

Head of School Message



Dear Parents

Welcome to my first newsletter as Head of Al Waab Primary. Firstly, I would like to say how happy I am to join Al Waab Primary and how much I look forward to learning more about all of the students. This is now my third year working for Doha Academy starting at Doha Academy Salwa in August 2022 and moving to Doha Academy Al Waab in August 2024.

For those of you that don't know me yet, I have been an educator for nearly 30 years with over 20 of those spent in senior leadership. I am UK born and qualified and have spent most of my career in the UK then international postings in Malaysia and Morocco before coming to beautiful Qatar.

I am deeply committed to ensuring all students have the best possible opportunities in life, and like the rest of the staff, will do my very best to make sure we are providing your children with the best education. I ask of you to work with us to make sure that the students make the most of every lesson and every opportunity. We can all work together to ensure behaviour is of the highest standard and provide a culture that convinces them that every lesson, and every learning opportunity matters.

I want your children to be safe and happy and be able to come home every day and talk about how much they enjoyed school.

Kind regards,

Ms Emma Field

What Did We Get Up To In January?

Year 1 explored the importance of healthy eating and living, aligned with the Islamic values, by setting up a fruit and vegetable stall and creating fun fruit- punctuation platters! We learned about different fruits, their benefits, and how they help us stay strong and energetic.

In addition to learning about food, we also explored Earth and space! We discovered the planets in our solar system and practiced ordering them from the Sun. It was an exciting month full of hands-on learning!



The children in Year 2 enjoyed a trip to Hamad Port Visitor Centre where we learnt how the port was built and what they did to protect the sea animals while building the port. We learnt what the port was used for and even had a try at being a crane operator unloading the cargo ships. We were also able to enjoy the various sea creatures found around Qatar and even the world. The children

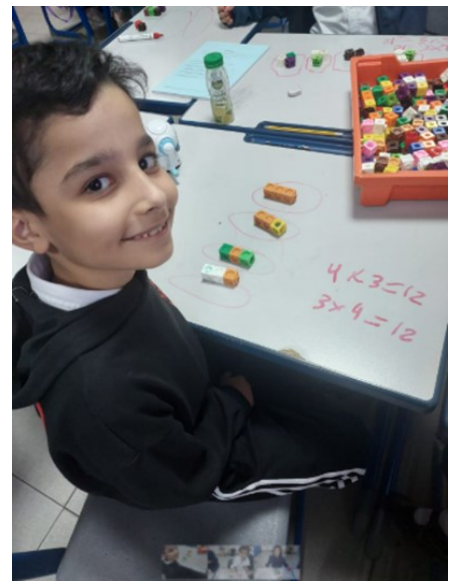


What Did We Get Up To In January?

were especially amazed by the aquarium tunnel and seeing the star fish. The children even had a chance to enjoy the playground.

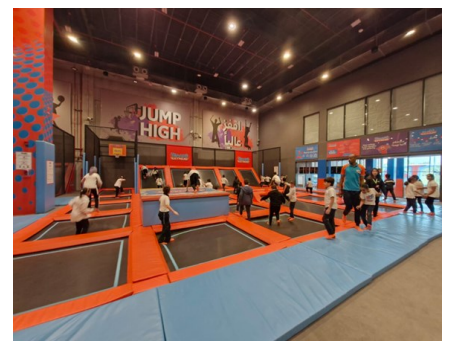


Year 3 had a lovely month. In Maths, we grouped and shared multilinks to help us with our multiplication and division skills. In Art, we were inspired by Van Gogh and had a go at painting our own version of 'Starry Night' and during International Education Day, the children took on the role of a teacher and shared their knowledge with their friends.



Year 4 teachers and students brought the tale of The Hare and the Tortoise to life. There was so much excitement when the race was happening. All the children gathered around witness the famous race and understood the moral of the story that "slow and steady wins the race." It was an unforgettable experience.

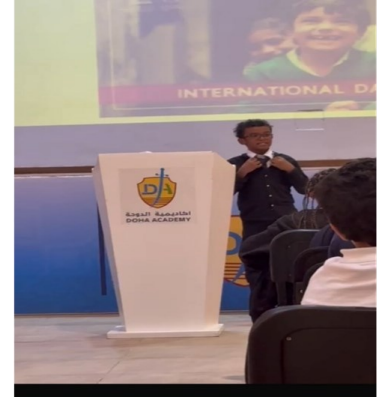
The Trip to Trampo Extreme was an absolute blast. We got to run off all our energy and unpack an exciting experience. We also learnt how to work as a team and face our fears together. We realised that nothing is impossible, and everything can be achieved if we put our minds to it.



What Did We Get Up To In January?

The students of year 5 at Doha Academy enjoyed exploring, learning, and having fun during the school trip to Quest .It was all about curiosity adventure, thrill team spirit and discovery!

Abdulrahman dressed as Isaac Newton from 5A, rocking his gravity presentation at assembly during INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION DAY. A future scientist in the making, sharing the wonders of gravity with us all!"



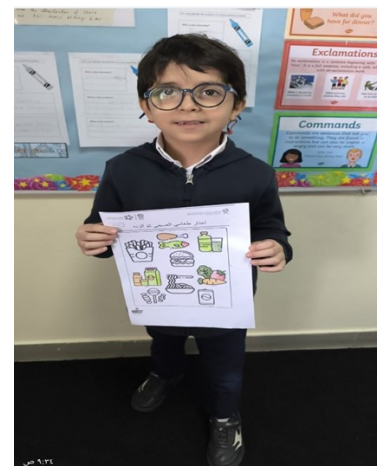
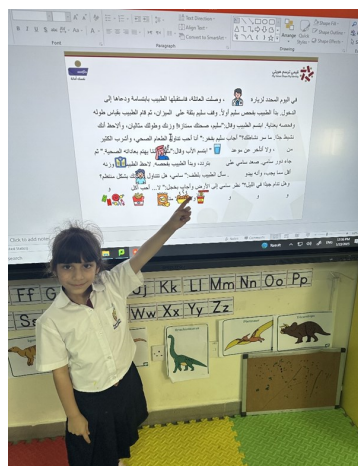
Year 6 have had a busy month including using scale factors to enlarge shapes on pegboards, leaning about Haiku poetry, completing Japanese based art pieces , testing materials that are conductors or insulators of electricity and making origami animals. Last but not least we enjoyed our trip to Quest.



Arabic Department Highlights



This months focus has been on the 'You're well-being is a trust' initiative. With lots of activities promoting personal well-being.



Sporting Success

This month, a selected group of students from Year 4, Year 5, and Year 6 participated in the SOP Competition for football and athletics. The students were incredibly excited and can't wait for the next opportunity to compete!

A special congratulations to the Level 1 students (Year 4 and Year 5) for qualifying for the 4th round. You've all been amazing—well done!



Helping Your Child to take Credit and Responsibility

“ A lot of growing up takes place between ‘It fell’ and ‘I dropped it’”

Some people never take any responsibility for what happens to them. Whether it's getting into trouble for hitting another child, playing badly in a football match, doing badly in a test; they always put it down to something outside themselves—it's the other pupil's fault for winding them up, the teacher's fault for not explaining things properly, the coach's fault for shouting at the wrong time, the weather—anything rather than their own fault!

It works the other way too—some people never take credit for what they do well. When things go well for them they will pass it off as good luck or other things outside their control.

So what can we do to help children take credit where it is due and responsibility?

- The most important thing is to point out what *they have done* to make something turn out well—don't let them pass it off as luck!
- Encourage children to take credit for themselves and to think about what *they did* to achieve success. If they always think success is down to wearing their lucky jumper they won't be motivated to work hard or practice!

Compare these two reactions to doing well in a spelling test. Which reaction makes it more likely that they will be successful again? What has each learnt, and what will they do next time there is a test?

I did well because I really worked hard in class... all that practice paid off... I'm so glad I listened in class when we were doing those 'ie' words.

I don't know how I got an 'A' the teacher must have been in a good mood and I was wearing my lucky socks!

A fun activity is to make a 'book of excuses' and list all the reasons family members give when things don't go their way. You can decide together whether these are real reasons or excuses—if they are excuses they go in the book!

Do it yourself! Model taking credit where it's due and responsibility when necessary. Learn to take a compliment. Most of us need to practice this.

FASCINATING FACT

The British are well known for not being able to accept compliments—we shrug it off—'What this old thing?' - or we feel we have to negate it or give one in return—'Oh, I don't think I'm anywhere near as good as you!'

Here's how to accept a compliment (and it takes practice for most of us!)...

- Look at the person giving you the compliment
- Smile and simply say 'Thank you'
- That's it!

2024/25 Term Dates

Spring Term 2025

Half Term Tuesday 11th February – Thursday 13th February

Term Ends Thursday 27th March

Summer Term 2025

Term Starts Monday 7th April

Eid Break Thursday 5th June – Thursday 12th June

Term Ends Monday 30th June



Messages

Punctuality and Attendance:

A reminder that good punctuality and attendance are keys to academic success. Please ensure students attend school every day and are in school by 7am ready for the start of the first lesson.. Please ensure children are in school all day, early collection should only be used under exceptional circumstances.

School Uniform:

Please ensure students are wearing correct school uniform everyday. This also includes jackets and hoodies which should be school uniform or plain navy blue or black.

Student Collection:

Please ensure to collect students promptly at the end of the school day. A reminder that once students are collected from class at the end of the day they are the responsibility of the person who collected them. Students should not be running around unsupervised at this time.