



Wear pink for Anti-Bullying Day

Rayyan Reporter

February Edition



Be Ambitious

Highlights:

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Anti-Bullying Day

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Tournaments

Message from the Principal

“The purpose of education is to replace an empty mind with an open one.”

Malcolm Forbes

At the heart of all good schools is a relentless focus on learning. At the heart of the very best schools is a group of dedicated teachers who relentlessly focus on their own learning. Our teachers have the determination to go beyond, each and every day to push learning to the very limits for each child. That requires us to recognise our impact on students and how we must inspire children to find out much more than we know. It is not about having all the answers, it is about knowing the questions to ask.

In order for us to do this at Compass International School, everyone needs to be an effective learner. If we want our children to commit to asking the right questions and having an open mind, we must do this too. This is why our schools offer a programme of continuous professional development for our staff. This comes in a range of formats from on-the-job training, coaching for improvement, external training programmes and in-house opportunities to engage with others to share best practice.

This week, the teaching and support staff across our schools in Doha were delighted to take time to work with Sir John Jones, an exceptional school leader and a passionate advocate for learning. He led focused training session with middle leaders and senior staff from Rayyan, Gharaffa and Madinat Khalifa campuses. After school on Monday,

we were all delighted to hear him speak to the staff from our three sites. He reminded us why we do what we do and how we can always be better, going beyond each and every day. It was a great opportunity to be in the company of like-minded people who wanted to be the magic weavers of learning.

We frequently remind our students and staff to be ambitious and set ourselves challenging targets. This was evidenced in the determination of students at the Primary Sports Days and the amazing displays of dancing at the Arabian Night at our Gharaffa campus. The determination of our students to succeed was seen in the sparkle in their eyes. We witness the commitment of those who want to embrace additional opportunities through the ECA programme of after school activities or those who engage with our expeditions programme. We see the commitment of those posting ideas and comments on the Global Classroom discussion pages or signing up to be part of the group attending the Cambridge Science Fair at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). Whatever strikes the imagination, we need to find a way to harness the enthusiasm and work out how to nurture that ambition. At the heart of Compass International School is the desire to see everyone thrive and develop a passion for learning that will stay with them throughout their lives. Be the dream that you want to be and be ambitious to achieve it.

Kind regards,

Dr Terry Creissen OBE
Executive Principal

Key Dates for the Diary

Thursday 3rd March

Drop in for Coffee 7.30am
World Book Day

Sunday 6th March

Book Week Character Parade 7.45am

Tuesday 8th March

Book Week Wear Pyjamas to school

Wednesday 9th March - Thursday 10th March

Book Fair - Foyer

Thursday 10th March

Book Week Assembly 7.30 am

Wednesday 16th March

Marhaba Coffee 7.30 am
Year 5 Desert Trip

Thursday 17th March

Y2-Y6 Assembly: Y6 Mulligan Assembly
Reports out to parents
Y5 Desert trip returns
Last day of ECA's

Sunday 20th March

2.00pm-5.00pm Parent Teacher Consultations

Monday 21st March

School Production: Morning Performance, 12.00pm

Tuesday 22nd March

School Production: Evening Performance, 5.00pm

Thursday 24th March

End of Term 2



Arabian Nights

On Tuesday, 16th February, all three campuses celebrated our annual Arabic Night.

We were treated to an evening of amazing dancing and singing performances from our talented pupils. There was delicious traditional food, face painting and henna.

We had local traditions of handicraft on show such as box and dhow boat making. The school was transformed into a traditional souk with carpets, stalls selling an array of local goods and Bedouin tents for people to relax. One of the highlights for the younger children was the camel who was happy to have photos taken.

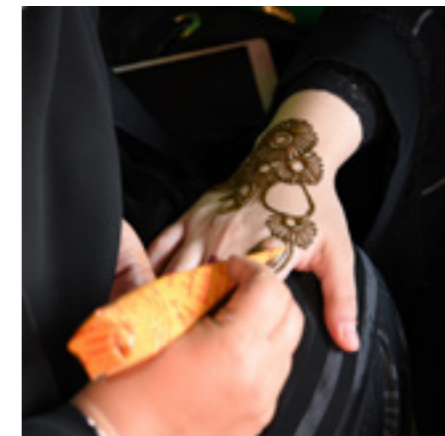
A special thank you to our Arabic department for the organisation of this wonderful event.

Mr. Burt "I'm having a fantastic time at this whole school cultural event"

For more photographs click [here](#).



Year 2b Rayyan



Mrs Enaam Taweel Head of Arabic and Dr Terry Creissen OBE



Early Years One - Fashion Show!

All the boys and girls in EY1 had an absolutely wonderful time during International Week. We learned some very interesting facts about our chosen country, Tanzania and painted Tanzanian flags to decorate our classrooms. The boys painted and decorated hunting shields using the Tanzanian flag colours and all the girls made beautiful ornate tribal necklaces and bracelets.

In keeping with our topic "Clothes", we all brought white t-shirts to school. We painted them in the colours of our national flag with fabric paint. Our final creations were stunning. We just had to show them off so we invited our parents to

our 'T-shirt Fashion Parade'. What a tremendous success! We walked down the catwalk and we felt like top class models! We all looked so beautiful and we couldn't stop smiling. Everybody clapped and cheered and we all felt so proud. We performed an African song "Funga Alafia" at the International Week school assembly. Some of the boys and girls played African drums and everybody sang. It was our first time performing in front of a big audience but we were not nervous and we sang very well. In fact, everybody said we were just brilliant!



Year One - Flowers and Insects

As the Entry Point for our new IPC unit, "Flowers and Insects", our class had an awesome time on gardening day.

We all had a wonderful opportunity to plant seeds. We enjoyed this experience tremendously and we all very excited to look at our flowers every morning! We are going to learn about what plants and insects need to grow. We have listened to the story of "The Tiny Seed", which we loved!

When we were planting seeds, we are had a choice to plant African marigold seeds or sunflower seeds. We also planted cress seeds on cotton wool. Somin put her amazing art skills into practise by making a handprint in a pot plant. Our class had our assembly this week and we retold the story "One Seed" by Rosemary Phillips during it. For more photographs click [here](#).



Bright Sparks - Year Four

A local company named 'Shams Generation' gave everyone in the class a solar panel.

The challenge was to collect recycled items and make an art lantern using the materials and the provided solar panel. The choice of design was left to the pupils as a free artistic concept. Some projects will be selected to be entered into a community exhibition.

Caitlyn "I made a fish tank made out of a shoe box and colourful fish out of recycled paper. Others in the class made rockets, houses and lighthouses. I really enjoyed this practical activity using the solar panels and all my classmates enjoyed making them too!"

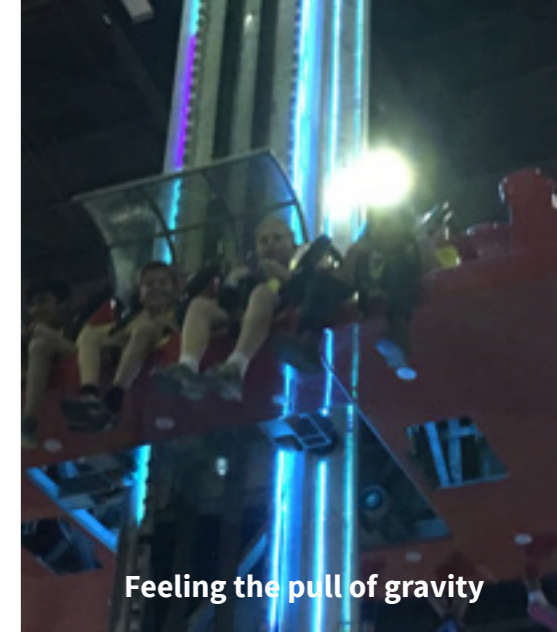
Isobel commented, "I had a great time making a volcano because it was fun, especially using scraps that no one else uses anymore!"

This opportunity was fantastic as an 'Entry Point' activity for the IPC unit 'Bright Sparks'.

"I had a great time making a volcano!"
Isobel



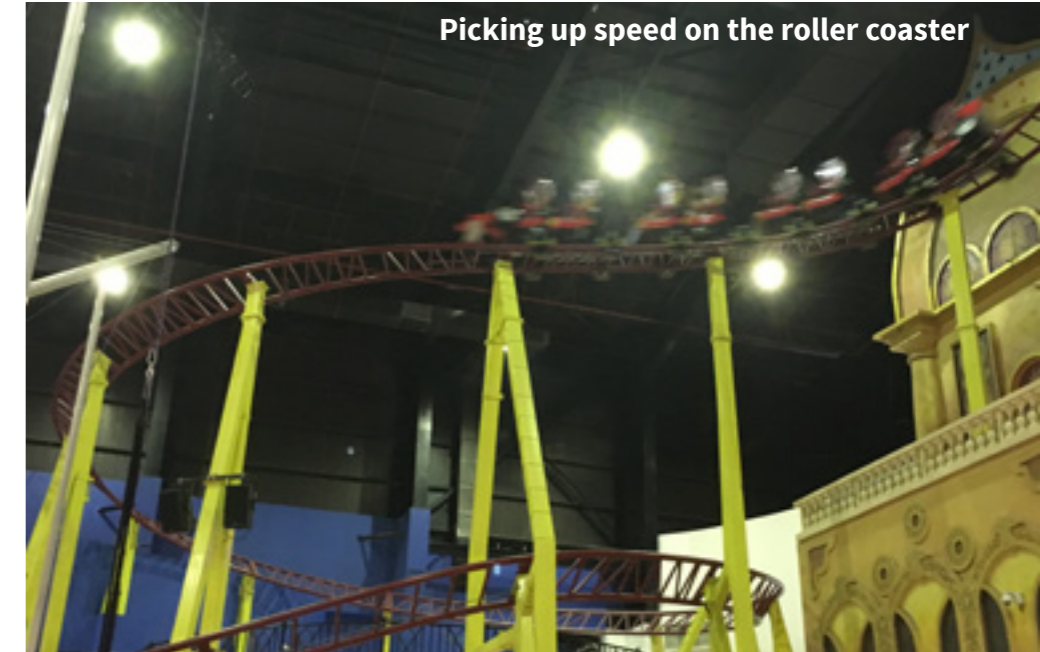
Gaining momentum on the Viking Swing



Feeling the pull of gravity



Investigating forces back at school



Picking up speed on the roller coaster



Feeling the Force at the Fairground!

This month, the Year 6 classes in Rayyan and Gharaffa went to Gondolania Theme Park in Villaggio Mall for our topic Fairgrounds. This is a science topic about forces such as friction, gravity and magnetism. We will be learning about these different forces because fairground rides use a range of forces to move and get our adrenaline pumping and heart beat jumping.

Most people thought that the Drop Tower was the best ride.

Lucas, who really enjoyed this ride, said, "The Drop Tower uses gravity to drop you and your tummy tickles!"

"The Drop Tower uses pistons to push it up," recalled Adarsh knowledgeably. "It was great fun and made us scream!"

We enjoyed the roller coaster. "A mechanism pulled the passengers up hill," explained Faris.

"Gravity pulled us down. It felt like we would fall off the track,

however the wheels were clipped underneath," added Erin.

"The Viking Swing used gravity to pull one end of it down. A mechanism helped to push the swing back and forth," described Nathan.

"When the Viking Swing tipped down, I felt air resistance from the movement," remembered Elias.

We learned a lot and had a great time!

Wear Pink for Anti-Bullying Day

What can we do as a school to take a stand on bullying? This was the question on our minds when we all came to school wearing pink on Wednesday 26th February.

The idea to hold this special day was put forward by Friends of Compass parent Cindy Spencer. In Mrs Spencer's home country of Canada a 9th Grade boy was bullied for wearing a pink t-shirt to school. In response to this, bystanders went out and bought pink shirts for themselves and others. The movement spread and each year the day is held across schools throughout Canada to create awareness on bullying. Everyone wears pink and we decided to bring it to Compass.

The day was filled with activities centred around the message of "No more bullying!"

As a school we were so pleased how everyone pulled together for this wonderful cause. The school was awash with pink as students, teachers and even the security guards came wearing their brightest pink clothes. Today really had an impact on us all and we will be working together to become better friends to each other.

To view our fabulous Anti-Bullying Day video click [here](#). (Not available on mobile devices due to copyright.)



Basketball

On Tuesday 16th of February the Year 5/6 Boys Basketball Team competed in the annual QPPSSA Basketball Tournament against the International School of Finland, DBS Wakrah, Al Jazeera Academy, Loydence International School and Nord Anglia International School Al Khor.

After a slow start, which saw the boys lose to a very strong DBS side, the eventual winners of the tournament, the team quickly found their feet with two convincing wins over Compass Al Khor and Al Jazeera Academy which saw them take 3rd place and return to school with bronze medals. A huge achievement for the boys and a great addition to the Compass trophy cabinet.



Football

On Thursday the 18th and Friday the 19th of February Compass International School took part in the national GOALZ Football Tournament and competed against various other schools in Qatar.

Thursday's Tournament saw our Year 1's go up against two schools who fielded students from Year 2. This however, did not phase our boys as once they got past some initial nerves they went on to comfortably win the final two games of the competition.

The day wasn't as successful for our Year 3/4 team as they came up against some very strong opposition which resulted in them finishing 5th in the competition. This did not ruin the day for

our school though as their hard work and determination was recognised by the referees and they were awarded the Fair Play Trophy. Something the team should be very proud of.

Friday saw our Y5/6 Team compete in what turned out to be a very competitive competition. Our team fought hard to come 4th in their group and qualify for the plate final of the competition (3rd & 4th place). Hard work saw our team take a well-deserved 2 goal lead and hold on to finish the game 2-1. A huge achievement for the team. A special well done must go to Jowarha Al Thani, the team Captain, for her hard work and inspiring words on the day/field.



Ready, Steady, Go... Sports Days

Sunday - Early Years

On Sunday 7th February, we celebrated Early Years Sports Day. We had a range of fun activities and games being played throughout the morning, from throwing bean bags into hooped targets to stuck in the mud. Year 5 and 6 led each activity and did a fantastic job! Everybody thoroughly enjoyed the morning.

Miss McDonald asked Miss Sweeny's class what they enjoyed most about Sports Day.

Amlas- 'Throwing the balls in the water'

Amara- 'The obstacle course'

Omar- 'Everything'



Wednesday - Milepost 2 and 3

Next it was MP2 and MP3 Sports Day which was held at Al Sailiya Sports Club. Again children competed in a range of running, jumping and throwing activities, earning points for their houses.

'My favourite was Throw the Frisbee. I ran really fast and I jumped high. I loved Sports Day; it was my favourite day ever.' Callum Hopper 3A

'Sports Day was fun and exciting and it was the best day ever. My favourite part was the long jump. I didn't really know how to do the football dribble. My second best was the relay race.' Fladina 3A

'Sports Day had activities that were really fun. My favourite one was when we had to run for 50m and say our score. It was really sunny and nice. All the activities were really fun.' Rodela 3A

Overall best performers of each class were...

Year 3A- Callum and Ines

Year 3B- Joe and Lyndsey

Year 3/4- Dien and Meseret

Year 4- Erik and Jasmine

Year 5- Keane and Jasmine

Year 6- Mario and Erin



Well done to this week's winner **Abdulrahman Kazi, Y2A** Excellent spotting skills!



Monday - Milepost One

The following day was the turn of MP1. This one was slightly more competitive as children were competing to earn points for their houses. Children took part in a range of running, jumping and throwing activities.

The overall best performers of each class were...

Year 1A- Fahad and Rachel

Year 1B- Abdulaziz and Blanca

Year 1C- Jort and Maddison

Year 2A- Ahmed and Paige

Year 2B- Ollie and Mariana

Year 2C- Zac and Emily

'I liked the running! I won the sprint race.' Oliver Carter 2B

Spot the Mascot Competition...



Well done to **Agnes Straub Y1A** 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 with his location. There will be a prize for the first family to spot him and they will be featured in the next edition!