

THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

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



RGS Dates For Your Diary

Sunday 21st January –
Thursday 25th
January: Maths Week

Thursday 25th January:
School Council Non
Uniform Day

Tuesday 13th
February: Qatar
National Sports Day
School Event

RGS Maths Champion

This week we held a House Maths Quiz, as suggested by Sultan in Year 3/4. Throughout the week pupils in Reception to Year 6 completed a series of questions in their classes to find their class champion and then on Thursday in assembly those pupils competed against each other answering age appropriate questions.

Sultan wrote the following about the Maths quiz:

Today we had a maths challenge at RGS. I came up with the idea of a maths challenge because I wanted to see who was the best at Maths and help children become quicker at answering questions in maths. So I decided to tell Mr Downs about the competition and he agreed to hold one.

*As part of the Maths challenge we had to find out the quickest in each class and then we held a final for all the winners in the hall. We had to answer 4 questions on what we had learnt in our classes and the fastest person to answer won. This was **Wali in Year 1**. I hope in the future we can have more maths challenges.*

Thank you
Sultan K



Also on Thursday pupils in Key Stage 1 and 2 teamed up in their Houses to take part in an additional Maths quiz organised by their teachers. Questions were set so all pupils could take part, no matter what their age or mathematical ability and it looked like lots of fun!

The winning House team was **Nettles**.

The Chair Champs Winners:

1st - **Wali** (Giraffes) - (20 house points)

2nd - **Ssubi** (Year 5/ 6) - (10 house points)

3rd - **Sultan K** (Year 3/ 4) - (5 house points)

In the final week of the current half term before the January holiday there will be lots more opportunities to get involved in Maths as we hold Maths Week at the RGS.

More information to follow soon!



News from Early Years

Early Years have had a great start to the new term with Reception's topic 'Terrific Toys' and Nursery's topic 'How Does Your Garden Grow?'

After the holidays the Reception children arrived back to school to find a letter from Hamad the bear to say he'd left his picnic basket at the RGS. The children used their phonics skills to decode and follow the clues to find the picnic basket. Hamad the bear has also been asking the children to help him learn the alphabet and sort his toys into the correct order.

The children in Reception have been enjoying using their new toy shops. As well as learning to recognize and spend money, the children have learned about earning money by doing jobs around the classroom (toy money, of course!) to spend in their toy shop.

In Nursery the children started the term focusing on good manners and behaviour. You might have spotted some familiar faces in their 'garden of manners' and 'good to be green' displays outside the classrooms. This week the children have been introduced to the characters from Jack and the Beanstalk. They have enjoyed acting out the story, creating weird and wonderful beans, planting their own beans and using plans to learn about tall and short. All the children in Nursery are enjoying their new garden shop role play areas outside and have been busy making flowers and seeds to sell.

Both Miss Min and I have been impressed by how quickly the children have settled back into school life after the break and would like to thank all Nursery parents for your continued support





Parent and Pupil Feedback Survey

At the end of Term 1 pupils and parents were asked to complete feedback surveys as we continually seek to improve as a school.

Pupils in Key Stage 1 and 2 completed their surveys in school which revealed that 98% of pupils enjoy coming to school and feel safe. As a school this is our number one priority and I was delighted that pupils confirmed they are happy coming to the RGS.

100% of pupils agreed that they have good relationships with the teachers in school and 94% agreed that they were making good progress with their learning. 10% of pupils however disagreed with the statement 'I am aware of my own targets.' Therefore, we have added this into our school development plan for the current academic year to ensure all pupils are aware of where they are in their learning journey and what they are working towards. Amongst the other results, 21% of pupils did not feel they had gone on interesting school trips during Term 1 and 4% of pupils did not agree with the statement 'there is a good choice of clubs after school.' These are areas we will also be addressing in the coming terms.

I was very pleased that 39% of families completed the parents' survey and I would like to thank all those who took their time to do so. The results were overwhelmingly positive with 100% of those who completed the survey agreeing that their child enjoys coming to school and that there are good relationships between teachers and children. 100% of parents also felt that the school helped their child to settle when first joining the School and that the School treats their child fairly and with respect.

Academically, 100% of parents agreed that the School encourages their child to work to the best of their ability, and that they are making good academic progress

Although the survey results are highly positive, two areas for improvement were highlighted, which mirror the pupil survey results. 4% and 10% of respondents respectively from the parent survey did not agree with the statements 'there is a good range of extra-curricular activities' and 'there is a good range of trips and visits for my child to take part in.' These areas were amongst the least high scoring from the pupil survey as well and clearly shows that we need to address this.

As always, if you have any comments, questions, queries or suggestions, please contact me or a member of staff at any time. If you are unsure who to contact please speak to the school office, contact me, or view our complaints policy on the school website.

Have a great weekend and I will see you next week.

Mr Downs

Museum of Islamic Art

On Tuesday 9th January 2018 we, Edison Class, went to the Museum of Islamic Art. We went there to look at and sketch what a museum looks like so that we could gain ideas when designing our own museum for our topic on Vikings.

When we arrived at the museum, we sat by the sea and drew the museum from the outside and other buildings around it. We thought the museum was larger than we imagined and we were impressed with how beautiful it was. We thought it was amazing even though it was cold (by Qatar standards!)

After our snack we went inside and went into the downstairs gallery which had many carpets from the past. The exhibit was called Imperial Threads and we were very impressed. One of the guides told us that the carpets were over 500 years old and came from Turkey, India and Iran!

We really enjoyed the area around the museum and the exhibit with the weapons too. The monument in the upstairs gallery was also very impressive and we enjoyed guessing why it was made and what it was about. The pottery was also very beautiful with many vibrant colours although it was quite dark in order to stop the exhibits being damaged and fading.

Overall, we had a great day and many of us would love to go back again sometime soon.

By Edison Class



Community Events

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

Torba Farmers Market: Every Thursday and Friday from 7th December – 2nd February at the Ceremonial Court, Qatar Foundation

Souq Waqif Spring Festival: December 25th 2017 - April 25th 2018
(<http://souqwaqiffestival.qa/>)

3rd Qatar National Arabian Peninsula Horse Show: 12th and 13th January at Al Shaqab Arena and Qatar Foundation Recreation Centre (<http://www.alshaqab.com>)

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 Seahorse: **Shaikha**

Nursery Starfish: **Ali**

Reception Dolphins: **Heba**

Reception Turtles: **Youssef**

Year 1 Meerkats: **Layla**

Year 1 Giraffes: **Seba**

Year 2 Lions: **Fatma**

Year 3/4: **Alya**

Year 5/6: **Suereya**

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 **Reception Dolphins** and **Year 3/4** share the trophy for the highest weekly attendance, while **Year 2 Lions** claim 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 Mrs Stuart enjoyed eating lunch with **Rhiane** (Reception Dolphins), **Aly** (Reception Turtles), **Andrew** (Year 1 Meerkats), **Jana** (Year 1 Giraffes), **Mohammed** (Year 2 Lions), **Adam** (Year 3/4) and **Hessah** (Year 5/6).

RGS Diary Dates

Sunday 21st January – Thursday 25th January: Maths Week

Thursday 25th January: School Council Non Uniform Day

Tuesday 13th February: Qatar National Sports Day School Event

Thursday 15th February: Year 1 Giraffes Class Assembly

Wednesday 21st February: International Mother Language Day

Sunday 25th February – Thursday 1st March: Book Week

Friday 9th and Saturday 10th March: BSME Qatar Games

Thursday 15th March: Year 1 Meerkats Class Assembly

Sunday 18th March – Friday 23rd March: Year 5/6 Residential to Sri Lanka

Thursday 22nd March: Reception Turtles Class Assembly

Sunday 25th March – Thursday 29th March: Health Week

Thursday 29th March: Sports Day

Thursday 29th March: Last day of Term 2 (school closes at 12pm)

