

Letter from the Principal

“The purpose of human life is to serve and to show compassion and the will to help others”

Albert Schweitzer



Dear All,

One of the positive traits that we hope our students learn to develop is compassion. Understanding the needs of others and helping them when necessary is an important part of being a well-rounded citizen in our modern world. Many of our students are engaged in activities that serve others either as part of the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award scheme, their CAS activities in the IB Diploma, as part of our environmental team or as individuals and groups using their own initiative to play a positive part in helping others.

As the news from the earthquake area in Nepal reaches higher levels of destruction and loss of life, our thoughts are drawn to those who have lost friends and family members, and those who have suffered injuries in the region. We wrote to parents earlier this week to reflect the desire of many students, families and staff who wished to make some contribution to support the relief work now required. We have asked the Red Crescent for permission to run some fund-raising activities in school next Thursday, 7 May. In the meantime, we are happy to act as a collection point for anyone wishing to make a financial contribution to the Red Crescent Nepal Disaster Fund. If you wish to do this, please send cash donations to the school office in an envelope clearly marked Nepal Disaster Fund. We will then collect this all together and make the donation through the authorized channels.

Our senior students in Year 11 have now finished their language orals and other practical examinations. Next week, they will start the formal written examinations in all of their subjects. This is a stressful time for them as they do their best to be prepared for these externally assessed exams

and aim to achieve the best grades possible. We kindly ask students and visitors to the school to be as quiet as possible around the examination areas of the Sports Hall and the IB Learning Centre. Many of these exams take place after the end of school so I would urge parents collecting children at the end of the day to pay particular attention to the signs highlighting when examinations are in progress. Please help us to help our students do their best in these exams.

I should like to pay tribute this week to the work of our facilities team. Our cleaners and maintenance staff have worked hard to finish off the building work to improve our music facilities, working through the night when necessary. Under the guidance of our Facilities Officer at Madinat Khalifa, Mrs Renz Molenaar, we have started the never-ending task of painting the outside of the school. This will be completed over the summer break. We have also purchased more plants to improve the natural environment around the school.

We are now using our Facebook page to full advantage and are posting news and events happening in and around the school on a daily basis. Join us by liking our page: Compass International School, Madinat Khalifa.

Wishing you all an enjoyable weekend.

Regards,

Terry Creissen

Dr Terry Creissen OBE MA MBA FRSA
Principal, Compass International School
Madinat Khalifa

Cyber safety: Helping your child to keep safe online

On Tuesday 28 May, our Primary ICT Leader Chris McConville led a parent seminar on Cyber Safety. The session was well attended and commenced by asking parents to think about how their children use the Internet at home and to consider both the benefits and risks involved. Parents were then provided with a range of strategies to minimize the risks. They had the opportunity to look at a few examples of cyber safety initiatives from around the world, including here in Qatar, and resources available for parents.

Following a similar upcoming session aimed at our secondary students, we will be arranging a 'hands-on' workshop where parents can bring their computer devices into school and receive support from members of our staff in making them more secure. Details of this will follow shortly. Information shared during this Primary Parent Seminar can be found on our school website under 'Parent Essentials'.



Year 6 Lovett Class Assembly

It was the turn of Year 6 Lovett class to lead our Primary Assembly today with a presentation based on their IPC topic entitled 'Forces'. Students provided us with practical examples of forces related to Newton's Law. The assembly was written and produced by the students themselves and included sketches, movies and a music video entitled "What Does Newton's Law Say?" As a school, we have been focusing on developing 'Collaborative Learning' and today's assembly epitomizes what this can achieve. Further photos from the assembly can be found on our school facebook page: Compass International School Madinat Khalifa. Below are our Stars for the week and Taekwando group.



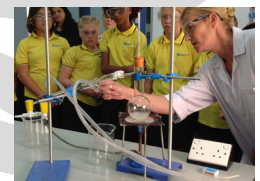
Year 6 Treasure Hunt



This week, as part of their transition activities, the Year 6 classes have explored the upper level of school by doing a treasure hunt. Following cryptic clues, they worked out which subjects they would study in Year 7 and found the rooms in which they would be taught. They completed several laps of the building, learned more about secondary school and came away very enthusiastic to be students there.



Also this week, the Year 6 students were treated to a taste of science when Mrs Banfield demonstrated fractional distillation in the laboratory. This was to help the students understand the process of oil refining, which is part of their IPC topic "Black Gold".



Mr Renshaw (Year 7 Leader), Mrs Elvin and Miss Lovett were very pleased with how the children started their journey to Year 7.



The Tiger who came to Compass School

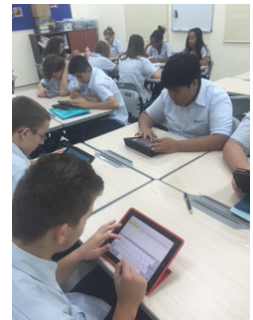
We have been reading the Tiger who came to Tea by Judith Kerr. This week, we were shocked when the tiger turned up at Compass School. He caused lots of trouble and ate everyone's lunch. Here is Maeel's work; he impressed everyone with his fantastic tiger story.

Year 10 Use of iPADS: A First in Compass

On Thursday afternoon, delighted Year 10 students received their shiny new iPad to mark the start of a new and exciting one-to-one iPad trial; the first of its kind at Compass School. The entire year group have been provided with an iPad to enhance their learning in and out of the classroom. Schemes like this have been running in hundreds of school across the globe, for a number

of years now and the benefits of using this device in education are huge. Students are given the freedom to research, design and create their own learning in

a manner that compliments traditional teaching within the classroom. The devices can also help with planning and organization and students can have full access to Moodle and Global classroom, giving them power at their fingertips. This trial has caused quite a commotion in the school, with other Year Groups desperate now to become involved. The excitement and buzz about the trial is evidence that students can be excited about learning. Technology is a vital part of our society and we want to harness its potential to help students achieve great results. One Year 10 student said "The iPad is a much quicker and easier way to access information and it is really fun to use in class". The trial will run into Year 11 with the hope of boosting the IGCSE results in summer 2016.



Cyber Safety Seminar for Secondary School Parents

Our Secondary School Cyber Safety Seminar will take place on 7 May in the ICT Suite from 1:30pm to 2:30pm.

Please can parents email Monica Frarey on monica.frarey@nais.qa if you are planning to attend.

**PRACTICE
CYBER
SAFETY**

Reminder



The rising heat in Doha means hats, sun block and lots of water. Please remember to send your child to school prepared for the hot summer days.

Dates for your Diary

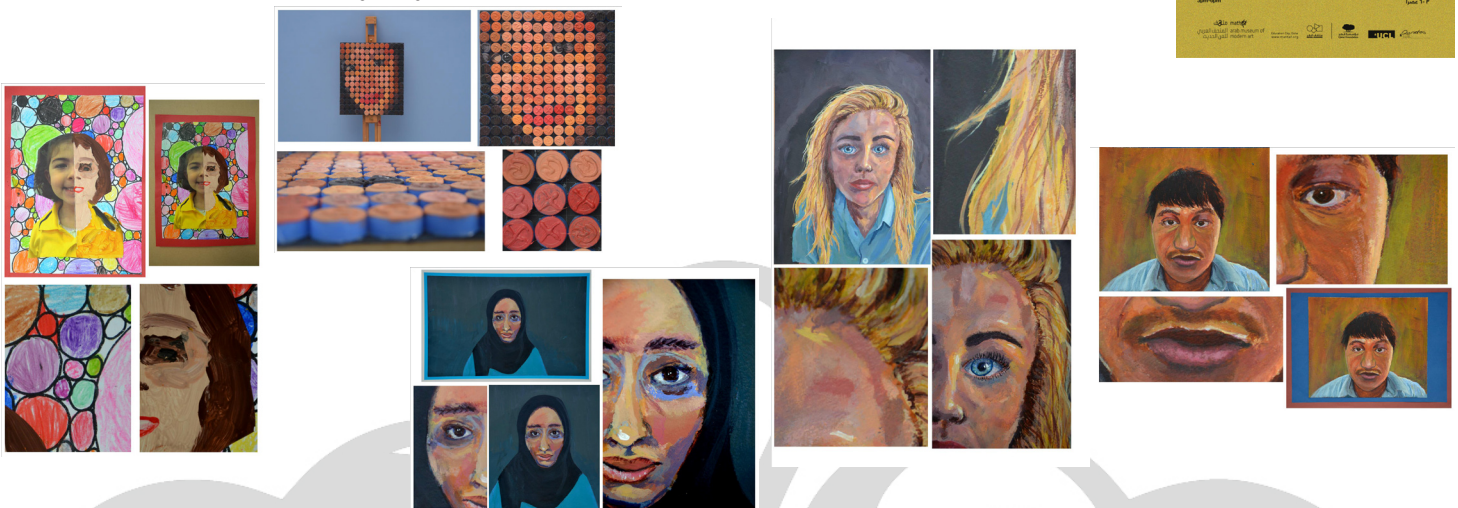
Thursday, 30 April, Friday, 1 May	Yr 11 Residential, Millenium Hotel
Monday, 4 May	Full IGCSEs Begin
Tuesday, 5 May	Primary Girls' Basketball Game - Doha College U15 Boys' Cricket - Dukhan Written IGCSE Examinations begin
Thursday, 7 May	Cyber Safety Parent Seminar for Secondary Parents

Mathaf Student Art Competition and Exhibition

I am delighted to announce that the official opening celebration of the 3rd annual Mathaf Student Art Exhibition: 'Looking in...' will be held on Saturday, 2 May at 3pm. Once again our school is well represented.

This year's student theme was portraiture and we have 5 works on display. You can view the work of Mariyah Akid (Year 1), Kawthar Benalache (Year 10), Romeo Hernandez Solis (Year 10), Sara Sorensen (Year 10) and Janeena Missiona (Year 12) on the school website.

The exhibition takes place at Mathaf, which is located in Education City off Al Luqta Street. The grand opening is from 3-6 but the exhibition will be open for the next 2 months. I hope to see many of you there.



Arabic Spelling Competition



This Thursday Year 3 and 4 took part in the Arabic Spelling Competition at Al Rashad School. Our Arabic Students Performed well and received certificates for their involvement in the competition.

Sport News

Following a very successful week for the girls in their badminton competitions, Compass Madinat Khalifa students have continued to succeed in sporting fixtures this week. Our Year 3-4 basketballers came third, with Compass well represented by Year 10-11 badminton players in the area leagues. You can follow the schools sporting successes via the PE department twitter @CISD_MK_PE.



Year 8 basketball tournamen. Beat the winners in a very close game. Good tournament and great start to the season!



Basketball Year 3 and Year 4 at Doha College. 3rd place!