

19TH APRIL 2018

THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

The latest news and updates from the RGSGQ
www.rgsgq.com



RGS Dates For Your Diary

Sunday 22nd April –
Thursday 26th April:
Arts Week

Tuesday 1st May: Key
Stage 2 trip to the
Circus

Wednesday 2nd May:
Parents Monthly
Coffee Morning

The RGS Debate!

Developing speaking and listening skills, together with the confidence to speak to an audience are important skills we support pupils to develop at the RGS. As part of this Mr Trace arranged a debating competition for pupils in Key Stage 1 and 2 this week.

The question for the debate was 'Should pupils wear school uniform at the RGS?' and it certainly sparked some interesting discussion! Pupils worked together in their House teams throughout the week to decide on their main points and who would present them. Then on Thursday during assembly pupil representatives from each House presented their arguments.

There were lots of excellent points raised, both for and against wearing school uniform, with arguments and counter arguments going backwards and forwards. Powell and Beckingham both felt that school uniform should not be worn and put forward numerous strong arguments, particularly relating to ties! Powell felt school uniform was uncomfortable, especially in hot weather, however Nettles pointed out that both short and long sleeved shirts are available, and trousers, shorts or skorts can be worn at different times of year. Jumpers and fleeces are also available in the cooler months.



Valpy were passionate about wearing school uniform to represent the RGS and show pride in our school, while Austen added that school uniform helped with equality as all pupils wear the same, no matter what clothes they have at home. Hamad argued that wearing school uniform could prevent pupils getting lost while on school trips but this was countered by Beckingham who pointed out that teachers wear their own clothes and a RGS lanyard so pupils could do the same. The lanyards could also have contact details of the school on them which would provide more information than if a child was just in their RGS school uniform!

It really was a highly enjoyable and entertaining debate as arguments were put forward and justified. Mr Trace and I awarded first place to Nettles who were represented by Zaynab. She started with the questions 'Do you want RGS children to always feel equal to each other? Do you want RGS children to feel happy?' before going on to make numerous excellent arguments for wearing school uniform. She delivered these with confidence and expression while on stage and made an excellent case for keeping school uniform. Beckingham and Powell claimed second and third place respectively.

Congratulations Nurse Odessa!

I am thrilled to announce that last weekend Nurse Odessa gave birth to a baby girl. Baby Ilyzabeth and Nurse Odessa are now at home and both doing well. I am sure our whole school community will join me in congratulating Nurse Odessa and wishing her all the very best for this exciting next chapter in her life.

Award Winning Author to visit the RGS

We are delighted that on Sunday 6th May, award winning author Ruth Eastham will be visiting our school. As you might be aware, promoting reading has been a whole school focus this year and we are sure that Ruth's visit will support our pupils to develop a love for reading, inspire writing and fire their imaginations.

Ruth's books have won many awards. Her debut, *The Memory Cage*, was shortlisted for the Waterstones Children's Book Prize and nominated for the Carnegie Medal. She is Patron of Reading at schools in both the Midlands and Cheshire in the UK, and has been a speaker at many literature events, including the Edinburgh Book Festival.

Ruth will spend time with all year groups and have extended sessions with Key Stage 2 pupils to support them with their writing. At the end of the day Ruth will be delighted to sign copies of her books so that pupils can treasure the memory of meeting a real life author!

Mr. Trace will send out further details in the coming days, but if you have any questions please contact him.



Arts Week

Next week is Arts Week at the RGS! Throughout the week pupils in all year groups will complete individual and collaborative pieces of work linked to the theme of 'Famous Artists.' Different classes will be exploring artists including Jackson Pollock, Andy Warhol, Katsushika Hokusai and many more. Pupils will also take part in music workshops as we celebrate these important areas of the curriculum.

The following week, on Thursday 3rd May, there will be an opportunity to view the art work at our Arts Exhibition in the main school atrium. Parents are invited into school to view the art work alongside their children and then stay for a short assembly at 7.55am which will highlight what the pupils have been learning about and showcase some musical pieces.

If you have any questions, please speak to your class teacher.

Have a great weekend and I will see you all on Sunday for the start of Arts Week!

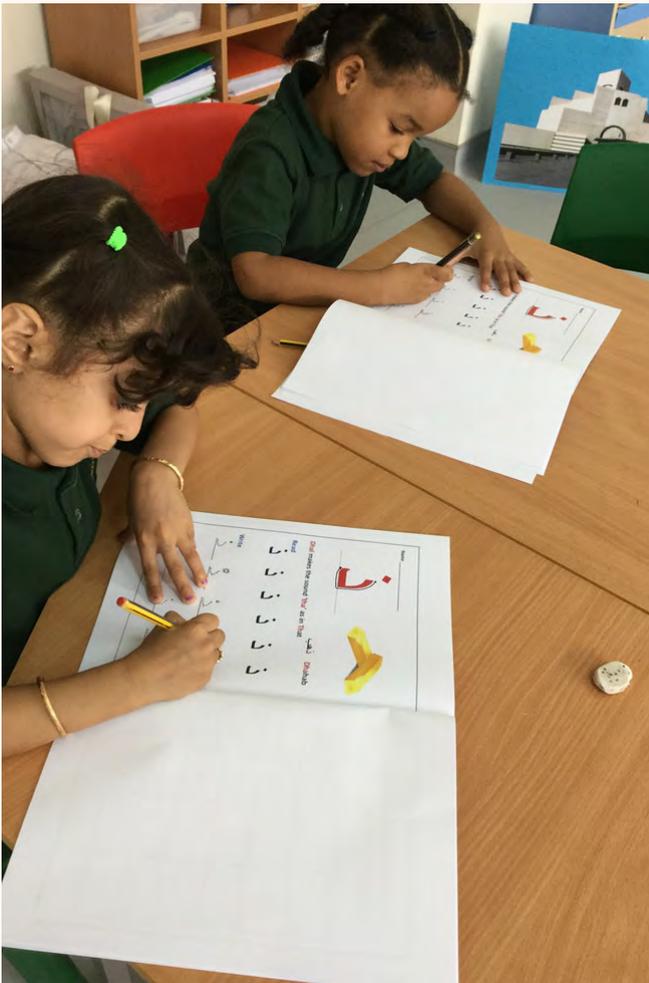
Mr. Downs

Arabic at the RGS

Learning with enthusiasm is our goal during Arabic lessons at the RGS! We ensure that the style of learning Early Years pupils are familiar with is transferred to Arabic lessons, so many of our lessons involve songs, stories and arts and crafts. Pupils in Nursery are currently learning to recognise colours, shapes, numbers and letters, while our Reception pupils are starting to prepare for Year 1 by practicing their reading, writing and pronunciation of letters.

Key Stage 1 and 2 pupils follow the curriculum set by the Ministry of Education. Similarly to Early Years, we feel that the style of learning during Arabic lessons is aligned to the RGS and so lessons are often 'hands on' and brought to life through interactive games using IT, role play, discussion and group work.





If any parents wish to discuss the Arabic curriculum or their child's progress, then please don't hesitate to contact me.

Mrs Ghabbach

House Point Hero's

The School Council have been busy today thinking about how they could improve the house point system at the RGSGQ. After meeting with me to discuss how house points are given out and rewarded, the School Council decided it would be good to reward those who get the most house points every half term. They had so many ideas they decided to ask the rest of the school to vote on their favourite. The most popular ideas were; movie and snack, extra playtime, tea party/ picnic and a trip to the park. This is how it will work...At the end of term a pupil from each class with the most house points will be given the title of 'House Point Hero' and will enjoy one of the above rewards. The first House Point Heroes will be rewarded in the last week of this term; KS1 and KS2 with a movie and snack and the top scoring pupils in Early Years will receive a tea party!

Now not only will pupils be collecting house points towards their house team's total, they will also be able to receive a personal reward for their efforts.

Who will be our first 9 House Point Heroes?!

Mrs Stuart



Community Events

Below is a list of upcoming events in Doha that our parent community have shared:

Al Bidda Park Spring Bazaar: March and April at Al Bidda Park

Souq Waqif Spring Festival: Until 25th April (www.souqwaqiffestival.qa/)

If you know of any events planned for the future, please let the School know so we can pass this information to our school community.

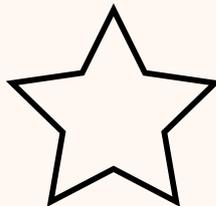
Weekly Awards

RGS Superstars

Each week RGS Superstar certificates are awarded to pupils from each class who have excelled in an area of school life during the week. Pupils receive these awards for demonstrating one of the RGS Learning Habits and becoming a member of our RGS Super Squad!

This week the following pupils received one of these special awards:

Nursery Seahorses: **Sara**
 Nursery Starfish: **Saad**
 Reception Dolphins: **Emma**
 Reception Turtles: **Ssanyu**



Year 1 Meerkats: **Lamar**
 Year 1 Giraffes: **Wali**
 Year 2 Lions: **Tameem**
 Year 3/4: **Afrani**
 Year 5/6: **Ahmed**



Class of the Week

Maintaining high levels of attendance and punctuality at school are essential for pupils to ensure they maximise their learning time in school and reach their full potential; academically, socially and emotionally.

Each week Class of the Week trophies are awarded to the classes who achieve the highest weekly attendance and who achieve the highest percentage of punctual pupils arriving by 7.45am. This week saw **Nursery Seahorses** and **Year 1 Giraffes** share the trophy for the highest weekly attendance, while **Nursery Starfish**, **Reception Dolphins** and **Year 2 Lions** claimed the trophy for on time arrival.

Thank you very much for ensuring your children arrive at school on time each day and do not miss school unnecessarily.

Top Table

To promote healthy eating and good table manners, pupils who demonstrate excellent behaviour, eating habits and manners during snack time and lunch time throughout the week are invited to eat lunch on the 'Top Table' at the end of the week.

On Thursday I enjoyed eating lunch with **Omar** (Reception Dolphins), **Amirah** (Reception Turtles), **Reemas** (Year 1 Meerkats), **Abdulaziz** (Year 1 Giraffes), **Mohammed** (Year 2), **Bilal** (Year 3/4) and **Hessah** (Year 5/6)



RGS Diary Dates

Sunday 22nd April – Thursday 26th April: Arts Week

Tuesday 1st May: Key Stage 2 trip to the Circus

Wednesday 2nd May: Parents Monthly Coffee Morning

Thursday 3rd May: Arts Week Exhibition

Sunday 6th May: Ruth Eastham visit to the RGS

Thursday 10th May: Nursery Starfish Class Assembly

Monday 14th May: Reception Pirates trip to the Beach

Monday 14th May: Key Stage 2 Lion King Performance

Sunday 20th May – Wednesday 23rd May: Science and Technology Week

Thursday 24th May – Sunday 27th May: Half Term (School Closed)

Monday 28th May: First Day of Term 3.2

Monday 4th June: 2018/19 Transition Morning

Wednesday 6th June: Parents Monthly Coffee Morning