



مدرسة الدوحة البريطانية
DOHA BRITISH SCHOOL
AIN KHALED



Primary Newsletter

12th December 2024

Our Purpose

Is that every young person should gain as much as possible from our school, based on our belief that all learners can, need and want to achieve

Our Vision

Is to be a vibrant, welcoming international school that provides a first class education enabling pupils to thrive within a dynamic, global environment

Our Mission

Is to prepare all pupils through a relevant, challenging curriculum and well-resourced facilities, to become lifelong learners contributing to a global community

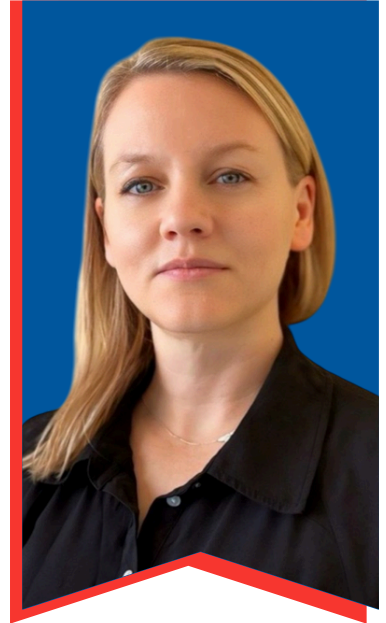


Welcome to Doha British Schools

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

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

MRS. LYNETTE GRANT



Celebrating Mulan: A Spectacular Performance

What a magnificent performance of Mulan we witnessed this week! I am immensely proud of our talented Year 6 students who brought this incredible story to life on stage. The dedication, creativity, and passion displayed were truly remarkable.

A heartfelt congratulations to everyone involved - our brilliant performers, the stage and lightening crew, the dedicated staff who guided them, and the supportive parents who helped make this production such a resounding success. The hours of rehearsal, costume preparation, and backstage work have paid off magnificently, creating an unforgettable theatrical experience for our entire school community.

Mock Examinations: The Final Stretch

To our students engaged in their mock examinations, take heart - the end is in sight! I want to emphasise that our examination expectations are directly aligned with the requirements set by our external examination boards. These standards are rigorous and non-negotiable.

DBS Community Values: Respect and Unity

As we navigate the end of this busy term, I wish to remind everyone about the core values that define our school community. Respect is paramount. Every member of our school deserves to be treated with dignity, kindness, and understanding.

Qatar National Day Celebrations

Next week promises to be an exciting time as we prepare to celebrate Qatar National Day on the 17th December. Our school is already adorned with flags, and numerous activities are planned to mark this special occasion. The celebrations will culminate in a festive day of food, cultural performances, and community spirit.

I look forward to seeing everyone embracing the joy and unity of this wonderful national celebration.





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HEAD OF PRIMARY MESSAGE

MRS. MARIE SIBLEY



I am glowing with pride this week at the incredible achievements of our students across many areas. We have had continued success with football. Both U11 teams (girls and boys) finished top of their leagues and were invited to play against the winners of all the leagues across the country where they played very well. The boys got all the way to the finals but lost on penalties to AKIS, an amazing achievement. The girls also did very well and learned a lot from playing against some very strong teams. On Tuesday our PE team hosted the BSME Cross Country event at Oxygen Park and the children came back with a hard earned selection of medals after a gruelling race so well done to all those who took part.

Last week, some of our Arabic students participated in the BSME Spelling Bee competition and I am delighted to announce that we came second out of schools from across the Middle East and were the top placed school in Qatar. This is a remarkable achievement and I would like to thank the Arabic department for their work on this.

We have also had further academic success in Science. Two of our Year 6 students have made it through to the next round of a prestigious Science competition with their research project entitled "AI based Face Detection - Student Attendance monitoring and school on-site Safety System". Congratulations to Zain Ali and Nathanael Jomaa and all the best for the next round where you have to present it in person.

I am sure that those of you who were fortunate enough to attend one of the Mulan performances this week would agree that this was also an incredible success. I was in awe of the talent on stage, both from the main characters but also every single child on stage. Several people commented to me afterwards how much they had enjoyed the chorus numbers and how clear it was that the children worked together as a team. They certainly did and the team was wider than just the cast. Many children were involved backstage and with the technical aspects of sound and lighting. They should all be very proud of themselves. I would also like to thank all the staff who were involved in this production but especially Miss Emimi and Mrs Khan who did a fantastic job.

It is not only our students who I am feeling proud of and grateful for this week. I am sure that you will all join me in thanking and congratulating our Friends of DBS on the excellent Winter Fair that they organised on Friday. It was a wonderful event that demonstrated our character trait of community spirit perfectly and also raised a significant amount of money to support the work of the school. Thank you.

Finally, I would like to thank all of you for your ongoing support for the school and to wish you a happy holiday. Tuesday will be our last school day then the students return on Monday 6th January.





SPOTLIGHT OF THE WEEK

QATAR NATIONAL IDENTITY



We are very proud to be a British School in Qatar and we strive to ensure that our children thrive within a British Curriculum whilst at the same time developing an understanding and respect for the country in which we live.

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We try to take children on trips to places of interest within Qatar in order to develop their awareness of the country. These places include the Corniche and the Mangroves amongst many others. In our busy lives, we do not always have time to take children to these wonderful places and appreciate them so we feel it is important to do this as part of the Qatar History and Qatar National Identity work that we do. We are always open to further suggestions of places to visit that promote Qatar so please reach out to us if you have suggestions.

In addition to this, we participate in an ongoing project designed to enhance Qatar National Identity. Over the past few weeks, this has focused on teaching children about 'Safer Surfing' and you will have seen our regular updates about this in previous newsletters. Next term, the project will move on to 'My well-being is a trust,' which will focus on physical, emotional and mental health. We will continue to share information with you via the newsletter.

On Tuesday we will celebrate Qatar National Day in School. The children should come to school in either national dress or wearing the colours of the Qatar flag. They will participate in various activities throughout the day. They are also encouraged to bring in food (ideally Qatari food) to enjoy as a class. This should be a wonderful end to the term and a great way to honour our country.





CELEBRATING

LEARNING AND GROWTH

THRIVING TOGETHER AT DBS AIN KHALED

VICE PRINCIPAL MESSAGE

DR. LUKE CHEATER



As we conclude an incredible and busy first term, we are filled with immense pride and excitement about the remarkable journey of learning and growth we have experienced together.

While our students remain at the heart of everything we do, this term has been incredibly productive in terms of our commitment to professional learning and development. Our teachers have been engaged in transformative professional learning experiences that directly enhance student success.



Exploring best assessment practices, investigating Qatar Identity integration and examining successful technology integration and AI are some of the key areas currently being investigated.

Our Coaching Journey is continuing to drive momentum, empowering 14 of our middle and senior leaders which is being carefully curated by our coaching partner-



4Cs Coaching & Leadership Development


Professional Coaching - Executive Coaching - Leadership Training and Facilitation

Already, participants are developing:

- Solution-focused mindsets
- Enhanced challenge navigation skills
- Strategies to empower colleagues and students

Looking Ahead - as we approach 2025, we are excited to continue our relentless pursuit of educational excellence. Our commitment remains unchanged - to provide an environment where every student can truly thrive.

We wish our entire community a restful break and look forward to reconnecting in the new year.

 **Evidence Based Education** has enabled an opportunity for us to explore how we can effectively unlock learning potential this term, our teachers delved deep into understanding long and short-term memory mechanisms. We are beginning to embrace the fundamental principle that learning is about creating lasting impressions in our long-term memory - building a stored bank of knowledge that can be continuously expanded and connected across curriculum areas.



Further, we are proud to highlight our 12+ Learning Communities, where collaborative inquiry is driving innovation.





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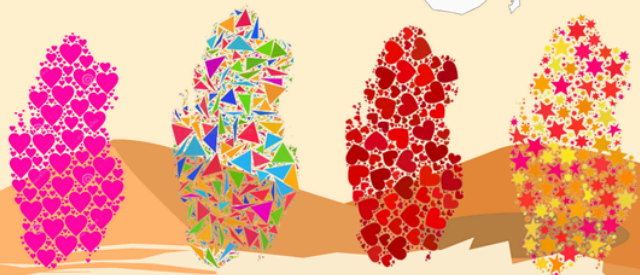
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UPCOMING EVENTS

STAY TUNED FOR MORE UPDATES!

Qatar National Day

EYFS and KS1
Map Competition



Design a map of Qatar using a repeated pattern.

Be as creative as you like-remember the pattern has to be repeated.

Deadline: Wednesday, 11th December.

Hand it in to your class teacher. Make sure your name and class are clearly written at the top.

Qatar National Day KS2 Writing Competition



Write a description of a falcon.

Describe the way it moves gracefully and powerfully through the air, its sharp, piercing eyes, and its curved, strong beak. Use words like soaring, diving, sleek, majestic, and focused to help bring the falcon to life.

Make sure your description is no longer than one A4 page.

Deadline: Wednesday, 11th December.

Hand it in to your class teacher. Make sure your name and class are clearly written at the top.

We are excited to invite students to participate in our Qatar National Day Home Competition. Please find the details below.



RACHEL CLARKE
Primary Assistant Head/ KS1 Leader



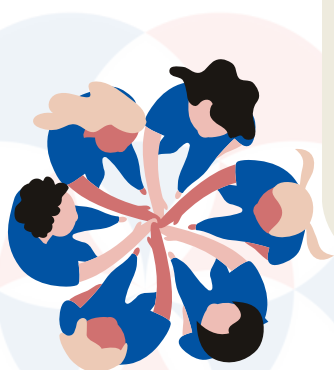


PARENT VOICE

We invite all parents across the school to engage in this anonymous survey. The information gathered from our parents will be used to inform our Online Safety parent workshops in January. You may complete additional forms for all your children or choose to complete one.

[Parent Online Safety Survey](#)

DIANE LONGMORE
Assistant Head of Primary Pastoral



PARENTS SURVEY

2024-2025

FRIENDS OF DBS

PRESENTS

WINTER

FAIR



WE THANK YOU
for your constant support!

Dear Parents,

Following another successful Winter Fair we would like to invite you to complete a short survey [here](#).

Your feedback will help us to make next year's event even better!

Friends of DBS



SAFEGUARDING & WELLBEING

CREATING A SAFE SPACE

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about **LEGO FORTNITE**

Epic Games have recently introduced three new game modes to Fortnite: Rocket Racing, Fortnite Festival and, finally, Lego Fortnite: a survival game using official Lego characters. There are lots of great mechanics that encourage creativity in children, but – as with any online game – it's important to stay aware of the potential risks.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

MONETISATION

Lego Fortnite utilises a similar online item shop to the main Fortnite game. When this title was released, the makers introduced thousands of Lego versions of the original game's character skins. Owning an original Fortnite cosmetic means you also own the LEGO version at no extra cost, but the addition of these extra versions could potentially spark new interest in young players, making it more tempting to pay real money for these in-game accessories.

ONLINE PLAY

LEGO Fortnite can be played online, as with the base game. While a player's LEGO world is private when it's first created, they can then invite anyone on their in-game friends list to play with them. If any strangers are on this friends list, they can be invited onto their server. Thankfully, Epic Games has implemented a solid reporting system, as well as tools to kick other players from the game.

FEAR FACTOR

There is no explicit violence in Lego Fortnite, but there is a lot of combat. While the battles in Lego Fortnite remain very cartoonish and child friendly, a lot of the action unfolds inside dark caves, with spiders, skeletons or scary-looking monsters. The game can get a little spooky at times, which could potentially scare younger players.

COMPLEX GAMEPLAY

Lego Fortnite is a survival game, though it's not as simple as something like Minecraft. There are lots of different crafting stations and loads of items to use or combine (including various rarities to seek out and harvest). The gathering and crafting elements of the game can get quite complicated and confusing, which could be a source of frustration for some younger players.

Advice for Parents & Educators

LEGO IS FRIENDLY

Much like real Lego, this game is incredibly inviting. It's friendly, fun and accessible: a younger player could still enjoy this title even if they'd never played Fortnite before. With sanitised violence, it's a far more family-friendly gaming experience all round – worth bearing in mind if you're concerned about children and young people being exposed to violent or frightening content.

SET LITTLE CHALLENGES

As we've noted, the game is a lot more difficult than it may seem, which could be frustrating or upsetting for some younger players. While the game does a good job of setting realistic targets for players, it can still feel overwhelming. If parents suggest smaller challenges – such as building a house – children can flex their creativity, express themselves with their builds and feel a real sense of accomplishment.

PLAY TOGETHER

Take some time to play the game together. Not only will that help with some of the complicated tasks, but it's also just a fun pastime. Playing with family members also reduces the potential for younger players to invite strangers to enjoy the game with – if any are on their friends list. Furthermore, playing with children will let you more effectively limit their time spent on the game. Instead of "switch it off", you can now say "let's play some more later!"

MONITOR SPENDING

If a child has provided their parents' email address and been given consent to make in-game purchases, it's worth keeping an eye on how much gets spent on the in-game currency, V-Bucks. It's very tempting to buy character skins in LEGO form, as a way of expressing yourself and looking cool and unique. As you may know already, the average skin costs between £6-18, which can add up very quickly if not tracked and limited. Keep in mind that you can make it necessary to enter a PIN code to validate every purchase using the game's parental controls, and you can prevent the game from saving your payment information whenever you make a purchase. Furthermore, players under-13 automatically have their spending limited to \$100 (£78.55) per day.

Meet Our Expert

Daniel Lipscombe is a writer specialising in technology, video gaming, virtual reality, augmented reality and Web3. He has also written 15 guidebooks for children, covering games such as Fortnite, Apex Legends, Valorant, Roblox and Minecraft. With work published by the likes of PC Gamer, Kotaku, Pocket Gamer and VG247, he has reviewed more than 50 games and products over the past year.








PRIMARY LIBRARY HIGHLIGHT

MEET OUR TOP 26 LIBRARY MASCOT DESIGNS!



We asked children to design a Primary Library mascot, and the response was phenomenal! We have shortlisted 26 entries and are asking the DBS community to vote for their favourite. All designs are on display in the school foyer, including the 26.

Simply write the number of your favourite on a voting slip (all finalists are numbered) and pop it in the box. Our winning mascot will be announced next Thursday!

Well done to all our designers, and good luck to our top 26!!

Please ensure that all books are returned to the library next week. We require all books to be returned over the school winter holiday.



DIANA JANE APPARELEY
Librarian



GABRIELLA HORTELIO
Librarian Assistant



Holiday Book Lending

We are lending books to children over the holiday.

Please ensure that they know their library day and return books in their yellow folders.





EXCELLENCE IN EVERY MATCH

UPDATE IN SPORTS



A Term of Unbeaten Streaks and Outstanding Performances

Our Year 6 boys have had an incredible term, winning the U11's football league with an unbeatable record! They achieved a flawless 8 wins out of 8 matches, scoring an impressive 28 goals while conceding only 3. Additionally, the team earned two silver medals for reaching the finals in U11's tournaments, narrowly missing out during penalty shootouts. We eagerly anticipate seeing them in action at two major tournaments in January – QPPSSA and BSME.

In another exciting event, the DBS PE department organised a fantastic cross-country meet at Oxygen Park, with over 500 pupils participating. Our Year 3, 4, 5, and 6 students demonstrated resilience and determination, running distances of 1.5km to 2km. Their collective effort secured DBS an impressive 4th place out of 10 schools.



DOHA BRITISH SCHOOL

LIONS



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Our Year 3, 4, 5, and 6 students demonstrated resilience and determination, running distances of 1.5km to 2km. Their collective effort secured DBS an impressive 4th place out of 10 schools.



"Well done to all our students for their remarkable achievements and sportsmanship this term!"

PRIMARY PE TEACHER | UMAR ZAMAN





PRESCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

THIS WEEK IN PRESCHOOL



Summary of the Week

This week, the children were captivated by learning about different farm animals and their babies. They enjoyed exploring the names, sounds, and habitats of these animals through engaging stories and activities. It was wonderful to see their curiosity and excitement!

In Phonics

The children had a fantastic time playing musical instruments. This activity not only made learning fun but also helped them develop their listening and rhythm skills while singing along to familiar songs.

In Maths

The children were busy exploring repeating patterns such as "blue, red, blue, red." They showed great enthusiasm as they practised creating and identifying these patterns using colourful objects.

Home Activities

Practise the Nursery Rhyme:
[Old MacDonald had a farm](#)

Teacher's Message

We are excited to celebrate **Qatar National Day on Tuesday, 17th December!** Children are welcome to come dressed in traditional Qatari clothes or the colours of the Qatari flag.

Please note:

- Children do not need to bring lunch but should bring a small snack for breakfast.
- For our buffet lunch, kindly send a plate of food to share (e.g., sandwiches, mini pizzas, chicken nuggets, vegetables).
- We are a nut-free school, so please avoid any nut products.
- If your child has dietary requirements or allergies, please inform the class teacher.

We kindly ask children to bring a photograph of themselves at a famous landmark in Qatar, such as Souq Waqif, Place Vendôme, or the Museum of Islamic Art, to share with their class as part of our Qatar National Day celebrations.

Thank you for your support as we celebrate this special day together!

Next Week

We will continue our theme of Old MacDonald Had a Farm with more fun activities. We are also looking forward to celebrating Qatar National Day with the children, creating a festive atmosphere filled with joy and learning.

Thank you for your ongoing support. Wishing you a lovely weekend!





RECEPTION HIGHLIGHTS

THIS WEEK IN RECEPTION



In Maths

We will be revising the numbers to 7 and our number bonds.

Summary of The Week

We had a lot of fun last week learning about the artist Van Gogh and recreating some of his famous paintings.

Next Week

We will be consolidating and revising our Phonics and red words. We will be writing some simple sentences.



In Spanish

Our Reception students are wrapping up the topic of greetings with a comprehensive recap of everything they've learned over the past weeks.

The Spanish Department couldn't be prouder of their effort and the confidence they've displayed throughout the term.

Teacher's Message:

Thank you to everyone who came to play and learn with us during the Learning Together Time in Reception. The children love having their family to explore their learning environment with them.

Home Activities:

We have put together some interactive games for the children to play over the winter break. The games consist of activities for the children to practise what we have learned in Maths, Phonics and reading this term. This will be shared on class dojo.





GYMNASTICS ACADEMY

ARTISTIC GYMNASTICS. PARKOUR. YOGA. ECA / ASA



Winter Wonderland Camp at Doha British School Ain Khaled!

Get ready for an unforgettable winter break filled with laughter, adventure, and creativity! Rebel Angels Sports Academy invites all kids to join our Winter Wonderland Camp, where fun meets excitement and memories are made.

Dates:

- 29th December to 2nd January

Time: 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Activities Include:

Gymnastics & Parkour

Zumba & Yoga

Lego Building & Arts and Crafts

Fun Team Games

And so much more to keep every camper engaged and smiling!

Surprise Guest Appearance: Something magical awaits—don't miss it!

Location: Doha British School Ain Khaled

Fee: 750 QAR per child

Secure Your Spot Now!

Register via this link:

<https://www.rebelangels.qa/winter-camp>

Hurry! Limited Slots Available!

For more details, contact us at:

+974 3355 2290

+974 3355 9983

Don't miss out on the best Winter Holiday Camp experience!

See you there!

Rebel Angels GYMNASTICS ACADEMY PRESENTS:
**WINTER WONDERLAND
camp 2024**

Dec 29 – Jan 2

A SURPRISE GUEST APPEARANCE!

ACTIVITIES:
GYMNASTICS, PARKOUR & ACROBATICS, TEAM BUILDING GAMES, KIDS ZUMBA, ARTS AND CRAFTS AND MANY MORE!

3355 2290 | 3355 9983 | www.rebelangels.qa

ANNA ROSSA-ZALEWSKI

Founder & Managing Director

Rebel Angels Sports Academy Qatar

GYMNASTICS | CHEERLEADING | PARKOUR





UNLOCK FUTURE-READY SKILLS

AI & ROBOTICS WINTER CAMP 2024 - EXTENDED REGISTRATION DEADLINE: DECEMBER 19, 2024



Massachusetts
Institute of
Technology



AI & ROBOTICS WINTER CAMP 2024

Certified Programme | Earn a Digital Badge via 

Extended Registration Deadline:
December 19th, 2024!

Managed by 



Camp Details

- **Dates:** December 22, 2024 – January 2, 2025 (2 weeks)
- **Location:** City University Qatar - Lusail Campus
- **Language:** English Only
- **Timing:** 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Why Join?

- **Hands-On Learning:** Master Python programming, Arduino, and robotics systems
- **Advanced Concepts:** Explore AI/ML, including machine learning and computer vision
- **Career-Ready Skills:** Build leadership, teamwork, and entrepreneurial expertise
- **Project-Based Learning:** Design, build, and present your own robotics system

Certified Programme – Receive a Digital Badge via Credly upon successful completion

Program Fee: QR 4,600 (Limited Seats)

Seats are Limited! Don't miss this chance to elevate your STEM journey.

[Register Now](#)





Thank You