



مدرسة الدوحة البريطانية
DOHA BRITISH SCHOOL
AIN KHALED



Secondary Newsletter

16th January 2025

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

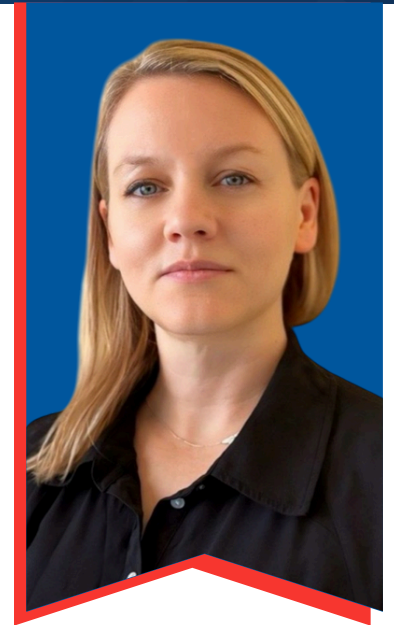


Welcome to Doha British Schools

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



It has been another dynamic week at DBS filled with special moments to share with you.

I thoroughly enjoyed meeting with our Friends of DBS committee this week as we reflected on Term 1 and planned future events that will bring our vibrant community together. The dedication and creativity shown by our parent volunteers continues to enrich our school.

Our Extended Essay evening proved to be an enlightening experience for both IB students and parents. Witnessing our young scholars share their research journeys and academic insights demonstrated the depth of learning taking place in our IB Programme.

The mock examination results have provided valuable insights for our students. While celebrating their achievements, we're also embracing the learning opportunities these assessments have revealed, using them to prepare strategically for the final examinations ahead.

The school has been absolutely buzzing this week with STEAM activities. Our corridors and classrooms are alive with innovation as students immerse themselves in various challenges and activities.

Our students have also been engaged in various enriching educational visits this week. These valuable experiences beyond our classroom walls enhance their understanding and bring learning to life. Meanwhile, our teachers have been engaging with Comparative Judgement to ensure robust and consistent assessment standards. We have also commenced our CAT4 assessments with Year 9, providing us with valuable data to support the options process.

Indeed, it has been a week filled with purposeful activity and achievement across our school community - and it's only week 2!

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.





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HEAD OF SECONDARY (INTERIM) MESSAGE

MR. TIMOTHY BAYLEY

This has proved to be another successful week for our school, highlights on both academic and sporting fronts. We have celebrated STEAM with our Design Technology Department and some excellent displays ensured our students won the U19 Quesq Boys Basketball Championship. Our Year 8 students demonstrated teamwork and resilience as they explored Katara participating in an algebraic equation solving scavenger hunt, much fun was had by all.

Our main focus this week has been on preparing our Year 11 IGCSE and Year 13 IB students to receive their mocks results, which happened today. These exams provide a valuable opportunity for both students and teachers to assess progress and identify areas for improvement before the upcoming final examinations. We encourage all students to review their results carefully with their parents and, if necessary, seek guidance from their teachers to better understand their strengths and areas where further focus is needed. For students who may feel disappointed with their performance, please remember that mock exams are designed as a tool for learning, and there is still plenty of time to refine your understanding and skills before the final assessments.

We strongly encourage a proactive approach and assure you that support is available through our staff, including one-on-one meetings or additional revision sessions. We understand that receiving exam results can be an emotional experience, and we urge students to view this feedback in a constructive manner. It is an essential part of the educational journey, providing insight into how to maximize potential in the remaining months of the academic year. This coming Wednesday provides opportunities to explore next steps at the Year 11 Parent Teacher Conference and I would encourage as many families as possible to attend.

Next week our focus is on Languages week which culminates in International Day on Thursday. This is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate our truly international community.





DBS AK

CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE

THRIVING TOGETHER

VICE PRINCIPAL MESSAGE

DR. LUKE CHEATER



DBS COMMUNITY

This week, I am delighted to share some inspiring insights into both our alumni's remarkable achievements and our continued commitment to educational excellence.

Our DBS graduates continue to make waves across the professional world, exemplifying the far-reaching impact of our educational philosophy. From pioneering business leaders who are reshaping global markets to dedicated medical professionals advancing healthcare frontiers, and communications experts transforming business landscapes – our alumni are truly making their mark. These success stories serve as powerful inspiration for our current students, showing them the diverse pathways a DBS education can unlock. If you are interested in learning more, please download our most recent Alumni Newsletter ([here](#)).

What makes these achievements particularly meaningful is how they embody our core mission: developing not just academically successful students, but well-rounded professionals who make meaningful contributions to society. Our growing network of alumni continues to innovate and lead across continents, creating a legacy that reinforces our commitment to excellence. If you are an alumni of DBS, or know of others - join our growing LinkedIn network!

FROM ALUMNI TO ENHANCED LEARNING





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](#)



NICOLA WILKES
Deputy Head of Secondary: Pastoral





SUPPORTING ACADEMIC SUCCESS

MOCK EXAMINATIONS

Setting Goals for

SUCCESS IN 2025

Inspiring Students to Achieve Academic Excellence and Personal Growth.



Pamela Gibb
Deputy Head: Academic



As we welcome a new year, it's the perfect opportunity for students to reflect on their progress and set fresh academic goals. Whether it's improving grades, staying organised, or mastering a challenging subject, small, achievable resolutions can make a big difference.

For students preparing for their AS or A-Level January exams, setting clear, achievable goals can make a significant difference. Whether it's aiming for higher grades, staying on top of coursework, or mastering difficult topics, prioritising consistency and balance is key. Study plans should focus on breaking down the syllabus into manageable chunks and allocating time for each subject based on strengths and areas needing improvement. Using tools like revision timetables, subject checklists, and past paper practice can enhance preparation.

Time management is critical at this stage. Students should aim to balance their studies with rest and relaxation to avoid burnout. Regularly reviewing and revising material, rather than cramming, helps build confidence and retention.

Additionally, leveraging online resources, apps, and study groups can provide varied and engaging ways to learn.

Parents can play a supportive role by encouraging these habits, providing constructive feedback, and celebrating milestones along the way. Guiding students to maintain a positive mindset and seek help when needed will ensure they are well-prepared throughout their academic journey.

Let's make 2025 a year of growth and success together!





LIBRARY HIGHLIGHTS

STAY TUNED!



Rima El Murr
Secondary Librarian

Dive into the Winter Reading Challenge!

As the winter season settles in, it's the perfect time to cozy up with a good book! We are excited to announce our **Winter Reading Challenge**, designed to inspire our students to explore our books and expand their reading horizons.

Challenge Details:

- Duration: 16th January - 16th February 2025
- Goal: Read a minimum of three books selected by the Librarian, and write about their themes, characters, and style.
- Prizes: Gift vouchers, house points, and books!

We encourage everyone to welcome our new monitors (they have their badge on their shirts) and seek their assistance when needed. Their role is vital in creating a positive library experience for all staff and students.

Cozy Up with Stories and Win Exciting Prizes

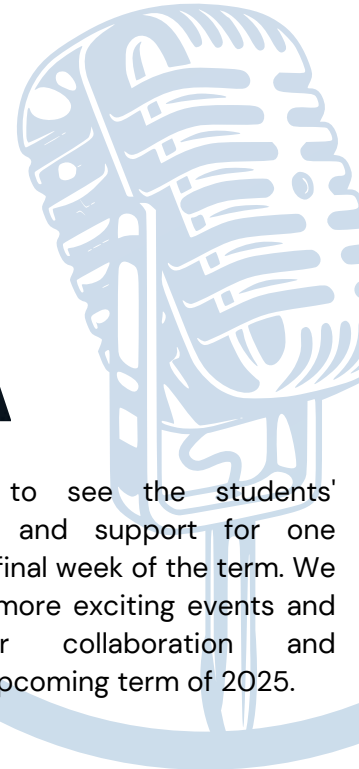




HOUSE COMPETITION: RAP BATTLE IN THE QUAD

CELEBRATING CREATIVITY AND TEAM SPIRIT THROUGH MUSIC

House Rap Battle



At the end of last term, the English Department hosted their first house competition of the year—a lively and engaging rap battle in the quad. Students from various year groups enthusiastically participated, taking to the stage to perform their pre-prepared raps in front of their peers.

It was inspiring to see the students' creativity, energy, and support for one another during the final week of the term. We eagerly anticipate more exciting events and opportunities for collaboration and celebration in the upcoming term of 2025.

The audience played an active role in the event, voting for their favourite performance through their cheers and applause.

A Rhythmic Finale to the Term





HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE ARABIC DEPARTMENT

LEARNING ABOUT CULTURE AND SAFETY



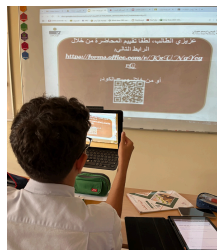
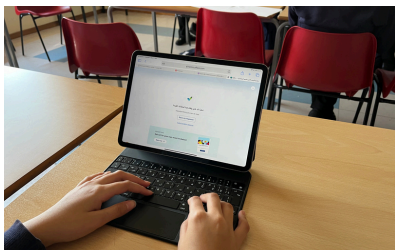
Mohamed Elsayy
Subject Leader: Arabic



At the end of last term, the Arabic Department organised a memorable National Day celebration, featuring a variety of engaging activities. Students and teachers enjoyed traditional food and drinks, an impressive falcon show, and a beautifully set up Arab Majlis, showcasing the richness of local culture. The event fostered a sense of appreciation and joy among the school community.

In addition, the department actively participated in the Safe Navigation initiative by the Ministry of Education. Through activities such as storytelling, electronic games, presentations, and lectures, students were encouraged to engage thoughtfully with digital safety and awareness.

These initiatives highlighted the Arabic Department's dedication to celebrating cultural heritage while promoting modern educational values.





SIXTH FORM SPOTLIGHT

CAS ARTICLE



YEAR 130



**MARTHA
GERELLA**

From Awareness to Action

As part of our IB CAS project, a group of us decided to tackle a vital issue: raising awareness about breast cancer. The journey began with brainstorming sessions to align our passion with CAS's core elements—creativity, activity, and service. Together, we spent a month meticulously planning a campaign that would educate our school community while fostering engagement and empathy.

One of the most meaningful parts of this tradition is a collective artwork project. This year, the centerpiece was a large breast cancer ribbon that served as a canvas for our entire school community. Students and teachers added their thumbprint to the ribbon, symbolizing their commitment to raising awareness and supporting the cause. The vibrant mosaic of thumbprints represented individuality within unity—each print unique, yet part of a larger, powerful message.

As the ribbon filled with colorful thumbprints, the artwork became a living testament to our solidarity. The activity not only provided a creative outlet but also sparked conversations about the importance of early detection, support systems, and advocacy for those impacted by breast cancer.

Execution and Community Involvement

We coordinated with teachers and administrators to conduct assemblies tailored to different age groups. For younger students, we used engaging visuals to simplify the message.

For older students, we incorporated statistics and videos to provoke thoughtful discussions.

The highlight was the assemblies where we engaged students through videos, speeches, and Q&A sessions. Our goal was not only to inform but also to inspire the community to take proactive measures like regular check-ups and healthy lifestyle choices.

Reflection and Impact

Looking back, the campaign was a resounding success. We reached hundreds of students and staff, sparked meaningful conversations, and raised funds through breast cancer themed bake sales to engage more people. More importantly, it was a powerful reminder of how collaborative action can create meaningful change. Through this experience, we not only served others but also grew as empathetic and informed global citizens.

CAS truly allowed us to merge creativity with impact, leaving a lasting imprint on our school and ourselves.





"Light the Bulb"

Challenge!

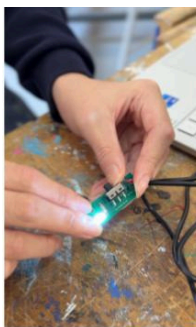
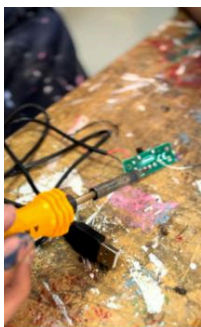
This STEAM Week, the Design & Technology department lit up students' imaginations with an exciting challenge: "Light the Bulb"! Students from different houses participated in this hands-on activity, where they soldered their own LED circuits to create working lightbulbs.




The challenge introduced students to the basics of electrical circuits, including the use of components like resistors, wires, and LEDs. It was an incredible opportunity for them to learn key concepts in electrical engineering while putting their problem-solving and fine motor skills to the test.

Beyond the technical skills, the activity fostered **creativity, collaboration, and teamwork**, as students worked together to ensure their circuits lit up successfully. Watching their lightbulbs glow was not only rewarding but also a testament to their effort and growing confidence in design and technology.

This engaging activity highlighted the fun and innovative spirit of STEAM education, inspiring our students to explore the world of design and engineering in new ways.



Well done to all participants for bringing their circuits to life and making STEAM Week a glowing success! 





@hamiltonaquatics_doha

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AQUATICS

KEEP THE PROGRESS GOING WITH

HAMILTON Aquatics

FROM THE LEARNER POOL TO THE INTERNATIONAL PODIUM



OUR PROGRAMMES

Our programmes are designed for different ages and ambitions while keeping your progress & development as our top priority.

LEARN TO SWIM



SQUADS

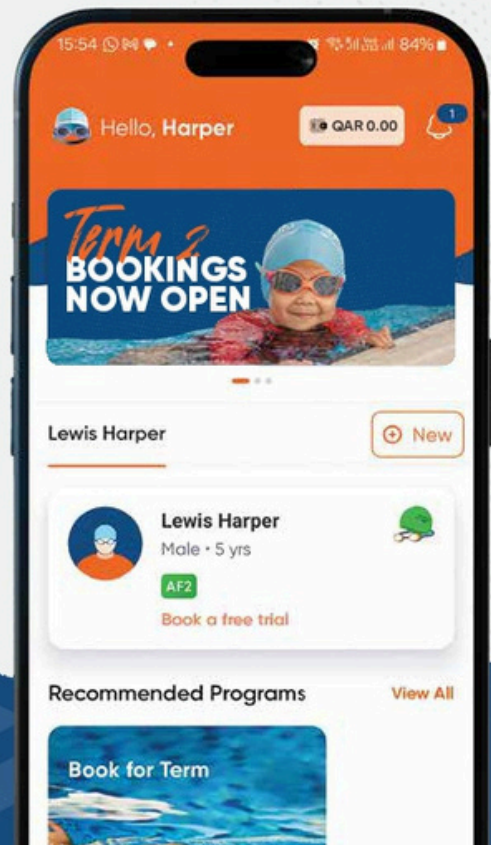


PARENT & CHILD



TO START YOUR SWIM JOURNEY: Register now for a free online or in-person assessment

Get swimming with the
Hamilton Aquatics App



SCAN FOR MORE

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PROGRAMMES HIGHLIGHTS

Expert Coaching

Small Class Sizes

Progressive Curriculum

Emphasis on Water Confidence



LEARN TO SWIM LESSON FEES

Our swim season is divided into two terms. Each term is 20-21 weeks long.

Level 1-4 & Bronze	Silver	Gold and Platinum
Lesson Duration : 30 mins	Lesson Duration : 45 mins	Lesson Duration : 1 hour
Price /Lesson: QAR 100	Price /Lesson: QAR 105	Price /Lesson: QAR 110
Price /Term: QAR 2000	Price /Term: QAR 2100	Price /Term: QAR 2200

Fees will be calculated on a pro rata basis for mid-term bookings.

Book your first lesson with us today!



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The image features a solid blue background with a pattern of overlapping, semi-transparent circles of varying shades. A white, stylized speech bubble graphic is positioned on the right side, partially overlapping the circles. The text "Thank You" is centered within the speech bubble.

Thank You