



# المدرسة الإنجليزية الحديثة THE ENGLISH MODERN SCHOOL



**CAMBRIDGE**  
International Examinations

Cambridge International School

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## Parents' To Do List:

- Check school website
- Email or SMS school with any query
- Pay school fees.
- Wash Hands: Sounds simple but it's the number one way to stop the spread of germs.
- Keep Exercising: It's hard to get motivated when it's cold and dark, but your body has to work overtime to get warm, so you can burn more calories on that early morning walk or run.
- Eat Well: Keep your immune system in shape by making sure you're eating a healthy diet.
- Stay Hydrated: Drink at least eight glasses of water each day.
- Save Your Skin: Cold air, wind and heating will dry out your skin, so keep your face and body well moisturized.

## Message from the Head of School



Dear parents,

As we approach the end of Term 1 we are now in the process of completing student's assessment and grading for term one report cards. Our students are continually learning in and out of the classroom and are making steady progress as they continue to gain new knowledge and skills needed for 21<sup>st</sup> century learning. In this volume of the newsletter, you will find information from faculty and staff about the exciting learning that has been going on in various departments.

This month, we had a visit from the Supreme Education Council; I shared with the inspectors some of the amazing things happening in our school including children's work on display boards around the school.

The inspector also had a chat with students to get their perspective and view on school life in general. She was very pleased to have met with our students and teachers.

On Sunday 22.11.15 our school had an inspection from the Civil Defense Department they gave us positive feedback on overall school facilities and safety procedure. Our ECE students and teachers were pleasantly pleased to see fire men visit the school as this tied in well with their lesson on "people who help us" (Fire fighters).

Team EMSW has recently completed a self-study of the school and submitted it to the Supreme Education Evaluation institute, for Qatar National Schools Accreditation.

Finally, I want to encourage you to continue to support your children at home in their reading to ensure that they spend some time reading a book everyday afterschool.

Here are some reading tips from Cambridge young learners:

- ◆ As keen readers, when we read a good story, we create a world in our imaginations. We imagine people, landscapes, colours, emotions, sounds, voices, smells, tastes and so on.
- ◆ Try to create the right conditions so that your child can do the same when they read a story. This will be much easier if your child doesn't get distracted while they're reading.
- ◆ Distraction can come from the environment – you need to help your child create a comfortable atmosphere for reading.
- ◆ Readers can also get distracted by the text itself, especially if it has too many difficult words. Help your child choose books that are interesting and challenging, but not too difficult. Of course there may still be words they don't understand.
- ◆ Try to help your child become confident enough to just keep reading when they find a difficult word.

"The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character - that is the goal of true education".

**Martin Luther King, Jr.**

Finally, I would like to thank you for working well in partnership with us.

Omolola Wright-Odusoga

Head of School.

## **NEWS FROM ECE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL :**

The children are learning about how to be a good global citizen and ethical individual, caring and helping their friends, making great choices with their learning and their environment as well as everyday decisions. The children are also displaying good social skills.

Thank you to everyone that came to the ECE open house, it was nice to meet you and to share with you what we do in the ECE, how we use the British EYFS curriculum to help children learn not just academically but also socially and emotionally. It was also an opening to share on how parents are able to extend their child's learning at home, as well as obtaining parents feedback on what we do and how we can grow as a department in an already expanding school.

## **Farm Visit**

The children were very excited to have a visit to a local farm. This was linked with the monthly theme, animal houses. This was a great opportunity for the children to see where and how some animals live and what they eat, as well as what they look, sound, and feel like.

This month the children have been very excited, learning all about people who help us. They have been dressing up, and exploring equipment they use, people who help us, singing songs and listening to stories relating to this theme. The children's knowledge in this area has grown and this has been reflected in other areas of their learning.

This is a busy time of year, when the teachers are busy collecting assessments and writing end of term reports. It is important to make sure your child attends school regularly, as this will be reflected in the child's end of term reports.

## **NEWS FROM PRIMARY ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL :**

It is the busy time of year where summer is finished, fall is here and everyone is working hard to achieve high marks in school. EMSW Primary School is diligent on student learning. There have been some wonderful moments that stand out in years 1-6, I will highlight just a few.

YR 1 students studied healthy eating and made beautiful paper plates of food to represent healthy choices, YR 2 students studied the famous artist Kandinsky and their drawings, in my opinion were just as interesting and beautiful, YR 3 made many different types of amazing habitats, YR4 students made wonderful comic books that included pictures and a story, YR 5 students studied how mold grows using their scientific research skills, and finally, YR6 students are developing writing skills as they study character development in writing.

There are many other projects, homework assignments and classroom presentations that include all the subjects, these are simply highlights.

Students have also taken few field trips to the, Farm, Museum of Islamic Art and the upcoming Aspire trips. We look forward to learning occurring in and out of the classroom.

Our assemblies have encouraged our students to strive for excellence in their studies and in their behaviour by awarding ESLR points and naming Stars of the Week for, academic achievement and good behaviour. Our school counsellor Ms. Mildred used a favourite song titled RESPECT and altered the lyrics just a bit to teach the concept of respecting each other in the classroom and on the playground.

We have reached the half-way marks in the first term please encourage your child every day, to do his or her best and complete homework assignments. Make sure students are getting enough sleep, minimum 8 hours is required to feel fresh and ready to learn. Also having breakfast in the morning, even if it is, something small such as toast and juice, it is the fuel young minds and bodies need to learn and grow.

Proper sleep and nourishment are essential throughout a child's life particularly in the Primary years as the brain is still growing. We want all students to feel and do their personal best at EMSW.

## **NEWS FROM THE HEAD LIBRARIAN:**

Did you know that the library at Al Wakra has many items. These items can be in the form of books, CD's, DVD's, kits, puppets and other things for students and teachers to use. A breakdown of the different Item Categories is listed below:

**Everybody Books.** They are cataloged with an E and then the author's last name on the spine label. They are 32 pages in length and have pictures on every page.

**Fiction Books.** They are cataloged with an F and then the author's last name on the spine label. They can be anywhere from 50 to 350 pages in length. They usually do not have pictures.

**Non-Fiction Books.** They are cataloged with a number such as 398.2 and then the author's last name. The number corresponds to the Dewey Decimal System which was invented in the 1850's. These numbers go from 001 to 999.

**Arabic Books.** They are cataloged with an AR for Arabic, then either an E, F or number, and then the author's last name.

**Teacher Resources.** These are usually cataloged with a PROF for Professional, then the author's last name. These books are for teachers to use with students or just for the teacher use only.

**Reference Books.** They are cataloged with REF for Reference and then the author's last name. These books are to be used only in the library or the classroom.

## **NEWS FROM THE GUIDANCE AND COUNSELLING DEPARTMENT:**

The school counsellor works with students, parents, teachers and administrators to help make your child's school experience a success. Reinforcing the ESLRs is a large part of the counsellor's job. In the month of October, we will focus on the ESLR,

**Ethical Individual: "I am fair, honest and take care of others. I understand the difference between right and wrong and make good choices."**

Student success depends on home and school working together to develop Independent Learners, Effective Communicators, Global Citizens, Ethical Individuals, Critical Thinkers, and Dynamic Achievers. In delivering a comprehensive school counselling program, school counsellors perform different roles including participating in professional learning community meetings and administration meetings, which require the counsellors to be out of the office

## **NEWS FROM THE SCHOOL NURSE:**

### **Personal Hygiene**

Keeping your child's body clean is an important part of keeping them healthy and helping them to feel good about themselves. Being clean means giving them shield that can protect them from harmful bacteria and viruses.

Washing your Body Regularly

Trimming your Fingernails & Toenails

Cleaning your Ears

Brushing Teeth

Shampooing and Combing your Hair

Wearing Clean Clothes

## Communicable Diseases

Children are prone to acquire several kinds of diseases. Their immune system is not yet fully- developed that is why it is important for us to look after their health and well-being.

Whenever you noticed the following signs and symptoms (listed below) from your children, it is advisable to go and see the doctor for further medical advice:

Fever

Body aches

Cough

Headache

Sore throat

Chills

Runny nose

Fatigue

Diarrhea and vomiting

Providing us a medical certificate or updates with regards to your child's health will be highly appreciated.

Always Remember

***"An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure"***

## News from the Music department:

During this month students continue to learn about "Water music". Students got basic information about:

- *How to* respond to music and art describing the sea in different ways including improvising a sea sound picture;

How to use dynamics when performing, improvising and singing different songs and pieces

describing the sea through sound.

Students move onto the sea and make connections between music and art learning about the impressionist music of Debussy's "La Mer" and use Monet's sea paintings as the basis of an improvisation. In this unit we are going cross curriculum learning with the subjects such as Geography, Science, Art. In the end of this Unit students made painting projects about their imagination of "Water music".

### **Cross curriculum learning:**

- **Geography & Science** – the sea
- **Art** – Impressionism; Monet

### **LANGUAGE FOR LEARNING** - spell/use/understand

Conductor, Crescendo, Dynamics, Getting Louder, Getting Softer, Improvisation, Loud, Soft, Imagination, Impression.

### **NEWS FROM THE PE DEPARTMENT:**

During October our primary students participated in the Indoor Athletics events. For the first time in our inter-schools' programme, schools are allowed to enter an A as well as a B team.

The year 3 and 4 mixed teams attended the indoor athletics event at Park House English School. Our students enjoyed the experience of taking part against teams from other schools. Our A and B teams both achieved a sixth place from seven schools.

The year 5 and 6 mixed teams attended their events at the English Modern School in Doha. Although our students enjoyed the activities, the competition was very tough. Our A team achieved a ninth place while our B team achieved an eighth place.

Our students continue to work hard in preparation for the upcoming activities. The year 3 and 4 teams will be preparing for the Basketball competitions while the year 5 and 6 teams will be preparing for the Football competitions .

## **NEWS FROM THE QATAR NATIONAL CURRICULUM DEPARTMENT:**

The end of October and the beginning of November were crowded with Primary Summative Assessments in Arabic, Islamic and Qatari History and the results were positive in general.

Number of students has participated in Oratory and Qatari Poetry events organized by organization committee of National Day celebration with cooperation with SEC.

Year 3 students have visited Museum of Islamic Art and they made a tour in the hunt exhibition with a guide from the Museum team who presented and explained about the art they witnessed and also visited the library of the museum to have a look where they watched a video about the Islamic Art. The students enjoyed their time playing and having lunch in the garden of the museum.

The Islamic teachers continued attending workshops delivered by the private schools office to keep them up to date with best practices in three subjects and especially the Islamic Education and the modern methods of teaching it. The teachers went to look at the latest versions of the teacher's and evaluation guide that were brought into light this year. The teachers were provided with copies to develop their teaching methods in this subject.

The Islamic Studies teachers are preparing for the Quran Competition that is organized by Quran Memorizing Unit, looking for great and special results for our students like in last year.

Years one, two, and three had one unified diagnostic reading skills test across the three campuses and use the results to identify the students' levels in reading to help the teachers plan an Arabic reading program in Arabic language lessons. The school has been provided with many modern leveled reading resources and materials to support this program. KG1 and KG2 classes have also been provided with such resources to support the reading plan. In addition, Teachers are starting to prepare students for the National Day celebrations.