



NEWSLETTER ISSUE 18: 19 FEBRUARY 2015

“The Internet is just a world passing around notes in a classroom.” Jon Stewart

As a school, we are committed to providing the best international education possible. Our students come from a variety of countries and cultures and we want to make sure that we embrace this diversity for a better education of all of us. By rubbing shoulders with people from different parts of the world, we learn tolerance and understanding. We learn to appreciate different perspectives and different values.

Similarly, we believe that as residents in the State of Qatar, our international student community should have the opportunity to learn about the country in which they live and also explore the areas around the city of Doha. This is why we were pleased that Year 5 students could take part in activities at the Museum of Islamic Art and Year 8 students could take part in a beach-cleaning trip to learn more about the human impact on our environment.

We are also reaching out to the international community of Doha and invite speakers and performers to visit the school to share their experiences of the world. This was demonstrated by a visit from Jie Chen, a leading concert pianist who came to meet with students in our secondary school. Jie Chen had performed at the Opera House in Katara with the Qatar Philharmonic the previous evening so it was with real pleasure that we were able to welcome her into our school community. Whilst here, she performed on the piano, listened to some of our pianists and engaged in a discussion with students about her experiences as a young child through to her work now as a performer and composer.

It was equally exciting to welcome Dr Kate Lewis who visited our IB students to share her experiences of life at university and the road to becoming a doctor. If you know an expert in their field who would be willing to share their experiences with our students, please do make contact. We would be delighted to invite them in to enhance the experiences of our students.

Students in our school can also access learning beyond the regular lessons through a number of means. They may decide to join an after school club as part of our Extra Curricular Activity (ECA) programme. They may become involved in a community event in the local area or they may want to open up the door to a virtual world of their peers and teachers from across the 35-strong Nord Anglia Education school community. Our unique offer to students at Madinat Khalifa comes through the power of being the leading international schools provider. Our Global Campus offers our students the chance to engage in debate and competitions, to participate in expeditions and musical performances and to share their experiences on-line in the hope that others will be inspired by the experiences of their peers. Clearly, students at Madinat Khalifa are inspired by this as we have the highest number of students posting ideas and comments on the Global Classroom. Watch out for information about our latest musical opportunity in the next few weeks.

Much closer to home, we are putting the final preparations together for the Primary Production on Wednesday 25 February, the two Sports Days (Primary on 23 February and Secondary on 26 February), as well as the Great Spring Fete on 7 March and the Arabian Night on 11 March (at our Gharaffa campus). We very much look forward to seeing you at one or all of these events.

Kind regards,

Dr Terry Creissen OBE
Principal

SEC Questionnaire

Your child should have received a parent questionnaire from the Supreme Education Council, can you please complete and return it by Sunday 22nd February. If your child did not receive one then they will be doing so on Sunday. Kindly please return by Monday 23rd February.

Year 5 Art Trip

On Sunday, our Year 5 students visited Al Riwaq Gallery at the Museum of Islamic Art to explore Geometrical Patterns. Children had the opportunity to appreciate geometric works of art from famous artists and were clearly inspired by what they saw. Back at school, students have been busy creating their very own colourful geometrical designs which will be displayed in our Primary corridor when completed.



Primary Sports Day: Monday 23 February

We are holding our Primary Sports Day on Monday 23 February, in the Sheikh Faisal Museum grounds. Further information regarding this has been sent to all students by their class teacher, along with a permission slip regarding travel arrangements. It should be a great day and all parents are invited to attend. We look forward to seeing many of you there.

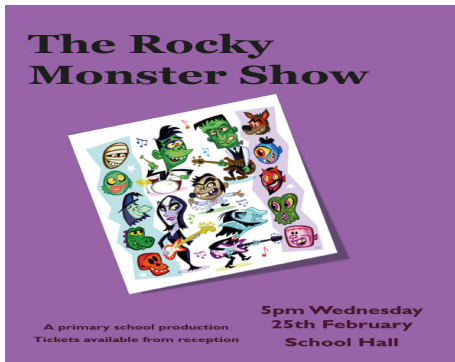
Reading Help Required



Thank you to those parents who have offered to help with our Primary Reading Initiative on Thursday mornings. There is still time for more to sign up for this. The more help, the better.

This involves listening to children read between 08.00 and 10.00 on a Thursday morning. Tea and coffee will be available from 07.30am, so you can catch up with friends before the reading commences.

If you feel you are able to offer your time to assist with this initiative, please email David Burt for further information. david.burt@nais.qa



Primary Production, Wednesday 25 February

Our Primary actors and actresses, led by Mrs Elvin and Mr Martin, are now adding the final touches to what promises to be a fantastic production of 'The Rocky Monster Show'. The show will be performed on Wednesday 25 February, commencing at 17.00 (5pm). Tickets are available from the main reception at Madinat Khalifa.

PRET-A- PORTRAIT - SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

Pret-a-Portrait will be in school to take photos of individual students, as well as class photographs from 8 - 10th March 2015. There will be pre-bookable family shoots after school and further information regarding these will follow shortly.

INFORMATION REGARDING BOOKING THE PHOTOS WILL BE FOLLOWING SOON.

VIEWING

A short while afterwards you will be sent viewing instructions explaining how you can view and order online.

BOOKABLE FAMILY SHOOTS

If you wish you can also book a 5 - minute slot for sibling pictures only, or a 15 minute slot for a family shoot. No sitting fee to pay. Pret-a-Portrait will take lots of great pictures that you can then view online and order any you like at school photography prices.

EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT

Promptly placed orders will enjoy a 10% discount. Further information will follow shortly.

PAYMENT

Orders can be paid for by secure online card payment or by bank transfer.

DELIVERY

Deliveries will be made direct to your chosen address. You can also arrange for pictures to be sent directly to overseas addresses.

If you would like to find out more about Pret-a-Portrait and how they work please see www.pret-a-portrait.net

Year 8 Beach Clean at Simaisma Beach

On Thursday 19 February, our Year 8 students visited Simaisma beach and helped to keep the environment clean by picking up litter and trash left along the coastline. They worked incredibly hard in the morning sun and collected 120 extra-large garbage bags full of assorted trash. Here is what some of them had to say about their day out:

“Today was fun! It was an eye opener to see how people just leave rubbish everywhere. It was great to help the environment” (Beth and Nicole 8D)



“Well, it was really dirty on that beach. We worked very hard cleaning it and we also had a lot of fun. This trip was amazing!” Mauro 8C

“Going to the beach was a really fun experiment. We cleaned up the beach and found lots of interesting things people had thrown away! Even though we saw scary spiders and crabs with huge claws, it was really fun cleaning up the beach for the animals and crabs that live there.” (Sophie 8C)



“Today, we went to the beach to tidy up and pick up litter. By the end there was more than 100 bags. It was really hot and hard work but in the end, we all really enjoyed it!” (Adele 8A)

I would like to thank all of our Year 8 students for a fantastic effort cleaning the beach, and hope that they will continue with their great work in helping to protect our environment. Well done everyone!

Mrs. Banfield

**Saturday
7 March**

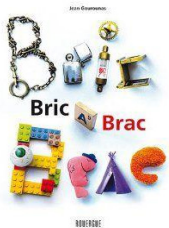
School Fete 10:00-13:00

Reminder

WE NEED YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS TO MAKE OUR FETE A SUCCESS !



TAMBOLA JAR - Please donate a glass jar filled with sweets, craft supplies or toys. Please bring the jars in to reception from Sunday 15th - Wednesday 25th February.



BRIC A BRAC - We need your previously loved toys, books and other items for the bric a brac stall, where money raised will go to charity. Duke of Edinburgh Students will be working towards their community service on the table. Please bring these items in by Wednesday 25th February



CAKES AND SCONES - we would like donations of cakes and scones for the Cream Tea. The cakes will be judged at 12:00 by Mrs Ceceille El Beleidi. Please bring your cakes in beforehand and put them in the secondary library. All cakes and scones will be on sale in the refreshment area, throughout the fete.