

21ST JANUARY 2018

# THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

*The latest news and updates from the RGSGQ*  
[www.rgsgq.com](http://www.rgsgq.com)



## **RGS Dates For Your Diary**

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

Thursday 25th January:  
School Council Non  
Uniform Day

Sunday 28th January  
– Thursday 1st  
February: Half Term  
(School Closed)

## **Ongoing Developments at the RGS**

It has been a busy and exciting few weeks at the RGS as we continue to progress and develop as a school. I am delighted to announce that, following a series of meetings, it has been confirmed we will complete British Schools Overseas (BSO) Inspection next academic year in addition to the International Schools Quality Mark (ISQM), after the school met a series of criteria set by the inspecting bodies.

Pupils have now started using our newly completed Science Lab which further enhances the provision for this area of the curriculum. It has been designed in a modular format with separate work stations located around the classroom to promote discussion and collaboration. Each work station has a central sink and the room has also been fitted with gas taps and a mobile fume cupboard in preparation for Year 7 and 8 Science lessons next academic year.

Our recruitment for academic year 2018/19 is nearing completion and I look forward to sharing details with our school community during the next half term. We have interviewed a large number of teachers based in Doha and the UK who wish to join our school.

Next year we plan to expand Reception to three classes, Year 2 to two classes and split Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 so that we have one class per year group. We will also be opening Year 7 and Year 8, in addition to expanding our staffing in Music and PE.

Towards the end of last week, we welcomed Mr. Bob Ukiah, Chief Operating Officer of RGS UK, to our school. Many of you may have previously met Mr Ukiah during his visits to our school earlier in the year. Mr Ukiah spent two days in School speaking to staff and pupils and observing lessons. One of his key roles is to ensure the high standards of the RGS are maintained and that the ethos of the School aligns with that of the RGS. I look forward to welcoming the Governing Board from the RGS to our school next month.

Outside, we have been working hard to improve the environment for our pupils and over the weekend the first part of our new playground was installed. Once everything has been installed there will be a range of equipment in both the Early Years and Key Stage 1/2 play areas which will include see saws, swings and climbing frames. The School Council also have plans to improve the school environment and have organised a non-uniform day for Thursday 25th January. Pupils and staff are able to wear clothes of their own choosing on this day and are asked to give a cash donation to the School Council who are raising funds for their environmental projects. The suggested donation is 5 QAR.

Finally, but by no means least, today is the start of Maths week which is being organised by Miss Keay our Maths Coordinator. It is going to be a great week aimed at raising the profile of Maths at the RGS and supporting pupils to understand how important this subject is and how we use it in everyday life.

Have a great week.

**Mr. Downs**

## **Ooredoo Marathon and Fun Run**

The Ooredoo Half Marathon took place last Friday along the Corniche. The event had a great atmosphere with the course taking full advantage of the Corniche and beautiful MIA park.

In the past few weeks some of our pupils have been getting involved in running club after school and Zainab in Year 3/4 took part in the Ooredoo 1km run. Zainab covered the 1km distance in 5:58 minutes and placed in the top 20 in a field of pupils much older than her. Well done Zainab.

Some RGS staff members also took part in this event. Mr. Woodhouse completed the 10km in 52 minutes and I decided to run the Half Marathon, completing the course in 1 hour 18 minutes. I am now looking forward to our Fun Sports Morning on Tuesday, 13th February and I hope lots of families will come along to take part.

### Mr McCullagh



## Nursery Update

The Nursery children were very excited to receive a delivery of seeds from Jack last week. He wanted us to find out how to plant them so they would grow into vegetables instead of a giant beanstalk and castle like his beans did!! The children spent the week exploring planting and growing, watching the roots and shoots develop daily. They have entered the classroom each morning with genuine excitement to see how the beans have developed. The children have looked at bean, carrot and zucchini seeds, noticing how different all three are. This week, during Maths Week, the children will use beans and seeds in counting games, shapes and patterns and weigh carrots and zucchini to make healthy cakes. We can't wait!

### Mrs Stuart



## Maths Week



This week is Maths Week at the RGS! Throughout the week pupils will use their range of mathematical skills during their lessons as we adopt a cross curricular approach linking Maths to subjects such as English, Topic and Science. There will also be maths challenges around the School and also on our Facebook page, so keep your eyes peeled for these!

On Thursday 25th January, all pupils will have the opportunity to take part in a wide range of activities as we hold Maths Day. There are some great activities planned which include measuring and creating crazy drinks, using fractions to share out foods, 'Egg Drop' and much more.

Pupils in Key Stage 1 and 2 will also be taking part in a House Competition during the assembly, that will include using their maths skills to de-code and find secret words around the School. It will be a great fun week!

**Miss Keay**

## 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/>)

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: **India**

Nursery Starfish: **Maryam A**

Reception Dolphins: **Emma**

Reception Turtles: **Anmar**

Year 1 Meerkats: **Turki**

Year 1 Giraffes: **Faris**

Year 2 Lions: **Rayyan**

Year 3/4: **Zainab**

Year 5/6: **Zaid**

### 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 **Year 3/4** and **Year 5/6** claim the trophy for the highest weekly attendance, while **Reception Turtles**, **Year 2 Lions** and **Year 5/6** shared 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 **Omar** (Reception Dolphins), Taym (Reception Turtles), **Aisha** (Year 1 Meerkats), **Resal** (Year 1 Giraffes), **Rhiley** (Year 2 Lions), **Afrani** (Year 3/4) and **Saif** (Year 5/6).

## RGS Diary Dates

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

Thursday 25th January: School Council Non Uniform Day

Sunday 28th January – Thursday 1st February: Half Term (School Closed)

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)