



# المدرسة الإنجليزية الحديثة THE ENGLISH MODERN SCHOOL



**CAMBRIDGE**  
International Examinations

Cambridge International School

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## Parents' To Do List:

- Check school website
- Check homework
- Check week ahead
- Email school with any query
- SMS with any query
- Read to your child daily
- Say thanks
- Praise your child for all their hard work
- Pay school fees.
- Eat well and exercise
- Get plenty of rest and have a great day!

## Message from the Head of School



Dear Esteemed Parents,

We are very excited to have you and your children join our EMS family. Our staff has been working very hard to ensure that our students settle well into school for this academic year. We have set very high learning expectations for all our students with stringent plans to ensure its full actualization and to guarantee that every student at EMS will be successful this academic year. So, fasten your seat belts as we take off for the 2015-2016 academic year!

Student academic success and overall wellbeing is key to us at EMS Wakra; we will endeavour to make sure that every student is educated to the highest level. As a result, we are prepared to offer more time and support to any student who feels they need it. You will soon receive information about after school activities for this term.

We are continuing to make improvements in the way our students learn in and out of the classroom. Over the summer holiday we have made the following improvements to our school facilities:

New Building Block E  
Spacious prayer room  
Nurse room  
Cafeteria

We have extended our library to accommodate the growing number of books purchased for student and faculty use.

We will endeavour to make learning fun and continually provide inclusive learning for all our students. Please note that the rest of this academic year is crucial in terms of student learning. Students must study hard in all their assessments and must try to get good grades in their tests. We expect all our students to be excellent critical thinkers – this is an essential skill for 21st century learning and student achievement.

Students must be given support at home in all areas of their learning. They must complete their homework as it contributes to their overall grade at the end of each term.

We continually strive to work well in partnership with parents, stakeholders and caregivers in our school and local community. In an effort to do this we welcome your ideas, suggestions and compliments. Should you have any complaints, we will listen and do everything possible to find a peaceful and amicable resolution.

Please note the school communication procedures below:

- Email ([office@emswakra.net](mailto:office@emswakra.net))
- Complete an enquiry form on our school website under the tab (contact us)
- Contact reception and complete enquiry form over the phone or in person
- Place your comments & suggestions in the suggestion box located in reception

We look forward to hearing your comments, compliments and suggestions.

Social networking is a great tool of communication which is accessible to us all. However, we need to remember that it is a public forum accessible to all, including strangers. Therefore, we urge you not to discuss nor post pictures of other children in our school as other parents and guardians may be sensitive about their child's photo being posted on social networking sites.

Please ensure that whoever is dropping off and picking up your child from school takes full responsibility and due care when they do so. Children must not be left unattended by drivers, nannies or any other adult looking after them. Parents of students from KG to Year 2 must create a password and give it to the class teacher; if someone else is picking up your child please make sure you give them your password.

We at the English Modern School will ensure that we educate students to embrace 21st century learning to realise their full potential.

***"Knowledge will bring you the opportunity to make a difference."  
– Claire Fagin***

Thank you for working well in partnership with us.

Omolola Wright-Odusoga  
Head of School.

## **ECE**

A big welcome to everyone from the ECE Department.

The term has well and truly started, and what fantastic children we have here. The children have now settled into the routines of school life, getting to know their teacher and making new friendships, as well as designing their classrooms.

The children have learnt how to be great ethical individuals. By helping each other and understanding the class rules, they are making great choices with their learning and with their developing social skills. This is something which we will build upon in the coming month.

We also have new staff who has also settled in very well. We welcome Ms Venka to the KG1 Honeybee class and Ms Tashi KG2 to Kiwi. This is an exciting opportunity for all of us to be working within such an incredible school, and with a supportive team of colleagues. We are looking forward to meeting and getting to know you all over what should be a great year ahead.

Our students have enjoyed learning all about themselves and their families. This has been shown visually with the pictures on display outside their classrooms.

We look forward to an exciting month ahead, where we will be holding an 'open house' evening (date and time to be confirmed). This will be an opportunity for parents to come to the school and visit your child's classroom.



## **PRIMARY**

The beginning of a school year brings much excitement for all. Teachers prepare for the return of students and students are gearing up for the new year ahead. While the fun memories of summer are fading it's time to get back to our schedules: going to bed on time, waking up early and, of course, homework. We look forward to educating your children and bringing out the best in them in terms of their learning and development by visiting classrooms and rewarding students with ESLR (Expected School-Wide Learning Results) points for academic achievement and behavior. Many students received ESLR points from the Head of School and Mr. Frank at our first assembly - which is a good start to their academic year. In addition, we are currently focused on becoming global citizens.

We are looking forward to a dynamic year ahead .

This photo is weekly change.

## **LIBRARY**

We are excited about the new opportunities available to our students in regards to our new library space. Ms. Violeta Sadya, our library assistant, and Ms. Michelle Wardrip, our Head Librarian for all three EMS Campuses, have been working hard to get this wonderful educational space ready for the academic year.

Our library is divided into the following sections: the Everybody or Picture Book Section, which features books that hold up to 32 pages and can be checked out by students in YR 2-6; the Fiction or Chapter Book Section, which has books that are longer in length than the ones in the Everybody Section and feature less pictures; the Non-fiction Section, which has books that teaches us facts, figures and general information on a variety of subjects; the Reference Section, which has books that may only be used in the library or school; and finally the Teacher Resource Section, which allows our staff to have access to books and other items to assist them with the instruction of students in the different subjects they teach.

We also have a link on our school website under 'School Programs' that students can use at home or at school. There are many educational links to websites that allow students to colour, read books, look at interesting facts and figures on a variety of subjects and also search the Al Wakra Library Database (called the Online Public Access Catalog or OPAC for short). All three EMS campuses have a link on their websites to assess the library OPAC.

## **GUIDANCE AND COUNSELING DEPARTMENT**

We believe great things can be accomplished for children when parents, teachers and counsellors work together. The counsellors at EMS will continue to work with all students in helping them to display all the attributes of our Expected School Wide learning results.

## **LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT**

What a great start to the school year! As a learning team, we have been fortunate to observe passionate, student-centered teachers who have used the first weeks of school to build strong relationships and classroom cultures while holding students accountable to high expectations. We could not be more pleased about how the first weeks of school have gone. We truly appreciate teachers establishing strong procedures, routines, and expectations as they will lay the foundation for a positive school culture over the entire academic year.

Teacher professional development this year has a laser-light focus on one thing - student learning! The learning team is excited about engaging teachers in activities that ignite curiosity and imagination to foster a lifelong love of learning for their students. Our work will revolve around helping teachers employ creative strategies and techniques to develop creativity and innovation in mathematics, IT, the arts, creative writing, languages, humanities and science.

## **HEALTH AND SAFETY**

This academic year we would like to inform you on how to maintain our students' wellbeing.

### **Importance of Having Breakfast at Home**

Stomach aches and headaches are one of those primary complaints that the clinic receives in the first few months of the academic year. Kindly ensure that your child/children are eating their breakfast before coming to school to reduce the chances of these issues during school hours.

### **Conjunctivitis, Vomiting, Fever and other Communicable Illnesses**

If your child has conjunctivitis (red/pink eye), vomiting, fever and other communicable illnesses please kindly keep them at home. This will prevent them from infecting other children.

Children who have prolonged fever for more than 3 days must, on the fourth day, take time to see the doctor. Kindly provide us with a medical certificate from the doctor when your child returns to school.

### **Head Injuries and Broken Arms/Hands**

If your child has had an accident at home or during the weekend and has been taken to the hospital to receive stitches, casts or bandages, please provide the school with a medical report from the doctor and a note that that confirms your child is safe to return.

### **Head Lice**

The head louse is an insect that lives on the head. Head lice feed themselves by biting the scalp. Having head lice (pediculosis) is common among school children.

Anyone who comes in close contact with someone who has had head lice can get head lice; discourage head-to-head contact and sharing of hats, scarves, combs and hairbrushes; tie long hair back; check the hair of all family members and people in close contact, in case someone else has head lice; all family members with head lice should be treated at the same time; check young school age children weekly for head lice.

We have sent a letter home informing parents of an impending head lice inspection which will commence soon. This is a normal procedure in our school, under Supreme Council of Health regulation, to ensure your child's wellbeing.

If your child has lice or nits (eggs) we will immediately contact the parents for them to take their child home to receive proper treatment. Please take note that your child cannot come back to school if he/she still has head lice and/or nits. We are doing this to avoid spreading head lice to other children and for the welfare of your child

## **MUSIC DEPARTMENT**

During this month students began to learn about "water music" which is one of the bases for singing, performing, composing, improvising and listening, and appraising a wide variety of water-inspired music. Students begin by creatively composing in response to a variety of water images in its various forms before exploring how the composer Smetana describes the course of a river in his tone poem "Vltava". Students explore the concept of melodic shape, identifying melodies which move by step and leap and compose their own "wandering river" melody using an entirely stepwise motion which is used as part of a larger-scale composition describing the various stages of the water cycle. This unit will involve cross curriculum learning with other subjects such as geography, science and literacy.

## **PE**

During PE lessons we have concentrated on general co-ordination skills as well as specific ones in preparation for what is going to be a full calendar of sport in Term 1.

Once again we will be participating in inter school events organized by the QPPSSA (Qatar Private Primary Schools Sports Association). During the lessons our year 3 to 6 groups have been working on their indoor athletic skills while the year 2 groups worked on new playground games as well as hand-eye co-ordination skills.

The competition for places on the school teams for the indoor athletics event coming up is very strong. Students are encouraged to work hard on improving their own skills as well as improving their academic performance in the classroom. Every classroom has a copy of the QPPSSA calendar and students can keep themselves updated on the different activities for each term.

## **QATAR NATIONAL CURRICULUM**

Our students received the new academic year with joy and pleasure. The first week's activities focused on the preamble of the material subjects and involved the students in developing a set of classroom rules. The students started studying the first unit of each subject. All students from year 1 to year 6 underwent a diagnostic test in Arabic in order to gain knowledge about their potential and ability levels after analyzing the results of these tests and, therefore, teachers could build their plans and strategies to deal with all students according to their abilities and potential.

During the first morning assembly, a lot of our students received their merit awards for distinguished achievements in the Holy Qur'an Competitions at the end of the last academic year. We are looking forward to more contributions and achievements this year. Smiles filled our student's faces on the last day before the Al-Adha Eid holiday. KG and year one designed Eid's cards for their parents.

In our Eid assembly students listened, in Arabic and in English, to explanations about the rites of AL-Hajj and to the story of the Prophet Ibrahim and his son Isma'il (peace be upon them). The students shared in performing (ATALBYAH) and (AL-EID'S TAKBEERS); in addition, they shared delightfully in some Eid's Songs, as part of our school's Eid al-Adha celebrations.