

THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

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



RGS Dates For Your Diary

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

Inspiring our pupils

Promoting reading has been a whole school focus this year and so we were delighted to welcome award winning author Ruth Eastham to the RGS earlier this week.

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.

The day started with Ruth showing us the first 'book' she wrote when she was in primary school! Throughout the day she then spent time with all year groups to support them with their writing and fire their imaginations. Towards the end of the day the school came together to share the work they had completed and received books signed by Ruth herself.

Pupils had a great day working alongside Ruth and hopefully it will inspire them to develop a love for reading and writing.



Nursery Starfish Assembly

Well done to Nursery Starfish who performed a lovely assembly to pupils and parents on Thursday. The Starfish are some of the youngest children in our school, however they displayed wonderful confidence on stage as they talked to us about their topic and performed some great songs.

The assembly, combined with the excellent work completed in class, highlights the progress they have made since the start of the school year. Well done Starfish and thank you to **Miss Min** and **Mrs Ferraras** for their continued hard work.



Quran Competition Winners

This week we welcomed representatives from the Ministry of Education to the RGS who visited us to present certificates and cheques to pupils who had achieved excellent results in the recent Quran competition held throughout Qatar. Congratulations to the following pupils who placed 1st, 2nd and 3rd in their respective age groups:

1st Place

Essa Kareeb (Year 1), Rashid Al-Naimi (Year 2) and Sultan Kareeb (Year 4)

2nd Place:

Resal Alhawari (Year 1)

3rd Place

Saif Kareeb (Year 5) and Zaid Alhawari (Year 6)



School Council Update

The School Council of Layla (Year 1 Meerkats), MK (Year 1 Giraffes), Rashid (Year 2 Lions), Noah (Year 3/4) and Ssuubi (Year 5/6) continue to be busy as they work towards creating a school garden for our community to enjoy.

Fencing has now been installed around the area where the school garden will be located and over the next few weeks we will be working together to paint the fence and install garden arches which are due to arrive next week. A variety of pots, tubs and planters have also been ordered and these are currently on their way to Qatar from the UK.

Later this term the School Council will be selling Healthy Recipe Books which will be full of all the great recipes pupils made for the recent Healthy Baking House competition run by Miss Morris. Before that though, on Monday 14th May, the School Council will be running a Snack Shop prior to The Lion King performance to raise additional funds for their garden. The snack shop will stay open after school so please pop along and support them!



COBIS

I will be out of school during the first few days of next week as I attend a series of meetings in London with the Council of British International Schools (COBIS).

COBIS are the largest educational association for international British schools overseas and they will be visiting us in June for a compliance inspection based upon high standards, rigorous scrutiny and the best British and international practice.

Throughout the current academic year, we have been working towards this mark of high quality assurance which is only open to the best British schools overseas and I am very much looking forward to presenting to the COBIS team the progress we have made.



Parents' Association AGM

Earlier this week we held the Parents' Association Annual General Meeting at the RGS. Thank you to everyone who attended this meeting to listen to annual reports from the Chairman and Treasurer. Parents should now have received a copy of the Chairman's report via email but if you have not, please contact the school office.

We were pleased to present a cheque for 2,000 QAR to the charity 'Qatar Red Crescent' who the Parents' Association decided to donate part of the funds raised throughout the year to.

A number of the current committee members have stepped down from their positions and I would like to take this opportunity to thank the outgoing committee for their hard work throughout the school year, and in the case of Mr. Love, his efforts over two years:

Chairman: Mr. David Love
Vice Chairman: Mr David Heywood
Treasurer: Mr Afif Milka
Secretary: Mrs Janine Muller
Grants and Sponsorship: Mrs Christina Hoegerle
Parent Liaison: Mrs Mahdiyya Khan

A new committee has been elected and these parents will take up their roles from the start of the 2018/19 academic year:

Chair: Mr Ali Mohammed
V.Chair: Dr Dahlia Hassan
Secretary: Mrs Olfat Ahmed
Treasurer: Mrs Esra Chak
Grants and Sponsorship: Mrs Rita Abi Hayla
Parent Liaison Officer: Mrs Mahdiyya Khan

Congratulations to the committee on their appointments and I look forward to working alongside them.



The Lion King

The Key Stage 2 pupils are looking forward to performing their play 'The Lion King' to parents next week. As I am out of school on the 14th May I sneaked along to their final dress rehearsal this week and was very impressed at all they had achieved. I can confirm that those attending the performance are in for a treat!

In a very short space of time (a little over four weeks!) the pupils (and staff) have worked incredibly hard to create a fantastic musical which I am sure will be enjoyed by all.



Charity Sale

On Monday 14th May we will be hosting a charity sale on behalf of Syrian refugee women currently living in Kayseri, Turkey. The charity 'OAK' is supporting the women to sell handmade crochet items which will help generate income for the refugee community who have been forced to leave their homes.

The sale will take place in the main atrium from 12pm – 3pm. For more information, please speak to Esra (Mother of Faris - Year 1 Meerkats) or visit https://m.facebook.com/OpenArmsinKayseri/?ref=content_filter



Ramadan School Hours

It is likely that Ramadan School Hours will commence on either Wednesday 16th May or Thursday 17th May, however once I have formal confirmation I will contact all parents of the exact start date.

During Ramadan pupils can arrive at school as normal from 7.15am. Lessons will start at 7.45am and finish at 12.15pm. All pupils are expected to be collected at 12.15pm and the school bus will also depart at this time.

A number of parents have already informed us if their children will be fasting during Ramadan, however if you have not yet contacted the school I ask you to do so as soon as possible so staff can be made aware.

If you have any questions, please speak to the school office.

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

Mr. Downs

Community Events

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

Laundromat by Ai Wei Wei: April 25th - June 1st at Firestation Gallery

Allegria Circus: 9th May – 11th May at Hotel Park, Sheraton Doha

Doha Art Festival 2018: May 9th - May 12th at Katara

The Philipino Fiesta Show: 9th May – 13th May at the Mall of Qatar

CineMoon Ensemble with Qatar Concert Choir: 12th May at Qatar National Library

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: **Hannah**

Nursery Starfish: **Kinza**

Reception Dolphins: **Sharifa**

Reception Turtles: **Al Dana**

Year 1 Meerkats: **Faris**

Year 1 Giraffes: **Resal**

Year 2 Lions: **Rhiley**

Year 3/4: **Khalifa Aljamali**

Year 5/6: **Saif Kareeb**

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 5/6** win the trophy for the highest weekly attendance, while **Year 3/4** 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 **Rhiane** (Reception Dolphins), **Ssanyu** (Reception Turtles), **Ethan** (Year 1 Meerkats), **Alex** (Year 1 Giraffes), **Fatma** (Year 2), **Aljazy** (Year 3/4) and **Suereya** (Year 5/6).



RGS Diary Dates

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 28th May: Year 1 trip to the National Library

Thursday 31st May: Year 2-6 Trip to the National Library

Monday 4th June: 2018/19 Transition Morning

Wednesday 6th June: Parents Reading Workshop