

THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

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



RGS

Dates For Your Diary

Monday 2nd
September: Welcome
Coffee Morning
(7.45am onwards in
the main atrium).

Monday 2nd
September:
ECA Sign Up
commences.

Wednesday 4th
September: KeyStage
3 Georgia Ski Trip
presentation for
parents (8am – 9am in
the KS3 Geography
classroom).

Welcome to the RGS!

Welcome to the RGS Weekly Newsletter which provides our community with a summary of the events and activities that have taken place at the RGS over the past week. It also provides important information for parents and a list of upcoming 'Diary Dates.'

Towards the latter part of the newsletter parents will notice a 'Community Events' section which highlights events coming up in Doha which might be of interest to our community. If you know of any events on the horizon, please contact the school office or share it with me (a.downs@rgsgq.com) so that I can then add it to the newsletter for the benefit of our whole community.

This week lots of very excited pupils (and teachers!) began a new academic year at the RGS. On the first day of last academic year we had 248 pupils in our school; this week we welcomed over 500! For our youngest pupils in Nursery it was their first time in school, but everyone quickly settled into their new classrooms and throughout the week lots of great activities have taken place across the School.

It was wonderful to have the School full of pupils and to see them grow in confidence throughout the first week as they adjusted to the School learning environment. There was a real buzz in the classrooms and shared areas as pupils were introduced to their new topics and started their specialist learning. It is going to be a great year at the RGS!



British Schools Overseas

Towards the end of last academic year, the RGS completed British Schools Overseas (BSO) inspection. To be recognised by the UK Department for Education (DfE), a British School Overseas (BSO) must have an inspection report which shows they meet all the BSO standards which reflect the standards required for continuing registration as a school in England. The inspection is based upon high academic and pastoral standards and the best British and international practice.

The inspection team's overall grading was *that "The Royal Grammar School Guildford in Qatar is a good school with many outstanding features."* They were very impressed with all that has been achieved at the school in less than three years and particularly praised the pastoral care of pupils and the friendly, warm and welcoming atmosphere, stating, *"the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils is outstanding and a strength of the school. There is an atmosphere of trust, respect, joy and care that resounds across the whole school. The provision for the welfare, health and safety of the pupils is outstanding."*

At the RGS we believe that developing strong, positive relationships across the School is an essential part of our building a successful learning environment. This ensures that pupils feel safe, secure and supported and know who to turn to if they have a concern or need advice or guidance. The inspection team commented that *"the quality of relationships is outstanding. Pupils show a genuine concern for the needs of others and display a high level of self-awareness and confidence. The School's strong community ethos is evident in all its work and interactions."*

We are delighted to have achieved this mark of high quality assurance which is only open to the best British schools overseas. To have achieved such recognition so soon after opening the School, is testament to the hard work and dedication of our school community, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their continued support in the best interests of the children who attend the RGS.

The BSO award now sits alongside our Qatar National Schools Accreditation (QNSA) and membership to the Council of British International Schools (COBIS), British Schools Middle East (BSME) and Education Development Trust (EDT); confirming the high standards at the RGS.

On the 9th and 10th September we welcome Mrs Pippa Leggate from the Council of International Schools (CIS) to the RGS. CIS is a membership community of over 700 schools, all of whom have proved to be committed to high quality, international education. Over the past twelve months we have been working with CIS to align to their standards and I am looking forward to highlighting the many strengths of our school to Mrs Leggate next month.

Welcome Coffee Morning

As a way of bringing our parent community together at the start of a new academic year, we would like to invite you all to a 'Welcome' coffee morning on Monday, 2nd September 2019. This will be held in the school atrium from 7.45am onwards.

You will be introduced to our Parents' Association and the role of the PA and also the Class Reps will be explained in detail: all of whom play an important part within our school community.

I hope you can join us and look forward to seeing you there.

RGS Car Stickers

A number of parents have spoken to me this week regarding RGS Car stickers. Parents who would like an RGS Car Sticker can collect one from the Reception desk at the front of school. These are free of charge and to be worn with pride 😊

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

Mr. Downs

Weekly Awards

RGS Superstars

Each week RGS Superstar certificates are awarded to pupils from each class in the Primary School 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! These pupils each receive 25 additional House points each.

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

Nursery Seahorses: **Ibrahim Syed**

Nursery Starfish: **Mila**

Reception Dolphins: **Michelle Dike**

Reception Turtles: **Adam**

Reception Sharks: **Marlowe**

Reception Stingrays: **Maya Al-Obaidy**

Year 1 Meerkats: **Nader Al Hamad**

Year 1 Giraffes: **Moza Al Kuwari**

Year 1 Zebras: **Faaris Kalim**

Year 1 Elephants: **Hussein Quandour**

Year 2 Lions: **Heshaam**

Year 2 Tigers: **Ssanyu**

Year 2 Cheetahs: **Ameera**

Year 3J: **Ziad Abo El Rous**

Year 3N: **Imran**

Year 3Q: **Hana Akhtar**

Year 4H: **Ahmd Alkhalaf**

Year 4W: **Rahma**

Year 5K: **Ghanim**

Year 5N: **Noah**

Year 6W: **Jana**

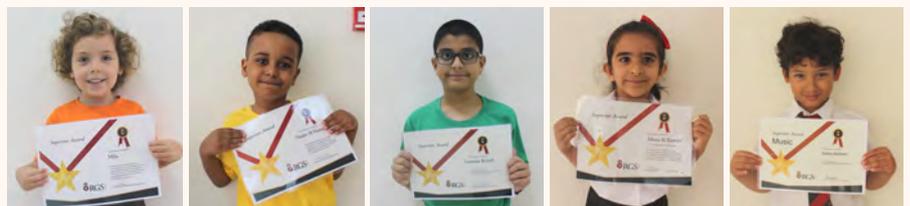
Year 6J: **Tameem**

Year 7A: **Ava Merriweather**

Year 8S: **Haneen**

Year 9P: **Arwa**

Music: **Awss** - Year 3 J



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 in Early Years, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 who achieve the highest weekly attendance and who achieve the highest percentage of punctual pupils arriving by 7.45am. Pupils in these classes are also rewarded with an additional two House points each.

The winners this week can be seen below:

Early Years

Attendance: **Reception Stingrays**

Punctuality: **Nursery Seahorse, Nursery Starfish, Reception Dolphins, Reception Sharks, Reception Stingrays, Reception Turtles**

Key Stage 1

Attendance: **Year 1 Zebras**

Punctuality: **Year 1 Zebras & Year 2 Cheetahs**

Key Stage 2

Attendance: **Year 4 H**

Punctuality: **Year 6 J**

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

Community Events

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

LEGO Festival at Doha Festival City: 28th August - 17th September 2019 at Doha Festival City.

Artist in Residence Exhibition 4: 28th August - 1st September 2019 at the Fire Station Gallery.

Qatar Philharmonic Orchestra Opening Concert: 7th September 2019, Saturday 7:30pm at Qatar National Convention Centre (QNCC) Auditorium 3

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.

RGS Diary Dates

Monday 2nd September: Welcome Coffee Morning (7.45am onwards in the main atrium).

Monday 2nd September: ECA Sign Up commences.

Wednesday 4th September: Key Stage 3 Georgia Ski Trip presentation for parents (8am – 9am in the KS3 Geography classroom).

Sunday 8th September: ECAs commence.

18th September: Key Stage 3 Nepal Residential Presentation for parents (1.15pm – 1.45pm in the KS3 Geography classroom).

Monday 9th and Tuesday 10th September: Council of International Schools (CIS) Visit.

3rd October: Year 6W Class Assembly (7.55am - 8.30am in the main atrium).

10th October: Year 5K Class Assembly (7.55am - 8.30am in the main atrium).

17th October: International Day

20 - 24th October: Half Term (School Closed).