



# Rayyan Reporter

March Edition



*Be Ambitious*

## Highlights:

[Book Week at Rayyan](#)

Design for Change project

Pirates Versus Mermaids Show

Milepost News

PE Update



# Message from the Principal

**“If parents want to give their children a gift, the best thing they can do is teach their children to love challenges, be intrigued by mistakes, enjoy effort and keep on learning.” (Carol Dweck)**

Dear All,

It may be true that Google can answer factual questions (and it answered more than a trillion questions last year) but it cannot replace the development of inquisitive minds. It is essential that adults encourage and challenge children to think more broadly and seek further knowledge. With the mountain of information available at the touch of a button, we must teach them, through discussion and questioning to identify, explain and be curious to discover their own answers to questions. Since the time of Socrates in Ancient Greece, this process of nurturing the curiosity of young minds has been championed by teachers who often answer questions with more questions in order to push and challenge the children to think for themselves.

The dialogue that students have with their peers and other adults allows them to develop their understanding, question hypotheses and seek solutions to problems. It is the richness of such conversations that brings out the best progress in learning of students at Compass International School.

The important aspect here is to remember that learning takes place in many different ways. Sometimes, the learning is focused on academic aspects of the curriculum, facilitated by the teacher inside or outside the classroom.

Sometimes, the learning is focused on teamwork, collaboration and sharing. Sometimes, it is more about developing self-confidence and self-esteem. There is a myriad of ways that children can learn in school. Sometimes these are hard to express in words and parents will receive different answers to the age-old question, “What did you learn today?” We hope that our children can answer this question with confidence and can give examples of some of the learning activities they participated in school.

Across the three schools in Doha, our students have engaged in fantastic activities ranging from school productions, sports days, science fairs, book week, theatre visits, performances from visiting musicians, a range of trips and educational visits. Each week, something exciting is happening for students at each of our schools. This week, a group of secondary students will be flying off to the UAE for their Adventurous Journey as part of the Duke of Edinburgh’s International Award whilst 6 students from across our schools have been selected to attend the Cambridge Science Fair in Boston, USA.

Learning can take place anywhere and at any time. Our job as educators and parents is to make sure that we give the next generation the chance to experience a wide range of opportunities so that they can live their dreams and become the change makers of the future.

Kind regards,

Dr Terry Creissen OBE MBA FRSA

Executive Principal



## Dates for your diary:

Click [HERE](#) for our Interactive online calendar.

### Sunday 10th April:

Beginning of Term 3  
Friends of Compass Meeting  
(Creche available) 1.30pm

### Thursday 14th April

Drop in for Coffee 7.30am  
Assembly - Student Council update and House Meeting

### Sunday 17th April

ECAs begin

### Wednesday 20th April

Marhaba Coffee 7.30am

### Thursday 21st April

Assembly Y1A, Miss Reid

### Sunday 24th April

Science Day (TBC)

### Thursday 28th April

Assembly Y2A Metcalf and Y2B Watts



# Book Week at Rayyan

“A picture paints a thousand words ...”

A week of Anthony Browne picture books for Book Week

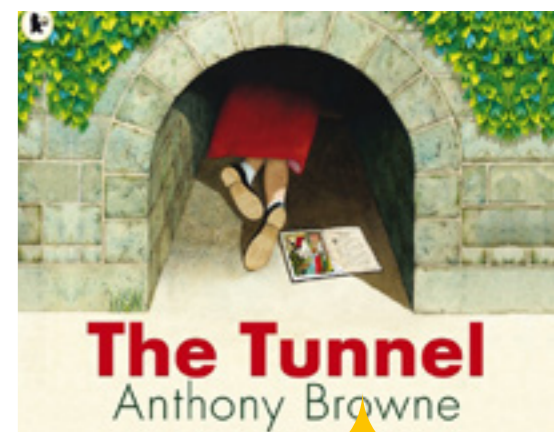
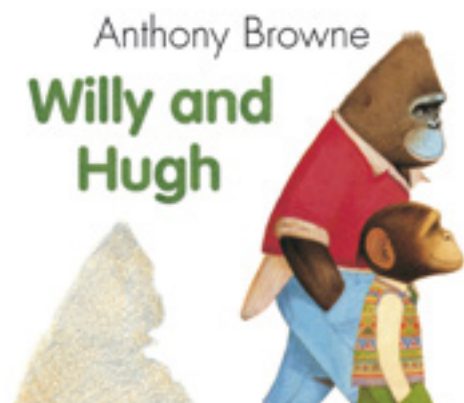
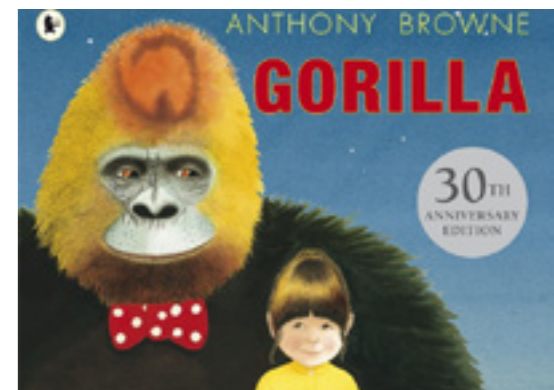
**This month we had another hugely successful Book Week across our Rayyan and Gharaffa campuses. To coincide with World Book Day, we ran in school activities from Sunday 6 to Thursday 10 March. Character parades, dropping everything to read, sharing favourite books and wearing pyjamas to name a few of the activities with everyone participating- it was yet another example of how good our school community is.**

Our focus this year was on the work of English author/illustrator, Anthony Browne. We kicked off the week with an introduction to the author and a reading of one of his most famous titles, ‘Willy the Wimp’. A story with a simple message, confidence is key. The beauty of picture books is that they prompt discussion far beyond the words on the page and Anthony Browne, is particularly good at not telling you everything in the written sections. Willy and his journey to prove he was not a wimp is an excellent story to teach children the importance of being proud of yourself and how to be resilient when things

are not going as we might expect.

The first event of the week was the character parade which saw our staff dress as characters from Snow White and the whole school dress as everything from Tin Tin to Pinocchio to Willy Wonka to the Big Bad Wolf and, as usual, the costumes just keep getting better and better. Each class voted and awarded a best dressed – these children won a certificate and book prize. Well done to all, and a special thanks to parents for creating such amazing costumes.

Each class focused on one of his picture books in their English lessons with class sets of the books being purchased, as well as enjoying many of his others as class reading. Early Years shared the book ‘How do you feel?’ – a great starting point for talking about emotions. Year 1 shared books about important people ‘My Dad’, ‘My Mum’ & ‘My Brother.’ Year 2 ‘Willy and Hugh’ – another adventure for Willy, this time to make a friend! Year 3 read another classic Anthony Browne title ‘Gorilla’ – the story of a lonely girl’s dreams of gorillas and spending time with her dad. Year 4 studied the tale ‘The Tunnel’ – the story of two very different siblings who discover a tunnel while playing together, Year 5 read the Grimm’s fairy tale ‘Hansel and Gretel’ illustrated by Anthony Browne to give it a new element to this famous cautionary tale. Finally Year 6 read Anthony Browne’s version of the story of ‘King Kong’. Each class enjoyed their books and were able to talk very animatedly about what they thought about the titles. We now have some excellent Guided Reading and library books for the children of CISD to enjoy for many years to come.





# Book Week Continued...

Other key events of the week were the PJ day and DEAR day. On a rainy Tuesday, the whole school wore their pyjamas and shared their favourite stories with the class. It was the perfect conditions for wearing pyjamas too with an indoor break! Parents came in a read with children and we had lots of opportunities to encourage reading for pleasure. Later in the week, we had a DEAR (Drop Everything And Read) set time while wearing monkey masks! Every member of the school community had a book at the ready and when they heard the signal they picked it up and read for 5 or 10 minutes wearing their monkey mask to tie in with our theme.

We had two competitions linked to our theme this year; Early Years and Milepost 1 were asked to design a new jumper to help Willy keep his confidence and the Milepost 2 and 3 children were asked to create a super friend who could help them like the Night Shimmy. As always the children rose to this challenge and myself and the class teachers had a very difficult task of choosing winners.

A celebration assembly finished off our week where each class presented a little on their class book, this gave the whole school a flavour of the books of Anthony Browne. We awarded our Certificates and Book Prizes for Best Dressed, the Book Week Competitions and our exciting 'Whole School Challenge'. 53 children in total were commended but we needed to give out certificates to EVERYBODY for their efforts this year. As an extra element to our week this year we had a 'Whole School Challenge' too. This launched two

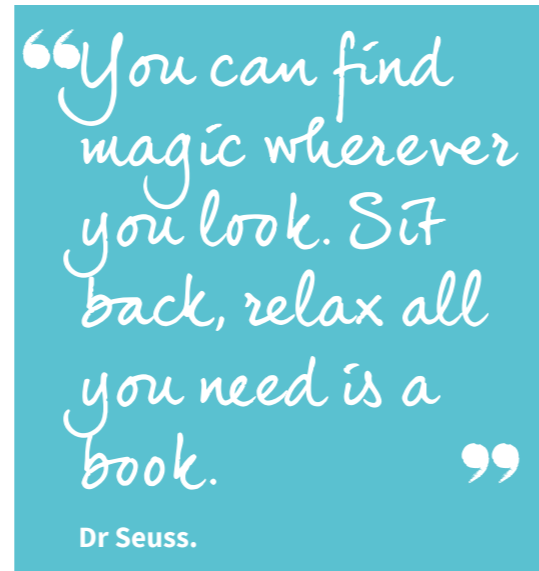
weeks before Book Week and children were asked to find extreme places to read. The idea being we are so excited about books that reading does not ever stop! The quality of entries were very good and winners were selected in various categories including 'Best Underwater Reading', 'Best in Tree Reading' and so on. Mateaus in Year 2b was selected as the overall best photo for his picture reading on the moonlike surface in Doha – well done to him and everyone else who participated.

There are lots of photos and videos of the week. Click [HERE](#) to access them.

I am incredibly proud of the efforts of everyone during this week and I hope you all enjoyed it as much as I did – now to plan 2017!



And a final thought, from another famous author whose birthday was celebrated recently,



Extreme Reading





# Pirates Versus Mermaids

**Come and join us aboard the 'Me Hearty High' pirate training ship, a 200 ton galley carrying 26 cannons and with over a 100 crew. Yes! over a 100 crew led by Captain Scardypants who is following a long line of notable pirates like Blackbeard and Calico Jack. But our Captain is a girl, like pirates Anne Bonny and Mary Read, who dressed in men's clothing and showed great courage.**

There is a battle brewing, but not against merchant ships and naval ships, but mermaids! These women of the sea represent trouble for sailors - like a terrible storm, a death, or even bad luck. But our mermaids are like those created by Hans Christian Anderson in the fairy-tale

'The Little Mermaid', they are not scary at all and they are needed to help the pirates.

Pirates Vs Mermaids is a whole school musical which has a hilarious script with catchy songs - the children have particularly loved 'I'm a Parrot'.

A show is more than singing songs and saying lines, pupils experience different ways of moving and how these movements communicate different emotions. Productions are collaborative in nature and hopefully each child will understand that their contribution is necessary even if they don't have the biggest role.

So hoist the sail, come aboard and join Compass Rayyan's next adventure.







# Year 2GC update

## Y2RC Bilingual class had an AMAZING Book Week:

Parents came to support our class during Book Week by reading to the class. Children had amazing costumes for our Dress Up Day. Congratulations to Emily, Zac and Chadi for receiving awards at assembly for their great Dress Up costumes and Extreme Reading Challenge entries.

## The class had some exciting news!

The children worked on a competition from the French Embassy and the French institute. They demonstrated outstanding research skills. They had to find the meaning of the following 10 words: "chafouin, tap-tap, vigousse, champagne, ristrette, poudrierie, drache, poudrierie, depanneur, lumerotte" and had to make a piece of art with them. It was not easy, but they have demonstrated beautiful imagination. The work was exhibited at the French cultural centre for a week. Children won a 500 QR resource voucher. Well done Y2RC.



The French Ambassador



# Early Years Update

All the boys and girls in EY1A and EY1B had so much fun during Book Week. We were busy every day listening to stories about witches, wizards, fairy godmothers, fairies and giants. We all used our imagination to paint and draw our favourite Fairy Tale character and all of our pictures were colourful and life-like. To launch our Book Week in Rayyan, we all came to school dressed up as our favourite book character. There were so many princesses, pirates and super heroes in EY1 that morning...we all looked like we were making a Disney movie. We marched in the school parade and our

parents and teachers thought we looked super cool. We were very proud of our friend Eliska from Mrs. Murphy's class for winning best costume. She dressed up as Tinkerbell and her mummy made her costume. She really did look like a fairy. Nirvan, in Ms. Leahy's class, also won a prize for his fabulous costume. He dressed up as Jack from 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. He really did look like Jack and he was ready to fight the giant if he came into our school. He even made his own beanstalk with felt and beans and it looked really good.



## We had a fantastic day at Aspire Park:

We had great fun learning about how our bodies work and how to keep it healthy by preparing our own healthy lunch box, all in French. We had lots of parents who came along and had great fun learning how to play frisbee with them. The children waved at people and brought a smile to their faces. This became more than just students on a trip – the children made a positive lasting impression to others. Well done Year 2RC!





# Improving writing Y3B

Improving our writing has been a main focus in Year 3B these past few weeks. One of the quick and easy things we've been doing is up-levering our sentences so that they now have the Wow Factor.

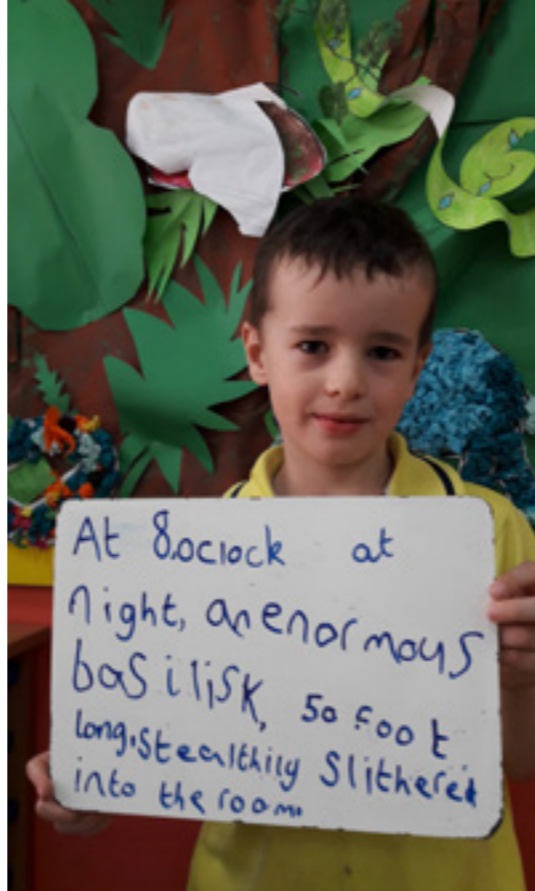
Mr. Patton asked the class to up-level a boring sentence using all the things we've been learning about. The challenge was to make it atmospheric and just a little bit scary. This was done in our morning challenge time – not bad for 7:15 in the morning!

The boring sentence was 'The Monster walked into the room.' Here are some of our up-levered efforts.

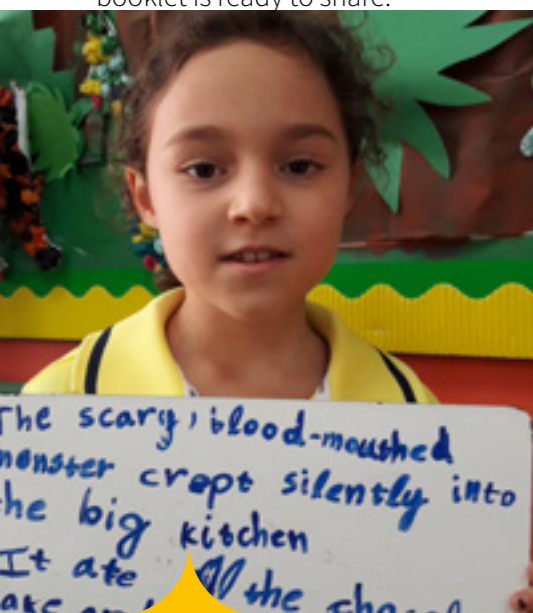
On another note, the boys and girls in Year 3 were all talking about the video of a pet tiger on the loose in Doha and they wanted to do something about raising awareness of not keeping endangered animals as pets. We used this event as another way to inspire our writing and are preparing a booklet of reports about endangered animals for the Eco Committee. We hope that people will know that keeping these animals as pets is actually making them more endangered. We will keep you posted when our booklet is ready to share.



Once, look at right, I was woken up by a loud noise. I slept and checked all school my room. I could find anything left.



At 8 o'clock at night, an enormous basilisk, 50 foot long, stealthily slithered into the room.



The scary, blood-mousted monster crept silently into the big kitchen. It ate all the ch...



# A busy month in Milepost three...

Archaeology at Fuwayrit Beach



Year 6 held their assembly on Thursday, 17 March, and East, the Green Team, won the House Points Competition. We wrote our own lines and even asked the audience to participate. We told everyone about how educational Minecraft can be. Our rollercoaster showed how gravity works and our biomes showed which creatures and plants like different environments. Our Hopscotch games gave us an experience of coding for beginners, which we will never forget.

Milepost three really enjoyed Book Week. People dressed up as Willy Wonka, Greg from 'Diary of a Wimpy Kid', Mad Hatter from 'Alice in Wonderland' and Harry Potter. In Year 5, we studied Hansel and Gretel by Anthony Browne; we compared this version to others. In Year 6,

we read King Kong and wrote narrative descriptions of the illustrations. Pyjama Day was great fun. Year 6 enjoyed reading bedtime stories to EY1.

## Archaeology at Fuwayrit Beach

On Monday 7<sup>th</sup> of March, we went to the Fuwayrit Archaeological site to learn how houses were built centuries ago in Qatar; this is what we learned and what we saw going on the trip:

I learned that, back then, houses were very small compared to our modern houses. They were usually composed of only one room and a petite garden. On the other hand, richer people had houses with several rooms and, infrequently, a courtyard! Just behind the entrance through the outer wall, they had a high wall which blocked inquisitive peoples' vision of the interior of the house; houses were often



made of stone. Mario, my classmate, was also intrigued by the walls which were built "So the people that enter couldn't see what they were doing." We all had the chance to learn new things on the trip.

In addition, we saw two ancient graveyards close at hand; they both had towering wall borders which were, somehow, still standing.

I found out that when an old house breaks down, a new house can be built on the remains of the first house and, occasionally, is built with the same blocks of material; this makes archaeology in Qatar enjoyable yet exhausting.

By Nathan Victor



# Design for Change

Collège du Léman Sàrl, Switzerland  
**Jepe, Muna, Meriam, Tamim (Y5) and Adarsh (Y6) took part in a scientific research project for the SEC as their ECA. The challenge was to research, investigate, present and share something scientific that mattered to them.**

We used Road Safety Day in January as the starting point to our investigation.

We wondered...

1. Do all of our pupils wear bike helmets when riding their bikes/trikes or scooters?
2. How do bike helmets work?
3. What materials are best for making bike helmets?

We wanted to know if pupils wore bike helmets. We used a website called Survey Monkey so that people could answer questions anonymously.

The results were:

**45% of pupils never wore a bike helmet**

So, how could we use science to show how important it is to wear a one?

We came up with the idea of using raw eggs. The shell is like the skull and it's also the same shape.

We then tested materials to see how effective they were at stopping the egg from breaking. The material that

protected the egg most consistently was modelling putty.

When we researched online and studied bike helmets, we found that the outer part of the helmets are made of two materials: a hard outer shell and a soft inner lining.

We needed something that could break and that we could easily put back together.

The design that worked best was Lego. We made a Lego helmet and secured it to the egg using blue tack.

The results were very interesting. To find out more please watch the full video of our research project [HERE](#).

# Juilliard and General Camps

Collège du Léman Sàrl, Switzerland

**There is no limit to what you can achieve.**

Nord Anglia Education is pleased to be able to support a number of exciting, educational initiatives for our students to work together as part of our network of schools. Collège du Léman Sàrl in Switzerland is offering two summer camps at their beautiful school.

The first is the Summer Performing Arts with Juilliard for students between ages 10-18. Students will follow a transformative programme designed by the world-renowned Juilliard School. They will learn from Juilliard-affiliated artists in one-to-one lessons, coaching, rehearsals and masterclasses in their chosen discipline, surrounded by students who share their passion for the performing arts. The two week programme will inspire and stretch every child's artistic horizons and will culminate in a final celebratory performance.

The second is a summer experience that lets you design the camp of your dreams. Collège du Léman's Summer Camp is for international boys and girls from ages 8-18. You can create your ultimate camp experience by choosing one activity in the morning per week out of 11 possibilities and one activity in the afternoon per week out of 20 possibilities.

A 10% discount is exclusively available to all Nord Anglia families, and if you introduce a friend,

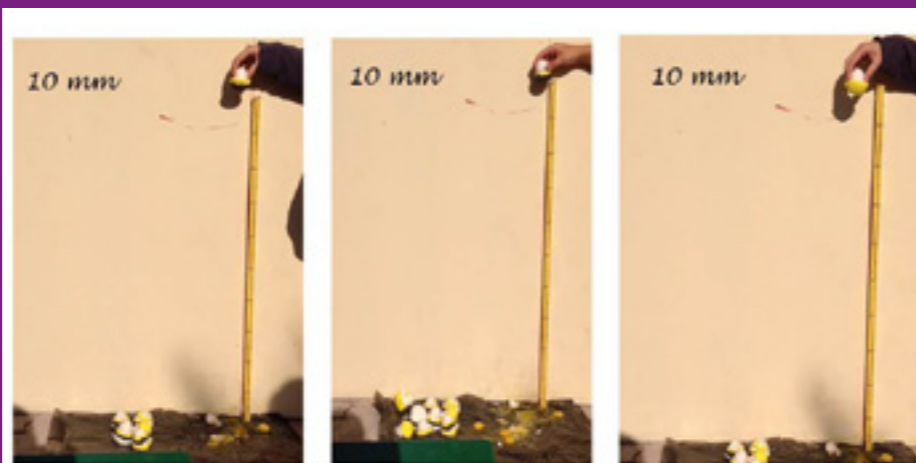


they will also benefit from a 10% discount.

We have an exciting opportunity to speak to a representative from the school, Mr Niccolò Martini, on 11 April 2016 from 09:30 to 12:30 at the Madinat Khalifa Campus in the reception area. This will give you the opportunity to find out all the details you may require to finalise your decision.

For further information on these camps go [here](#).

To register interest in the camps, please email Mrs Denise McManus, Marketing and Communications Manager [denise.mcmanus@nais.qa](mailto:denise.mcmanus@nais.qa)



10 mm of modelling putty protected the egg most consistently.  
 We had predicted that 20 mm of modelling putty would protect the egg most consistently.

**Why?**



# PE Update

## News from Early Years

This month Early Years have had lots of fun improving their throwing and catching skills with a range of different sized balls. They have played games that help promote team work as well as setting individual challenges.

'I can throw the ball really high!' – Omar EY2

'My favourite balls are the pink balls!' – Amara EY2

'I like to throw and catch the balls with my friends.' Louie EY2

'I like to drink lots of water in PE because it is very healthy. I love to play the game messy room.' – Maya EY2

“ We love to play games ”  
Tu



## News from Milepost 2

### Fun with Premier League Soccer

In one of our PE lessons, Premier League Soccer came into school and did some really fun football activities with us. We really enjoyed their visit and I really hope they come again' – Sepi Year 5

'I enjoyed playing matches because it felt like playing real football.' – Batti Year 3/4

'The girls team were really good.' – Menna Year 3/4

Please follow our twitter account to see what exciting things we get up to in our PE lessons- @ CISDohaPeRandG



## News from MP1

In MP1 this month, we have finished off our basketball unit and are now good enough to play professionally. We can dribble, pass and shoot, and understand the importance of team work in a game situation.



## Spot the Mascot Competition...

Well done to **Charlie Finefrock Y2A** this month's winner of the Spot Ray Competition



Where is Ray hiding in this month's Newsletter? Look carefully to find him and then email [ray.ry@nais.qa](mailto:ray.ry@nais.qa) with his location. There will be a prize for the first family to spot him and they will be featured in the next edition!