



News from the Head of Secondary



**“Success has a family solution.”**

Dear All,

The next few weeks will be crucial in terms of preparation, reflection and support for our students who may increasingly feel the pressure as summer exams approach. Early preparation is vital and it is an unavoidable side effect of exams in any year group that students will feel pressure and stress. For our students taking IB and IGCSE these are life-affecting times. For some it can be Overwhelming. Today I give some family tips to all to help manage and prepare effectively as a family in advance for the stressful exam season.

Research has shown that parental support is eight times more important in determining a child’s academic success than social class. The Campaign for Learning found that parental involvement in a child’s education can mean the difference between an A\* and a lower grade at GCSE and IB level. The report, called ‘Give Your Child a Better Chance’, by Dr Leon Feinstein of the London School of Economics, said: “Interested parents made a huge difference, regardless of class or income.”

The first thing to do that helps a child is to talk to them (not interrogate them or push them), encourage them to talk about how they are doing or feeling. This may be a daunting task for a parent of a teenager, but engaging in how you coped as an “exam stressed student” and showing your children you care is very important and encourages them to release what may be a stream of pent up worries and frustrations. Rather than being seen to police your child, it is important that they see you as supporting them to do their best and to give them the mind-set that if they work hard then success is always possible.

Reassurance is very important and therefore letting your child know that you love them and support them is vital. It is important that both partners, where possible, are seen to be involved in the support process. It is common in Doha for one parent in particular to be at work for long hours. If a working parent can show the extra effort to be seen to be involved in the pre-exam support process, research shows this to be very effective in encouraging attainment. Some schools have even set up father support groups to ensure that they get more involved. If you think this is an idea you would be interested in please email me at [chris.share@nais.qa](mailto:chris.share@nais.qa).

This leads nicely on to the second point. Seek help from the school and teachers if you feel you need it. We have already provided (and will provide more for all year groups) exam skills and revision skills courses for the students writing exams. They will be aware of the lists of useful websites and apps, as well as strategies for preparing successfully for exams, and most importantly how getting the right amount of sleep will benefit them. We will provide IGCSE and IB parents with a provisional exam timetable next week and before the exams we will do sessions with all students on how to deal with exam stress. There are very few pre-exam problems we have not come across before. Please feel free to contact us if you have any concerns.

For more tips please follow the link [here](#).

Kind regards,

Mr Chris Share  
Head of Secondary



Dates for your Diary

**29 February**  
[Coffee Morning](#)

**28 February - 3 March**  
[Whole School Book Week](#)

**2 - 3 March - BOOK YOUR DIARY**  
[Secondary School Production](#)

**3 March**  
[Secondary Sports Day - Qatar Sports Club](#)

**2 - 6 March**  
[COBIS MUN Team travel to Bucharest](#)

**12 March - BOOK YOUR DIARY**  
[British Spring Fête](#)

**16 March**  
[Year 5 overnight trip to Sealine](#)  
[Year 6 to 7 Transition Evening](#)

**17 March**  
ECAs end

**19 March**  
Admissions Testing by appointment only\*

**21 March**  
[World Poetry Day, Evening Event](#)

**24 March**  
Last Day of Term

**26 March**  
Admissions Testing by appointment only\*  
Go [here](#) for our full calendar

\* Contact Admissions to apply - NEW STUDENTS ONLY.

Aulikki Botting: [aulikki.botting@nais.qa](mailto:aulikki.botting@nais.qa)

**Toad of Toad Hall is coming to a Sports Hall near you...**

**“Toot toot, Toot toot.” ..... Coming soon**  
**Buy your tickets now at reception - [2 and 3 March](#)**

**British Spring Fête - 12 March**

**Sign up today to help out at the School Fête Saturday 12 March, 09:00 - 12:30**

Can you bake scones for our Cream Tea? Do you want to enter the Cake Competition? Call or text Mathilde on 6610-6979 or fill out the Spring Fête form sent home.

Can you help on one of our game booths? If yes, or for questions call or text Rhonda on 3030-2122.

Please donate your Tombola Jars, Toys, Games, Books and DVDs in the bins at the school Reception.



**Book Week Quote:**

“Reading is to the mind,  
what exercise is to the body.”  
- Joseph Addison

Join us for our Book Week Assembly on 3 March at 12:45 in the Sports Hall.

I Spy Book Shop will be in school the entire week selling wonderful books to our children in the foyer. Please come along and have a browse.

Don't miss out, join us on Facebook, Twitter, Google+ or YouTube. Follow us now:



Select the stories below to read more...

[Tanzania Sharing Assembly](#)

[Year 1 Trip Sheikh Faisal Museum](#)

[Book Week](#)

[COBIS MUN](#)

[PE Results and Fixtures](#)

[PTA Update](#)

Date: 2 - 3 March 2016  
Location: Madinat Khalifa  
Time: 6 PM  
Price: QR20



Compass International School Doha is proud to present  
The Secondary Production of...

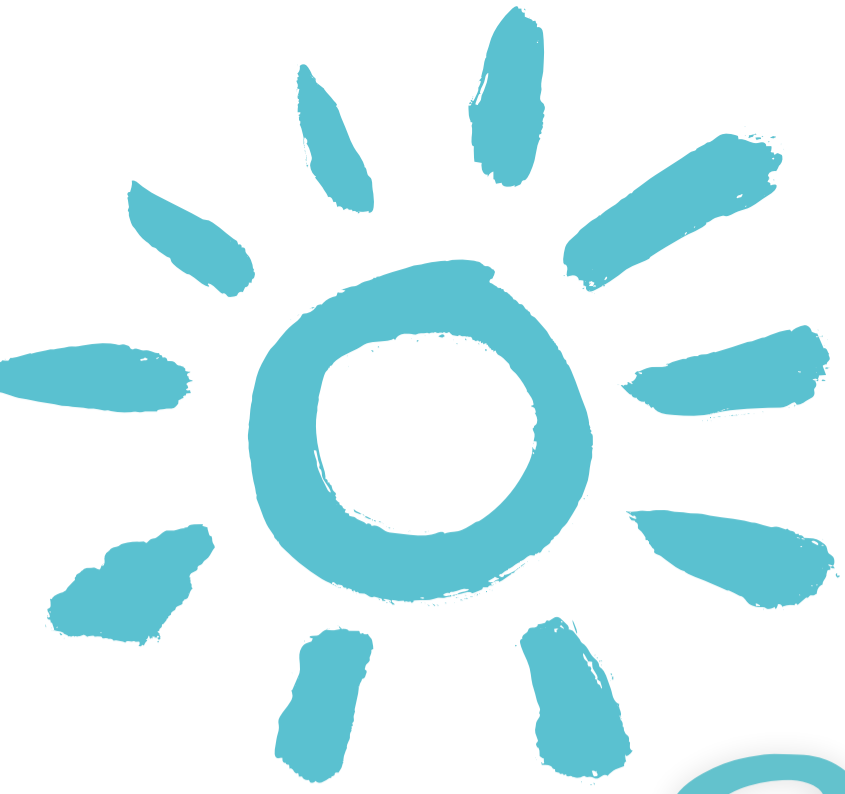
# Toad of Toad Hall

Follow the journey of Mole, Rat, Badger and Toad



COMPASS INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL  
DOHA

A NORD ANGLIA EDUCATION SCHOOL



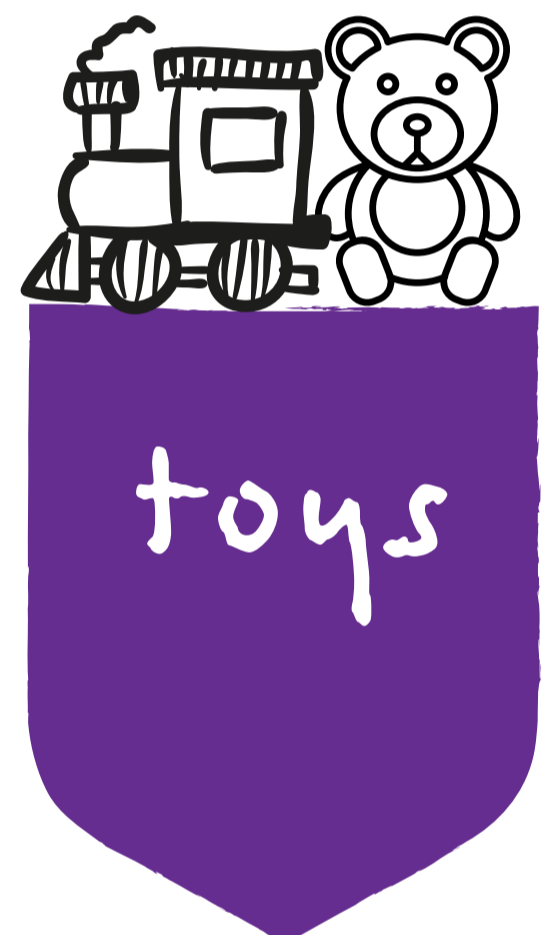
COMPASS INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL  
DOHA  
A NORD ANGLIA EDUCATION SCHOOL



# Spring Fête



Please help by donating any of these items



Vunteer: An hour on a game, craft, cream tea or BBQ.

Bake: Cakes or scones

Make: Tombola jars. Donate small jars filled with sweets, toys or craft supplies

Donate: Used books, toys or DVDs

Compete: Cake competition for adults and kids

Sell: Book a stall for your quality craft products

Sign up for a shift on a traditional game booth, field game, cream tea or BBQ. For your own stall, call Rhonda on 3030 2122 or check with your Class

**Parent!**

(Booth costs QR100 and a donation of a gift for the raffle)



COMPASS INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL  
DOHA

A NORD ANGLIA EDUCATION SCHOOL

# Spring Fête

Date : 12 March

Time : 09:00 - 12:30

Location : Madinat Khalifa

Entry for parents QR10 - Students free

Come to our annual spring fête at Compass International School  
Madinat Khalifa campus

Games - Craft - BBQ - Tombola - Toys - DVDs - Books - Cake Competition - Face  
Painting - Entertainment - Raffle - Henna and Nails - Ice Cream - Bouncy Castles