



Gharaffa Buzz

January Edition



Be Ambitious

Highlights:

International
Week

Meet Dr Terry
Creissen

Milepost news

Spot the Mascot
Competition

Great Learning In
French

Message from the Principal

Dear All,

I should like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as the Executive Principal of Compass International Schools, Doha. I am delighted to be working with the Heads of Schools at Rayyan and Gharaffa as well as the Heads of Schools at Madinat Khalifa. Our express aim is to develop our educational offer so that it is truly the best in the city. We have some amazing teachers, support staff and students – the key ingredients to making a successful school. The other special part of that mix is the important role played by the parents. With staff, students and parents working in harmony, we are sure to be able to create the most effective and happy learning environment for every child in each of our schools.

As a truly international community, it was really lovely to celebrate the range of nationalities represented by families engaged with the school. International Weeks in Gharaffa and Rayyan were full of fun, facts and flags. A real treat for me was to be able to witness the International Parade at Rayyan earlier this week. There was real excitement

and enjoyment in the eyes of the students and the staff and it was great to see everyone joining in the celebrations.

Each of our schools offers a unique experience that is generated by the staff and children working together to create real synergy of learning. However, all our schools have a shared goal, a shared understanding and a shared expectation that every child should be ambitious in their dreams for the future. Of course, such ambition has to be combined with a sense of purpose, a great deal of hard work as well as support from home and school if the dream is to be realised.

We aim to play our part in bringing dreams to reality and we look forward to celebrating many successes together in the future.

Kind regards,

Dr Terry Creissen OBE MBA MA FCIM FRSA

Executive Principal

Compass International Schools,
Doha



Key Dates for the Diary

Sunday 7th February

Early Years 1 and Early Years 2 Sports Day

Monday 8th February

Year 1 and Year 2 Sports Day

Tuesday 9th February

Qatar National Sports Day
National Holiday

Wednesday 10th February

Year 3 - 6 Sports Day

Thursday 11th February

Assembly - Miss Brown's class

Tuesday 16th February

Arabic Night

Thursday 18th February

Year 2 assembly

Monday 22nd February

Marhaba Coffee 7.30am

Wednesday 24th February

Anti-Bullying Day

Thursday 25th February

EY1-Y1 assembly

Sunday 28th February

Y6 Fujairah trip departs



COMPASS INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
DOHA

A NORD ANGLIA EDUCATION SCHOOL

“ You're in fashion! ”



Early Years 1

Coming back from the holidays Early Years 1 moved onto an exciting new theme: Clothes.

To mark our Entry Point to this theme we had a 'Favourite Clothes Day'. It was great to see the children coming to school dressed in their favourite clothes and full of stories about what they were wearing and why!

As we move through our topic we will be learning all about different clothes. Clothes we wear when it is cold and clothes that are appropriate to wear when the weather gets hotter. We will also be making some of our own accessories such as hats and jewellery, as well as playing in our newly opened Clothes Shop.



Milepost 1: Let's go on holiday!

Our Year 2 students have been learning all about Holidays!

In class we researched into various holiday destinations using the internet and the atlas. Recounting past holidays in a letter to each other, we shared about holidays we had had over the school break. We learnt to use a bar graph which highlighted popular holiday destinations, activities and preferred modes of transport. Using these ideas, we designed our own travel brochures for our class Travel Agency.

At Tours R Us Travel Agency, we role played as agents and customers, learning to negotiate prices, travel packages and creating a travel itinerary. There were some tough customers looking for best deals

and accommodating agents who patiently met their every request. Once the holidays were 'booked', the next step was to get packing.

We carefully considered the various weather conditions in different countries and then decided on suitable clothes and items to bring on our holidays. The lists were detailed and extensive. Some even included their prized Segway in lieu of a toothbrush! Holidays are often the epitome of great learning as we encounter new sights, sounds, smells and flavours. What a fantastic way to learn about how different and yet similar we all are. It is a small world after all.



Tours R Us Travel Agency

Milepost 2: Year 3/4

As part of our English curriculum this month we have looked at fairy tales and made our own puppets to retell the story of Cinderella.

We started by becoming familiar with the story by reading, listening and acting out different parts. This helped us to get to know the characters and empathize with their situations throughout the story. Once secure, we then moved on to creating our puppets and deciding which part of the story we would like to retell. We learnt what makes

a good performance, rehearsed and improvised when needed until it was time to perform. It was hard doing this as we could not always see when we were performing. Each group took it in turn to come up to our custom made puppet theatre whilst we all watched and enjoyed each performance. Some of us even used the iPads using a fantastic App called 'Puppet Pals' to make our puppets come to life.

We thoroughly enjoyed the work and look forward to our next happily ever after.

“ I really enjoyed making the puppets as I had never done that before! Burhan ”



Milepost 3

On the week beginning 17th January each class began researching a country across the world, specifically Europe for Year 5 & Year 6. The countries chosen were Germany, Norway, Spain, Ireland and Russia. This provided many opportunities for the children to experience the different cultures and traditions of each country.

We began the week by organising a trip to each of the Milepost Three classrooms where the

children would experience a snippet of each country. Firstly, we ventured to Germany where we were learning some basic words and phrases. We proceeded to create our own conversations using as much of this as possible. Secondly, we visited Ireland where we were shown some traditional Gaelic football. It was exhausting!! Thirdly, we headed to Spain where we took on the role of travel agents and attempted to create our own adverts for a

Spanish holiday. Next, we headed for Norway where we were mind mapping all our knowledge. Finally we visited Russia. Here we were using our ICT knowledge for fact finding and finished our adventure by learning a Russian dance.

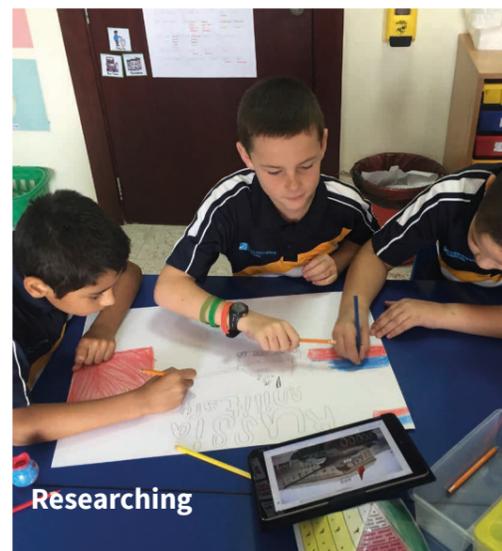
Here's what we had to say:

"Doing art in school is super cool!" Estella

"I learned that Russian dancing is just like break dancing." Nicola



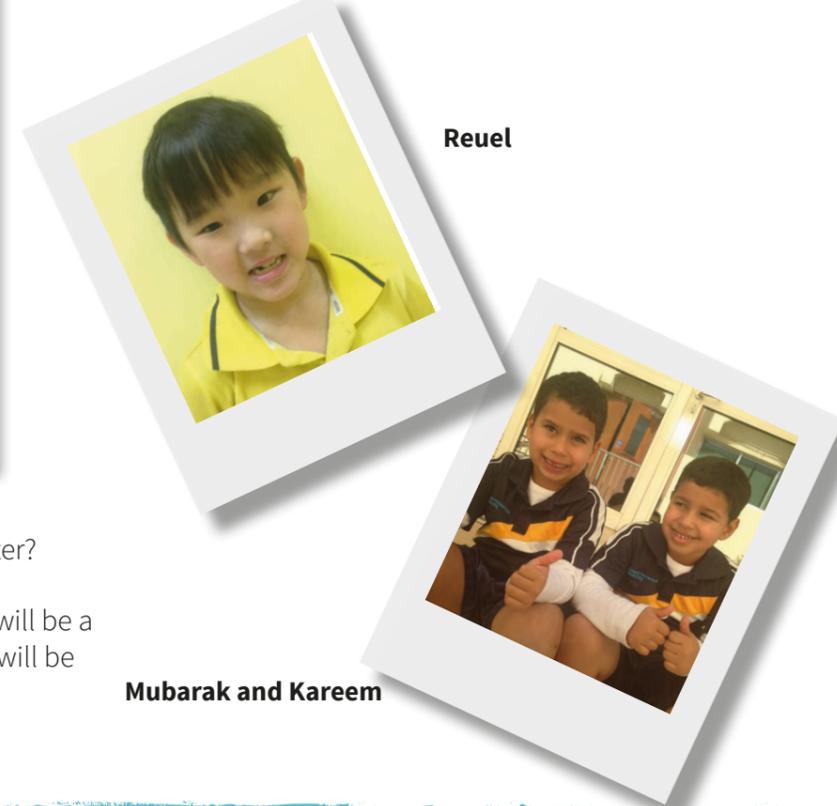
Russian Dancing



Researching



Well done to **Reuel Kiew Y3GA**, this month's winner of the Spot Buzzy competition. Well done also to **Mubarak and Kareem** who won last month's spot Buzzy competition. Great job everybody!



Reuel

Mubarak and Kareem

Where is Buzzy hiding in this month's newsletter? Look carefully to find him and then email buzzy.gh@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!

French Certificate Winners

Term 1 Certificates (other year groups previously presented)

GROUP 1

Best Achievement: Ella DURRANT Y3GD

Best Effort: Muznah ANWAR Y3GA

GROUP 2

Best Achievement: Ariana ANDRADE Y3GB

Best Effort: Malak El Sayed Y3GD

GROUP 3

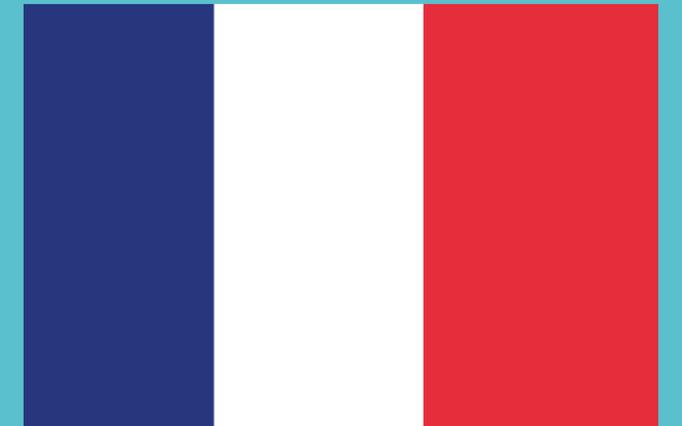
Best Achievement: Zerrin JOHN Y3GB

Best Effort: Alessandro LACOVONI Y3GD
Ji Hwan KIM Y3GD

Group Y3/4

Best Achievement: Eddy WEIS

Best Effort: Orestis ZISSIS, Aesha KHAN



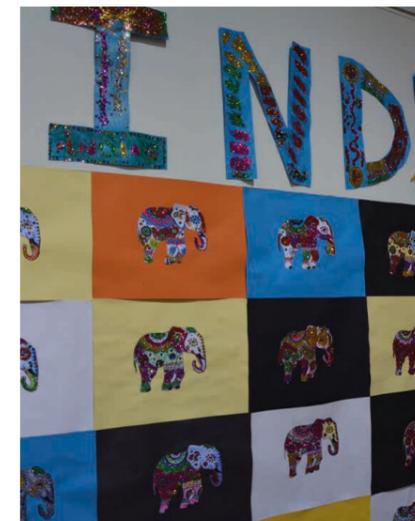
International Week

Our students had a wonderful week, learning about different cultures and nationalities, culminating in a parade and international assembly on Thursday 21 January.

Each class chose a country for the week and all their learning was based on this chosen country. We had children learning to sing and count in Japanese in Year 4, preparing Mexican food in Year 2, going on an animal safari in Early Years 2 and much, much more! The school was full of singing, dancing and colourful artwork.

To end the week, we all came together for an international buffet. The children had the opportunity to taste delicious food from around the world and to get their international food passport stamped. With the help of our Learning Assistants and our Friends of Compass group, the hall looked and smelt wonderful. We can't wait to try out some of the recipes ourselves when the Friends of Compass International Cook Book becomes available after the mid-term break.

As a grand finale, a parade was organised around the playground with each class displaying an array of costumes and country colours. An assembly followed which showcased all the wonderful learning that had taken place throughout the week. Picking a favourite from Bollywood dances, African drumming, the Hakka and European dances would be difficult but hearing the whole school sing 'Hello to all the Children of the World' was a clear highlight.



Uniform Policy

Just a gentle reminder of our school uniform policy. Our uniform consists of the following items:

- Official school yellow polo t-shirt with crest for boys and girls.
- Smart dark blue shorts for boys during the summer and long dark blue trousers in the winter.
- Girls wear smart dark blue shorts or skirt during the summer and dark blue skirt or trousers during winter.
- Early Years girls may also wear navy or black leggings.
- Plain dark coloured socks for boys and white socks for girls.
- Dark blue or black school shoes (not open toe sandals) for boys and girls.
- School crested blue fleece (this can be purchased from Uniform Mart), or any smart dark blue fleece, cardigan or jumper in the winter for boys and girls.

Girls are welcome to wear hijabs, leggings under their skirts or shorts and long sleeves under their polo shirt to comply with local religious customs.

PE Kit

- School branded dark blue and yellow polo shirt.
- Dark blue shorts.
- Suitable trainers.
- Any suitable coloured swimsuit and swim hat may be worn (available from Uniform Mart) for swimming lessons.

It is essential that you label all clothing clearly in case any items are lost.

Accessories available to purchase at Uniform Mart:

- Legionaire style cap (we operate a no hat, no play policy even in the cooler months)
- School Book Bag
- School Backpack
- Sport kit bag

Personal Appearance

Jewellery other than a watch and simple stud earrings is not allowed. No nail polish.

Long hair should be tied back and this is essential for PE lessons.

