

THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

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



RGS Dates For Your Diary

6th November:
Parents' Monthly
Coffee Morning and
Parents' Association
Uniform Sale (7.15 –
9.00am in the
atrium)

7th November:
Year 2 Snow Dunes at
Festival City Trip

7th November:
Year 6J Class
Assembly

Outdoor Activities

As parents will no doubt have noticed, the weather changed significantly over half term and has now cooled enough for us to introduce more outdoor activities.

This week pupils enjoyed outdoor play at morning break and lunchtime, benefitting from the large outdoor spaces we have at the RGS. The bikes and see-saw were a huge hit with our younger pupils in Early Years, while pupils in Key Stage 1 and 2 have enjoyed playing football together and playing on the climbing frame and swing.

Next week will see the start of 'Top Table' in the School Council garden each week, for those pupils who demonstrate exceptional manners at meal times and bring healthy, balanced food to school. I look forward to inviting pupils to eat their snack with me from Thursday 7th November.

In addition to enjoying break times outside, PE lessons have also started to take place on the football field and covered basketball court this week, particularly for our older pupils. There was a great deal of excitement too as pupils visited the swimming pool for the first time to take part in swimming lessons. All pupils in the Primary School took part in lessons, either developing their water confidence in smaller pools, or developing strokes in our 25-meter swimming pool. The feedback from both PE staff and the pupils themselves was highly positive, and everyone is already looking forward to next week.



RGS Learning Habits

This week Farris and Sondos, Head Boy and Head Girl, led assemblies for pupils in Key Stage 1 and 2. The focus was the RGS Learning Habits which form an important part of teaching and learning at the RGS.

The Learning Habits are taught through our very own RGS Super Squad characters and include the ability to learn with creativity, to work effectively with others, to be reflective and to take responsibility for their own learning and organisation. The acquisition of these Learning Habits helps our pupils prepare for the challenges they will face beyond life at the RGS.

Well done Farris and Sondos for their excellent effort preparing and presenting these assemblies to our pupils.

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

Mr. Downs

News from Early Years

What a fantastic first week of half term we have had in Early Years! It has been wonderful to see children so engaged in their learning each time that I have visited classes. This week, the children in Nursery and Reception classes have been settling back into their school routines and giving focus to their fine motor skills. The development of fine motor skills involves the strengthening and control of hand muscles and is essential before children begin to write. We allow the children ample opportunities to access fine motor activities in our provision and we have used this week as an extra boost in teaching them new techniques. Actions which can enhance fine motor skills include, but are not limited to, pushing; patting; rolling; squeezing; twisting (for all of which playdough is ideal); using pipettes; tweezers; spray bottles; using glue; pouring; connecting blocks and Lego; weaving; threading and cutting! In Nursery and Reception, we encourage our young learners to be as independent as possible in turning pages in books, opening and closing lunch boxes and water bottles, fastening buttons and zippers and other self-care routines, as these actions not only build their confidence and self-esteem but also their fine motor strengths and skills.

Gross motor skills are equally as important to early writing skills and are developed at school through making hand print pictures, swimming, climbing the large equipment where children need to pull themselves up, operating the bikes and handling the outside equipment.

This week, the children have been engaged in lots of fun, fine motor activities such as, cutting spaghetti; using tweezers to rescue numicon from inside a web; using their hands to perform actions alongside stories; building towers; dough disco and squiggle while you wiggle! The children also enjoy lots of mark making, which can mean using their fingers or writing tools to make marks in different materials, making patterns and eventually early writing. Once the children have mastered these skills, they are far more equipped to begin forming letters and numbers in their writing.

Ms Matthews – Teacher, Reception Sharks



News from Key Stage 1

Year 1: This week in Year 1 we have been introduced to our new story in English: 'Meerkat Mail' by Emily Gravett. The pupils have been introduced to the characters in the book and what happens in the story. The pupils then began to explore the idea of writing postcards. In Maths, Year 1 Elephants and Zebras have been looking at using tens and ones to solve number problems, whilst Year 1 Meerkats and Giraffes have been looking at addition and subtraction to solve their number problems. In Science we have introduced our new topic of seasonal changes: this week we focused on what the four different seasons are and how we can distinguish between each of them. In Topic we started to look at hot and cold countries; we then coloured in the countries on the map according to whether they were a hot or cold country.

Miss Fryett, Teacher Year 1 Zebras

Year 2: In Year 2, the pupils have started new units in English, Science and Topic! In English, the pupils have been learning the tale of The Little Red Hen. If your child is in Year 2, challenge them to see how much of the story they can tell you! In Science, the pupils have started their unit about plants and this week we began by looking at different types of flowers and trees! In Topic, we began our unit on the subject of castles! We even had a medieval style banquet lunch to understand how Royalty used to eat.

This week pupils also enjoyed their first swimming lessons and they had lots of fun learning how to swim in the RGS pool.

The whole of Year 2 was very sad that we were unable to go on our school trip to the Snow Dunes this week, however, we are looking forward to our rearranged trip date which is next Thursday!

Mr Lyle. Teacher, Year 2 Tigers.



News from Key Stage 2

In Year 6, we have hit the ground running in Term 1.2 following an eventful conclusion to the first term. Firstly, we are proud to announce that we have amalgamated our excellent poems (some of which you might have heard in the 6W class assembly) into a book, that we will soon be sharing, as an example to other classes. We are incredibly proud of our efforts individually and as a team. Additionally, the assembly enabled 6W to see the benefits that immense effort and effective teamwork can produce. This event has enabled 6W to springboard forward into the cohesive unit we have been displaying as the sun rises on Term 1.1.

Notably, 6W have carried their ever developing English skills into our new writing on explanation texts. It is already clear how far we have come with accurate descriptions written on how Wallace and Gromit's 'Shopper 13' is used, made and tested. Our new Science topic on electricity has already reawakened previous memories from studies in Year 4. Following a discussion on circuits, many pupils had their own lightbulb moments on how to configure such an experiment. Stay tuned on our twitter page to see how our exploration into this area develops this term.

This week has seen the introduction of 'TT Rockstars'. This mathematic software enables those with subscriptions to compete individually and as groups in an effort to become a master of multiplication. Our very own Khalifa was the champion in the previous academic year so hopes are high for more silverware!

In other news, Year 6 have made a splash in swimming follow their first escapade into the water. Reviews were positive with many enthusiastic about their next dip at the start of next week. Finally, our Head Boy, Farris and Head Girl, Sondos, have presented their third assembly on the RGS Learning Habits. This comes following their exploits in the fantastic International Day assembly.

Well done and keep up the good work!

Year 6 Teachers.



News from Key Stage 3

A welcome back to our pupils after half term; we hope they have enjoyed the break. We are excited to announce the Seniors involvement in the COBIS Mangahigh Math Challenge which has been organised by Miss Abbas. RGS pupils will take part in this maths competition across a range of COBIS schools throughout the world, in the hope of winning a prize; and is one of the initiatives we have introduced for competitions across the phase this term.

Today KS3 had a joint assembly scavenger hunt to promote teamwork. We hope the pupils enjoyed the assembly, and take with them the key messages into this half of term. Well done on a positive first week back.

Don't forget that subject interventions are running as below:

Sunday: English
 Tuesday: Science
 Wednesday: Maths

KS3 Teachers

Open Mic Night

After the success of our first "Open Mic Night" in October, we are excited to announce that we will be organising a second "Open Mic Night" event on Wednesday 20th November from 2:00pm-3:00pm in the canteen area. All pupils are invited to perform at the event and can choose from; singing, performing an instrument, performing in a band, stand-up comedy or even dancing!

If your child is interested in performing, he/she can put their name down on the sign-up sheet outside Mr. Woodhouse's Music room before 7th November 2019. We hope to see you come along and support the performers at this free event.

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: **Reception Dolphins**

Key Stage 1

Attendance: **Year 1 Zebras**

Punctuality: **Year 1 Giraffes, Year 1 Meerkats, Year 2 Lions, Year 2 Tigers**

Key Stage 2

Attendance: **Year 6 W**

Punctuality: **Year 3 N, Year 3 Q**

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

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 receive 25 additional House points each.

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

Nursery Starfish: **Hana**

Reception Dolphins: **Ayla**

Reception Turtles: **Muneera**

Reception Sharks: **Ibrahim**

Reception Stingrays: **Benjamin**

Year 1 Zebras: **Khaleel**

Year 1 Elephants: **Likhit**

Year 2 Lions: **Omar**

Year 2 Tigers: **Yan**

Year 2 Cheetahs: **Darman**

Year 3N: **Maryam**

Year 4H: **Amna**

Year 4W: **Khalid**

Year 7A: **Abdulla**

Year 8S: **Rabeea**

Year 9P: **Toleen**



Community Events

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

Cat Adoption Party at Dragon Animal Care Center - Meet, Greet and Adopt cute cats who need love and cuddles; organised by the Cat Assistance Team (@catofqatar). Family friendly event with halloween treats provided. Plus, face painting and henna.

- Location: Dragon Animal Care Centre, Doha, Qatar.
- Date: 1st November 2019 / Time: 06:00 pm - 09:00 pm.
- No tickets needed.
- Website: <http://facebook.com/CATofQatar/>
Email: catassistanceteamofqatar@gmail.com

QAWS Woofstock Dog Show 2019 – Qatar's 10th Woofstock Dog Show and Festival is a fantastic, fun family event for people and dogs! Plus, there's Pet Accessories, a Craft Fair, QAWS and Woofstock merchandise, bouncy castle, BBQ, sweets and cakes, face-painting, competitions, food and lots, lots more!

- Location: Doha Sports Park (part of Doha Golf Club, Lusail).
- Date: 8th November 2019 / Time: 02:00 pm - 07:00 pm.
- Tickets at the door / Price: General entry - QR20/- per adult - Spectator Dogs and Kids: Free!

Angry Birds World Carnival – Join the flock celebration at Angry Birds World for a colourful carnival and enjoy an array of live entertainment, thrilling rides, retail booths and F&B outlets.

- Location: Angry Birds World, Doha Festival City
- Date: 17th October 2019 – 16th November 2019. Time: 04.00 pm – 11.00 pm
- Free entry
- Website: <https://www.facebook.com/events/564419954120861/>

Qatar International Art Festival (QIAF) 2019 - One of the largest & Mega Art festivals in Qatar from More than 200 international Artists from over 100 Countries join together to show off their talent and creativity; and open up a world of Art Opportunities with Exhibitions, Live Painting, Cultural Tour, Master Art Classes, Fashion Show, Awards & Certificates.

- Location: Katara Cultural Village
- Date: 31st October 2019 – 5th November 2019. Time: 10.00 am – 6.00 pm
- Website: <https://www.qiaf.net>

QatArt Open Exhibition – A variety of more than 50 Artists, Designers and Crafters and Customised Workshops, to create a Creative Handmade Family Day at the Hilton Hotel – Doha. The Hotel will also be offering lots of Food and Goodies.

- Location: Hilton Doha, Diplomatic Street, Doha.
- Date: 9th November 2019 / Time: 10:00 am - 03:00 pm
- Ticket Purchase: At the door – Children under 4 years – Free; Age 4-12 QR10/-; Age 12 and above - QR20/-
- Website: <https://www.facebook.com/QatARTcommunity/>
Email: infoqatart@gmail.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.

RGS Diary Dates

6th November: Parents' Monthly Coffee Morning and Parents' Association Uniform Sale (7.15 – 9.00am in the atrium)

7th November: Year 2 Snow Dunes at Festival City Trip

7th November: Year 6J Class Assembly

11th November: Year 8 Trip to Mshreib

14th November: Year 4H Class Assembly

17th – 21st November: Science Week

20th November: Open Mic Night (2pm – 3pm in the school canteen)

21st November: Year 5N ClassAssembly

28th November: Year 3Q ClassAssembly

4th December: Parents' MonthlyCoffee Morning (7.15 – 9.00am in the atrium)

5th December: Year 2 Lions ClassAssembly

7th December: Parents' AssociationPicnic

12th December: Year 1 GiraffesClass Assembly

17th December: Qatar National DayCelebration 17th December: Last day of Term
1(School closes at 12.00pm)