



“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful citizens can change the world. Indeed it is the only thing that ever has.”

Margaret Mead



Dear All,

The half term break is a good time to look back at the achievements over the past months, as students have settled into their new classes and are fully immersed in their learning. It is good to be able to celebrate student achievements and promote the work of the different classes from Year 1 through to the IB Diploma class on the new, premium display boards around the school. Our teachers have been working very hard to add life and colour to the corridors.

Behind the walls, the new IT infrastructure is buzzing away providing high quality wireless communication networks to feed the hungry minds of our students. The new website is up and running. We know there are still some gaps and we are very grateful for the many positive comments that have come to us from parents who have taken the time to look. If you have not yet visited the new site, please do at <http://www.nordangliaeducation.com/our-schools/doha/madinat-khalifa>

This week, we saw the inaugural meeting of the Madinat Khalifa Community Group. The Group is well underway with plans for the Family Picnic Breakfast that will take place on **Friday 24 October 2014** from 08.00 until 10.30. This event is a must for all families and a great opportunity to meet old acquaintances and make new friends. We will have lots of activities to keep children of all ages amused throughout the morning including: Switchball, Face Painting, Bouncy Castle, Loom Bands, Bake sale, Nail Painting, Tattos (temporary), Craft Table, Martial Arts....and more.



The Picnic Breakfast Team

Later in the term we plan to have film nights for Primary and for Secondary students. If you want to be involved in any of our Community Events or you have an idea that you would like to bring to life, please contact our Parent Liaison Officer, Deirdre Creissen through Lisa Cowe email: l.cowe@wclschools.org

Many parents have asked about the trips and visits that will be in offer in school. As part of our commitment to providing a broad and enriching learning experience for all, we will be running a series of planned trips and visits for students across the age range.

In our Primary School, we will offer day trips to cultural and sporting events starting with a theatre experience for Year 1 and 2. In addition to these short trips, we will also be offering a residential experience for all our Year 6 students later this term.

In our secondary school, students will have the opportunity to take part in a week-long residential experience around 17 – 24 January 2015. For our senior students in Years 10 and 12, this will involve the chance to go to the Nord Anglia Education Expedition Centre in Tanzania. Some in Year 9 may also have a chance to take part in this amazing excursion to the foot of Mount Kilimanjaro. Others will have alternative residential placements slightly closer to home. We are currently looking at Space Camp and an Activity Centre in Dubai. More information on these will be presented later in October.

As we approach the October break, may I wish you all a happy and relaxing week. I look forward to seeing you at the Madinat Khalifa Picnic Breakfast on Friday 24 October from 08.00– 10.30.

Eid Mubarak

عيد مبارك

Dr Terry Creissen OBE MA MBA FRSA
Principal
Madinat Khalifa



SECONDARY NEWS



Parent Topic sheets are packs which allow students and parents for all Year Groups to see the themes and topics that we will be studying this term. **Homework grids** allow students and parents to see the home study tasks that accompany the themes of subject lesson topics. The concept of homework grids allows students to spend some time completing independent tasks relating to wider reading and research around themes or simply completing tasks that support learning in the class. This is monitored and feedback is given in a deadline week. This also gives students a chance to celebrate their hard work. Please take some time to read through these and discuss the content with your children.

Years 7,8 and 9 had an assembly to take them through the expectations we have of them as students at Madinat Khalifa. They were offered advice on organization and planning. Year 7 will have a follow up assembly after half term.

Wonderful opportunities are being developed to offer a number of trips for January including an expedition for Years 10 and 12 to Tanzania. Other year groups may see trips offered to Turkey for Space Camp or an adventure trip to Dubai. The possibility of some optional trips are being investigated for the end of June to include a possible literary based visit to the UK or a language and cultural visit to France. Year 11 will be unable to go on the January trip because of their IGCSE exams so we will give them an opportunity after the exams are over in June.

I have met a number of parents this week and I am extremely grateful for your positive views and honest assessments of communications, processes and protocols. It has been invaluable input on the journey to excellence and premium outcomes. I would like to thank you for your warm welcome. Have a peaceful and safe Eid.

Yours,

Mr Kevin Tubb
Head of Secondary

International Baccalaureate Diploma

The start of Year 12 has been a steep learning curve for our IB students but it is one that they have embraced, showing improved time management and independent researching skills to enhance their classroom learning experience.

We would like to invite parents and students of our IB cohort to join us for a coffee and cake to answer any questions you may have about our IB programme. This will be held on Sunday, 19 October from 13.45 to 15.00 in *The IB Study Café* at Madinat Khalifa. The events will be led by our IB Coordinator, Nia Merriman. Senior staff and our IB Subject Teachers will be on hand to answer questions, respond to concerns on student progress and learn more about the academic programme.

Should you wish to contact us on any matter relating to the IB Diploma programme please email me: n.merriman@wclschools.org

Yours truly,

Nia Merriman
IB Coordinator



Jessica, Ms Merriman (?) and Rykala



PRIMARY NEWS



The last two weeks have seen the commencement of our Extra-Curricular Activities (ECAs) here at Madinat Khalifa and I have been especially happy with the student take-up of these. We are offering an increased variety of activities this term, from Year One to Year Six. The activities range from sport to Arabic and Spanish language classes for beginners and Islamic Studies for non-Arabic speakers.

I visit every ECA club as often as possible and am always thrilled to see the high levels of engagement from the students and the smiles on their faces. This week, after another busy day in Primary, I entered Miss Egan's Yoga class for Year 1, 2 and 3 students. Walking into her classroom was like walking into a sea of tranquillity with soft music and engaged children all focusing on their movement. One could not help but instantly relax, something I am sure the parents of those taking part appreciated.

At the other end of our Primary school, the 'Loom Band' club has proven so popular that we have had to find extra staff to help out. The creativity and fine motor skills demonstrated by the students during this session left me in awe.

Extra-Curricular Activities are an important part of school life, enabling students to either consolidate or extend their curricular learning, practise and improve in an area of interest or discover completely new skills and talents. We will be changing and improving on our ECA provision each term and welcome any suggestions for new clubs. If you would like to help us increase our provision still further, please contact me on d.burt@wclschools.org

I wish you all an enjoyable Eid.

Yours truly,

David Burt
Head of Madinat Khalifa Primary



An example of our colourful Primary Displays



Eid Mubarak



Yoga Class



A great start to this year's ECA Programme

Our ECA sports programme offers a wide range of sports and activities for students at Madinat Khalifa.



Sailing Academy

We are proud to be able to offer sailing as a part of our ECA programme. Students will develop their sailing skills with UK-trained Royal Yachting Association (RYA) instructors through Regatta Sailing Academy (RSA) at Katara beach. The RSA caters for beginners to advanced level. The RYA courses will last for 8 weeks and cost 950QAR. Students will need to arrange their own transport to and from RSA. Please contact Miss Blick for more details:

J.blick@wclschools.org



Martial Arts Students Rewarded

The Martial Arts Academy presented some of its students with their belts following their grading at the end of last academic year. The students looked very professional in their belts and are superb role-models and leaders to the other students. The constantly growing club has become more popular with new students starting each term. These individuals are great ambassadors for this club, which continues to be an exclusive Compass international School opportunity.



Athletics Opportunity

We have a fantastic athletics programme running for primary groups this year with lots of competitions from indoor athletics in October all the way through to outdoor athletics later in the year. For many of our students, this is a great opportunity to represent their school. Some students catch the athletics bug and join in the great opportunities in Doha such as the Junior Athletics Club designed specifically for the under 10's. Do contact me, Glyn Martin, if you would like more information: g.martin@wclschools.org

 **Run - Jump - Throw** 
Junior Athletics Club
Starting Saturday 20th September 2014
Time
1.00 - 2.00
2.00 - 3.00
 Call Steve Coates - 55162190 