example, "What made you think that?"
- extend learning through books, stories, role play, visits, outings, and trips
- look for learning beyond the classroom by observing patterns, collecting interesting items, and asking "I wonder..." questions while you are out and about
- celebrate effort, questions, and curiosity, even when answers are still developing

When children feel that their questions are welcomed and valued, learning becomes continuous. It carries on from the classroom into the everyday rhythm at home.

PARENT PARTNERSHIP IN THE IB LEARNING JOURNEY by Don Cruz (PYP Coordinator - KLN Campus)

Parent Volunteers as Part of the Inquiry Journey

Families can also support inquiry by getting involved directly in the classroom. Parent volunteers can help bring learning to life in hands-on, meaningful ways, always with children's safety and wellbeing at the heart of everything we do. Depending on our current unit and plans, we may invite parents to join us for activities such as:

- **Mystery readers** sharing a favourite story or a story linked to the unit
- **Sharing cultural celebrations and traditions**, including stories, music, food, clothing, or family customs
- **Show and tell** about a profession, family tree or sharing photos from the past
- **Cooking and making experiences** that build understanding through real ingredients, clear steps, smells, and textures
- **Art and creative sessions** to explore techniques, materials, and processes

Parent volunteers also provide valuable extra support to our teaching resources. This strengthens what we can offer in lessons and gives children more opportunities to explore, create, and engage fully. When parents contribute their knowledge and lived experiences, children benefit greatly. It shows them that learning is connected to real people and real cultures, strengthening the partnership between home and school.



Parents volunteering as 'Mystery Readers' enhance comprehension and help make reading feel truly special.



A parent-led Origami activity brought creativity and cultural connection to our classroom.

PARENT PARTNERSHIP IN THE IB LEARNING JOURNEY by Don Cruz (PYP Coordinator - KLN Campus)

As IB educators, we understand learning as a shared journey. Teachers bring learning experience, guidance, and professional expertise. Parents bring deep knowledge of their child, including their personality, interests, strengths, and lived experiences. Together, we support children to become confident and curious learners.



Parents and children sharing their experience of caring for pets at home helped children make meaningful connections to their own experiences, encouraging them to share ideas, ask questions, and use their voices confidently in the classroom.

We invite you to join us and be a part of the children's learning journey through active partnership. When we work together, we strengthen children's sense of belonging, widen their curiosity, and support inquiry-based learning in ways that are joyful and lasting.

Thank you for being an essential part of your child's learning journey.



IMPORTANT REMINDERS

School Hours

The main door opens at 8:40am for the morning session and 12:55pm in the afternoon. Please do not send your children to school too early. Dismissal time will be 11:45am for the morning session, 3:30pm for the full-day session and 4:00pm for the afternoon session. Please try to encourage your child to be on time when coming to school. Punctuality is an important lesson for children to learn, and also conveys to your child that school is important.

New Drop Off Arrangement

This year, students from the Nursery and LKUK levels will be dropped off at the front door of the school. From there, they will proceed to their classrooms by themselves.

We believe that this new arrangement will have a positive impact on our students' learning journey and development. By allowing them to enter the school and go to their classrooms independently, we aim to build their confidence and encourage them to develop stronger self-management skills under the supervision of their class teachers. This change will also help to alleviate traffic and congestion in the school corridors, creating a safer environment for all our students.

It is important to note that the pick up arrangements will remain unchanged. Parents and caregivers are welcome to enter our campus to pick up your child in front of the classroom and talk to the teachers. Thank you for your understanding.

Typhoon and Rainstorm Arrangement

The weather in Hong Kong can be quite unpredictable! In case of bad weather conditions such as typhoons and rainstorm warnings in force, please refer to our weather policy in the Parent's Handbook and check for announcements from the Education Bureau or the Hong Kong Observatory.

Clothing

We recommend that children wear their PIPS uniform except on special occasions. Our uniform allows your child to feel a part of the school while also expressing their personality and preferences through choice of colour. Accidents can happen so please keep a spare set of clothes in your child's school bag. Shoes should be comfortable and safe, with an elastic or velcro strap to help your child to develop their independence. Please mark all clothing, bags, hats and shoes with your child's name to avoid any mix-ups.



IMPORTANT REMINDERS

Safety & Hygiene

Kindly record your child's temperature on the temperature booklet. Children are also required to take temperature upon arrival at school in the Reception area. Please do not send your child to school if they are ill. If your child develops any symptoms at school, parents will be notified and the child may need to be collected early. Please keep 2 face masks in your child's school bag to protect the children from minor symptoms.

Student Card

To ensure the security and safety of your child, parents or guardians must present the student card before picking up their child from school. In the absence of this, the parent or guardian will be required to show his or her ID card and sign a collection form at the office.

Personal Information

Please let our teachers know about any changes in your routine at home as these can dramatically affect children's behaviour and wellbeing. By letting us know, we will be able to help your child to deal with situations such as a new sibling, a short or lengthy absence of a parent, moving to a new home, the illness or death of a family member, friend or pet, etc. This information will remain strictly confidential.

Please notify our school office if you have a change of address, phone number, email address, new helper, or authorised pick-up person. It is important for us to have current information to best serve your child. We also need to be advised of changes to the ones you listed as emergency contacts on your admission form.

Seesaw Learning Experience Platform

Every week your child's class teachers will share observations, images/clips of your child's progress in the class on the online platform, Seesaw. This is our primary means of communication with parents.

Seesaw is a widely used, user-friendly online learning platform which helps teachers to record, track and celebrate children's progress on their learning journey. Important reminders about the class and school will also be shared on the platform. You can also leave notes to our teachers and they will respond to your message during their preparation time. **For any urgent messages, i.e., late pick-up, please call the school directly instead.**

Our teachers have already sent messages inviting parents to the platform. Should you have difficulty getting connected, please let us know. Once set up, you will be able to access these pictures at any time and be able to download them or forward them to relatives. We kindly request that you are sensitive about group pictures and do not upload these to any social media sites. Thank you.

OUR PARTNERSHIPS WITH INTERNATIONAL PRIMARY SCHOOLS

We are excited to share with you that we will continue our partnership with **Shrewsbury International School** and strengthen our bond with the below international primary schools, providing PIPS graduates a seamless transition into the primary programme.

- **German Swiss International School - German International Stream (the Peak)**
- **Hong Kong Academy (Sai Kung)**
- **Australian International School (Kowloon Tong)**
- **YMCA Christian Academy (Sheung Wan)**

For the LK/UK families, if you are interested in learning more about these primary schools, please do not hesitate to contact your PYPC and we are happy to introduce you to the respective Admissions Teams for further information.



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