



مدرسة الدوحة البريطانية  
DOHA BRITISH SCHOOL  
AIN KHALED



# Primary Newsletter

5th September 2024



## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

# MRS. LYNETTE GRANT

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we embark on a new academic year, I would like to extend a warm welcome to both our new families and those returning to our school community. We look forward to working in partnership with you to ensure we provide a safe, nurturing, and supportive environment where all our learners can thrive.

I am excited to share that our school canteen is moving to a cashless system. We will continue to accept cash payments as we transition to this new system. Further details will be shared in a specific letter and cards will be issued soon.

Regarding mobile phones, we ask that all students turn off their devices and place them in their school bags before entering the school grounds. For safeguarding reasons, students will not be permitted to use mobile phones or smartwatches during the school day. We are currently exploring the use of Yondr pouches to support this initiative. However, students are welcome to bring laptops or tablets for educational purposes.

We have communicated our uniform expectations, and it is important that these are adhered to. Please note that Zaks is our official uniform provider, and fashion trousers are not permitted. Additionally, students should refrain from wearing makeup and jewelry. These expectations are in place to respect the learning environment, and they apply to all students. When we join a community, it is essential to respect the values and rules that bind us together.

Attendance and punctuality are crucial. They are intrinsically linked to students' attainment, well-being, and sense of belonging within the school. We ask for your support in ensuring your child attends school regularly and arrives on time.

Communication is key to our partnership. We encourage you to take time each week to read the school newsletter, which contains important updates and information. Additionally, we have a wealth of resources available on the parent portal that you may find helpful. While we strive to communicate with our families in a variety of ways, it is only effective if that communication is being received and engaged with. Your active participation is essential in keeping the lines of communication open.

Finally, I would like to remind everyone of our commitment to a culture of safeguarding. Lanyards must be worn at all times on school premises. Please understand that our staff may challenge you if you are not wearing one, and we ask that you respect this important safety measure.

Here's to a positive year ahead, founded on our partnership of mutual respect and a shared mission to provide the best experience for all our learners, so they can truly flourish.





## Welcome to Doha British Schools

Doha British Schools are one of the world's leading British International Schools in Qatar, with a reputation for outstanding academic excellence since 1997

### HEAD OF PRIMARY MESSAGE **MRS. MARIE SIBLEY**

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The year has got off to a very positive start. As I stood at the gate on Sunday morning, I was delighted to see the huge smiles on the faces of our students. They were so excited to come back after a long break from school. I walked around the school that morning and was impressed with how well the students had settled back in. They were clearly happy to see their friends but also ready to get straight back to learning. This was supported by the thorough preparation of our excellent teaching staff who were in school all week last week ensuring that everything was ready and the classrooms looked wonderful.

You yourselves will get a chance to see your child's classroom and meet their teacher after school on Tuesday 10th September from 4pm-5pm. This will be an opportunity for you to learn a little bit more about the curriculum for the year ahead, expectations of homework (where applicable), communication protocols etc. It is also an opportunity for you to meet other parents in the class as it will be a group meeting. Teachers will not be discussing individual student's progress etc at this meeting.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding your child specifically, they should be raised with the teacher via Dojo or in person. If you have not already done so, please ensure that you are signed up to your child's Class Dojo as soon as possible as this is the easiest way for you to communicate directly with the teacher.

I have been made to feel so welcome at Doha British School by staff, students and parents.

I look forward to meeting many of you over the forthcoming months and working with you to ensure that your children thrive here at DBS.





## VICE PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

# DR. LUKE CHEATER



We are excited to announce Doha British School's partnership with Evidence Based Education (EBE), a leading organisation in educational research and professional development.

This collaboration underscores our commitment to ensuring that all our students thrive academically and personally.



Evidence Based Education

**"GREAT TEACHING, BETTER LEARNING"**

## Doha British School partners with Evidence Based Education



Research shows that teachers have the most significant impact on student achievement. Therefore, raising the quality of teaching is the most effective way to improve student outcomes and promote equity.

By investing in this high-quality, research-based professional development program, we are empowering our teachers to make informed decisions that enhance their teaching practices. This initiative aligns with our guiding statement that all children thrive, ensuring that every student at Doha British School receives the best possible education.



- A log of teacher- and school-level activities in the CPD Passport
- Access high-quality feedback on teaching and learning
- Objective tools to support observation and peer coaching
- Build knowledge with courses, programmes and 100s of resources

To achieve this, we are implementing the Model for Great Teaching, a comprehensive summary of the best available research on what teachers should do, know, and believe to have the greatest impact on student learning. All teachers at Ain Khaled are beginning this journey, and throughout September will complete a module associated with the Science of Learning.

We are committed to using the best research to support student attainment and wellbeing, and we are confident that this partnership will have a lasting positive impact on our school community.





# RECEPTION HIGHLIGHTS

## THIS WEEK IN RECEPTION



## PHONICS

We have had a fabulous first week in Reception. It can be daunting coming into a new school or a new class but we have been brave and had lots of fun. The children have been very inquisitive and shown an interest in trying new activities and making new friends.

They have enjoyed various activities such as painting, practising cutting skills, construction, circle time and practising writing their names.

We are all looking forward to having the full class in together next week.



## HOME ACTIVITIES

This week we have been practising writing our names.

It would be very beneficial for the children to continue to practise at home too.

## Teacher's message

### Some important points to note:

Reception classroom doors will open at 6:50am and close at 7:05am for you to drop your child off. If you arrive later than 7:05am you **MUST register** them at the main Reception before they come to class.

Please ensure that red lanyards are worn at all times when in the school.

Next week the children will start normal hours from 7am-1pm. If you wish your child to attend crèche, please visit the finance department to register your child for this facility.





# PRESCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

## EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION STAGE



It has been a fantastic start in pre-school for all the children beginning their educational journey at Doha British School.

There may have been tears, but also triumphs, from all the children who have been amazingly brave and resilient.

They have formed brilliant relationships with their teachers and also with their new friends in their class. The children have enjoyed various activities in class such as painting, dancing, construction play and circle-time in small groups.

The teachers are very excited to have them all in together next week when the school librarian will visit the class and they will have their first PE lesson.

### Teacher's message

#### Some important points to note:

Pre-school classroom doors will open at 6:50am and close at 7:05am for you to drop your child off. If you arrive later than 7:05am you MUST register them at the main Reception before they come to class. Please ensure that red lanyards are worn at all times when in the school. If you have not received one yet, please bring in 2xpassport photos to the main Reception desk and fill out the form.

**Next week** the children will start normal hours from 7am-1pm. If you wish your child to attend creche please visit the finance department to register your child for this facility.





# PRIMARY HIGHLIGHTS

KEY STAGE 1 AND 2



## IN LITERACY

This week, children will be exploring their five senses to develop their descriptive setting writing skills for our survival narrative unit.

## IN NUMERACY

This week, children will be continuing our place value unit representing, comparing and ordering numbers unto 1 million.



Primary ECAs for Term 1 will take place from Sunday 29th September until Wednesday 27th November.

More details will be shared soon.

## IN SPANISH

The Spanish students across primary are actively engaging with the new curriculum for this academic year, getting accustomed to classroom expectations, and exploring the online platform that will support their learning.





# HAMILTON AQUATICS

## ACTIVITIES FOR YOUR KIDS



### → HIGHLY QUALIFIED TEAM

Highly qualified swimming and coaching staff who undergo monthly training ensuring the best delivery of our programmes.

### → OVER 6+ LOCATIONS

One of our swimming locations is never too far.

### → STRUCTURED PATHWAY

Our programmes follow a structured pathway that is fun and engaging whilst building water confidence.

### → ONLINE ASSESSMENTS

No need to visit our pool for an assessment. Get assessed online and complete your booking in a matter of minutes

Hamilton Aquatics is a comprehensive swimming academy that provides a wide array of swimming programs tailored for different age groups and skill levels. Our offerings include:

**1. Learn to Swim Programs:** These programs cater to beginners of all ages, focusing on building foundational swimming skills, water safety, and confidence in the water. They often start with basic techniques and gradually progress to more advanced skills.

**2. Development Squads:** For swimmers who have mastered the basics and want to improve their technique and fitness, squads offer structured training sessions to enhance skills and prepare for more competitive swimming.

**3. Competitive Swimming:** The academy supports swimmers aiming to compete

**4. Water Safety:** Emphasising the importance of water safety, Hamilton Aquatics integrates safety skills into our programs to ensure that swimmers are not only proficient in swimming but also knowledgeable about how to stay safe in and around the water.

**5. Coaching and Development:** The academy employs experienced coaches who are dedicated to helping swimmers achieve their personal and competitive goals. They offer personalised feedback and support to aid in skill development and performance improvement.

**6. Facilities and Environment:** Hamilton Aquatics is known for its high-quality facilities that support effective training and learning. They create a positive and encouraging environment for swimmers of all levels.

For Further information, Please download the Hamilton Aquatics Application from the IOS/Google Play store, visit <https://www.hamiltonaquatics.qa/> or reach out to +974 3382 7037 via Whatsapp.







Welcome to Doha British Schools

## PRIMARY MEET THE TEACHER EVENT

Meet the Teacher - Tuesday 10th September 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We are excited to invite you to our "Meet the Teacher" event, which will be held on Tuesday 10th September 2024, 4:00 - 5:00pm. This event is a wonderful opportunity for you to get to know your child's teacher and become familiar with their classroom environment. Teachers will share information about the curriculum, home learning expectations (where applicable) and key events in the year ahead.

We understand that many parents have multiple children in the school. Where two parents are available to attend, we encourage you to attend two classes. However, the slides will be shared after the sessions so you will have access to all the information you need. After the initial presentation, there will also be an opportunity for parents to 'walk around' the school to visit the classrooms of your other children and meet specialist teachers.

**Date:** September 10th, 2024

**4:00 - 4:30 Presentation**

**4:30 - 5:00 Walk Around**

We encourage all parents and guardians to take advantage of this opportunity to create a strong partnership between home and school. It is a group meeting so you will get the chance to meet other parents in your child's class.

Please be reminded that this meeting is for the teacher to share information that is pertinent to the entire class rather than about individual children. You will have the opportunity to discuss your child's progress at our Parent Consultation Evening in October. As this session is designed to support parents, we kindly ask that children do not attend.

Please make sure to mark your calendars for this important event. We look forward to seeing you on September 10th.

Thank you for your continued support, and we eagerly anticipate a successful and enriching school year ahead.

Best wishes,

**The Primary Leadership Team**





# DAVID HARKIN FROM 8 BILLION IDEAS

AND HIS GUEST TALK TO OUR TEACHERS ON THE CRITICAL CURRICULUM



**We were delighted to welcome David Harkin, founder of 8BillionIdeas, to DBS Ain Khaled on Thursday, 29th August 2024, for an inspiring professional development session titled "The Critical Curriculum."**

David Harkin, a renowned educational innovator, entrepreneur, and TEDx speaker, captivated our staff with his insights on fostering a culture of innovation and intrapreneurship within education. The session included a dynamic 15-minute presentation, a hands-on workshop, and a lively Q&A segment, where staff explored innovative strategies to personalise the curriculum and enhance the learning experience for our students.



Thank you, David Harkin, for an inspiring and thought-provoking session!





## ICON ACADEMY

# Registration Open!

Dear Parents,

We are delighted to continue our special relationship with Doha British School.

ICON Football Academy offers first-class coaching from Qualified British Coaches.

We are an elite academy that focuses on the holistic development of players from beginners to advanced. Last season, we were the most successful Football Academy in Qatar, winning 16 trophies! We can't wait to defend our titles with the help of DBS students.

In addition to football, we are proud to announce that our Tennis program continues to excel, having won multiple gold medals in local competitions. Our tennis players have shown exceptional skills, determination, and sportsmanship, and we look forward to guiding new talents to even greater heights this season.

We are great believers in giving everyone a chance, and your son or daughter will have the opportunity to play in competitive matches against other academies.

We also run a girl-only session 3 times a week and are proud of leading our girls to success.

We are offering a discount to DBS students.

For more information or to register, please call [50700999](tel:50700999) or email [info@iconclubs.com](mailto:info@iconclubs.com)

We can't wait to welcome you.

Best regards,

The ICON Team

**ICON SPORTS CENTER QATAR**  
EST. 2000

**TERM 01**

**ICON ACADEMY**  
WHERE CHAMPIONS ARE BORN

**REGISTRATION OPEN**

**31ST AUGUST 16 WEEKS MEMBER OF JPL**  
BOYS AND GIRLS AND AGES FROM 3 TO 17

**@ICONFBACADEMY**

+974 59999874 +974 50700999 +974 59999872





Thank You