

## **From the EIS - Jumeirah Primary / Junior School Principal**

Welcome to Emirates International School - Primary and Junior sections. We hope you enjoy a long and happy association with us.



**Mrs. Carmel Platt** - Primary / Junior School Principal

In the Primary and Junior School our main aim is to help each student to work towards and achieve their full potential by ensuring a safe, caring and positive environment. Accordingly, the students and staff are encouraged to develop a supportive and productive relationship in a cooperative learning environment. Additionally, we believe that your child's education is a shared responsibility between the staff and the parents and we therefore encourage and value your full support and cooperation.

The student body reflects the transient nature of the local community. There are approximately 950 students in Primary and Junior School with over 80 different nationalities being represented. Similarly, the teaching faculty is representative of over 20 different nationalities, a feature unique to schools in Dubai. All faculty hold university degrees and/or teaching certificates and the majority have previous experience in teaching overseas.

The curriculum is the International Primary Curriculum (IPC). The following subject content areas are included: English, Maths, Science, Social Studies, Music, Art/Crafts, PE and ICT, and as per the Ministry of Education regulations, all students must study Arabic. The special needs of children are catered for by our ESL and Learning Support teachers.

The Ministry of Education requires that all Muslim students sit for Islamic Studies, but other student religious development has been left to the families, mainly due to the multi-religious nature of our enrolment. Spiritual and ethical values however are incorporated in the ethos of the school and every member of the staff plays a part in the student's social and personal development, teaching either directly or by example. Emphasis is placed on care and consideration for others, tolerance and an appreciation of other cultures. In all aspects of school life students are motivated to develop as thoughtful individuals and citizens.

An annual high point in the school year is "International Day" when students, parents and staff have the unique opportunity to sample and appreciate the cultural divergence of the EIS family. Emirates International School can be considered a microcosm of the community of Dubai, reflecting its international and cosmopolitan character and the fact that the school's enrolment is not dominated by any particular nationality or culture.

After school activities include a variety of sports, musical opportunities and other creative and dramatic activities. The annual school-wide drama productions are eagerly anticipated and

involve a large number of students and staff. EIS students participate in interscholastic athletic activities with other schools in Dubai.

A "Class Parent" system is in place at the Junior and Primary School to support the class teachers and to provide a 'point of contact between the parents. We welcome any support you are able to offer to enhance our educational program.

### **Primary / Junior School Principal – Background**

Mrs. Carmel Platt is the newly appointed principal for the Primary and Junior School at EIS Jmeirah.

Carmel joins us with over 30 years experience in education, the last 20 in senior leadership roles in both New Zealand and Qatar.

Carmel's passion for meeting the needs of the student in our rapidly changing world is the driving force behind her desire to deliver high quality and challenging learning programs for students. This philosophy sits very comfortably with our schools International Primary Curriculum.

Highlights of Carmel's career include her involvement in the New Zealand education systems major reform which is now seen as a model and object of international research. Carmel also established, over a six year period, a new primary school in Auckland NZ which continues to operate very successfully today.

Her role in Qatar, for the past two years has been to mentor and develop principals and their senior management teams in the "Education for a New Era" that the Supreme Education Council of Qatar is overseeing.

The experience and skills that Carmel brings can only support and enhance our already well established school to deliver quality learning programs that will equip our students for their future.

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