



8th February 2024

#### **Our Purpose**

Is that every young person should gain as much as possible from our school, based on our belief that all learners can, need and want to achieve

#### **Our Vision**

Is to be a vibrant, welcoming international school that provides a first class education enabling pupils to thrive within a dynamic, global environment

#### **Our Mission**

Is to prepare all pupils through a relevant, challenging curriculum and well-resourced facilities, to become lifelong learners contributing to a global community

# Message from Head of Secondary



OF SECONDARY

# This week in Secondary

Dear Parents.

I hope this newsletter finds you well. The vista of mid-term break appears ever magnified and this is a reminder that School is open as normal on Sunday, 11th February and Monday 12th January next week. We then close for holidays from Tuesday, 13th February to Thursday, 15th February. School will commence on Sunday, 18th February.

Again, I would really like to emphasise the importance of daily reading. Research consistently demonstrates that regular reading significantly contributes to academic progress and achievement across all subjects in Secondary education. We encourage parents to actively support this at home by modelling a love for reading. We also know of the strong correlation between reading and exam success and a growing vocabulary in academic writing is most definitely an advantage as students navigate IGCSEs, A Levels and the IBDP.

Similarly, and in an iterative manner I am aware, the significance of early exam study and preparation cannot be overstated. I urge all parents and students to proactively seek any support they may require, ensuring a smooth and successful examination period. Our teachers are here to assist, so please do not hesitate to reach out as early as possible.

Please also find a link to our Complaints Procedures (here). We most definitely take pride in the strength and positivity of our parental and home relationships, and appreciate that we consistently strive to frame dialogue in a mutually respectful and solution focused manner.

Finally, we are really looking forward to supporting our sister school at DBS Wakra at their Well Being / Spring Fair. This takes place at the DBS Wakra Campus, from 10am -2pm.

Our community is warmly invited to attend also and please see the attached flyer for more information. To view the poster, please click the link (here).

Thank you as always for your ongoing support.

Wishing you a lovely weekend ahead.

Warm Regards,

Mark HEALY







# Dates to remember



#### **Note**

#### **Half Term Holiday**

We return to school on Sunday 18th February

#### Safer Internet Parent Workshop

Join us for an essential parent workshop on safer internet practices. Learn about app safety, age restrictions, and navigating social media with your child. Equip yourself with the knowledge to ensure a secure online environment for your family. Don't miss out on this opportunity to safeguard your child's digital world. Register now!

Safer Internet Parent Workshop Sign up (<u>form</u>)







We are excited to announce the launch of **Google Guardians**, a new initiative aimed at enhancing communication between our school and your families to ensure that you are well-informed about your child's learning journey.

As part of our commitment to keeping you updated and involved in your child's education, we have implemented Google Guardians, a feature that provides you with email summaries regarding your child's assignments, due dates, and classroom announcements via Google Classroom.

Look out for an email invitation in the coming days, inviting you to activate Google Guardians. Upon activation, you will have the option to receive updates on a daily or weekly basis, or opt out of updates altogether, based on your preference.



# Google GUARDIANS

By opting in to Google Guardians, you will gain insight into the work assigned to your child on Google Classroom, stay informed about upcoming assignment due dates, and receive timely announcements from teachers regarding classroom activities and events.

We believe that Google Guardians will significantly improve communication between home and school, enabling you to stay actively involved in your child's learning process and support their academic journey effectively.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership in your child's education. Should you have any questions or require assistance with Google Guardians, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.





# PEDRO ANTUNES IB STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



My name is **Pedro Antunes** and I chose to take IB due to the core belief that we grow when challenged. IB is a programme including many things and among them is CAS hours.

This component of the programme has a special place in my heart because it has forced me out of my comfort zone many times through things such as public speaking, talking to parents at school events and much more. CAS has also allowed me to meet people through practises of volunteering that I would've never met before and has fostered many memories which I shall look fondly upon in the future.

Furthermore, it forced me to gather new hobbies along the lines of photography, script writing and learning to play the piano which I am now immensely grateful for. IB was very challenging for me at the beginning due to the depth and difficulty of the content.

However, I overcame the challenge and gained irreplaceable practice on time-management and organisation. The IB has few students in the course allowing us to form an IB family with our classmates which we will forever cherish and at the same time allows us to forge close bonds with our teachers.

Overall, The IB programme is one which offers engaging classes and enjoyable learning with components such as CAS, EE, TOK and the IA's which have helped me grow and will also help anyone who makes the brave choice of taking IB.



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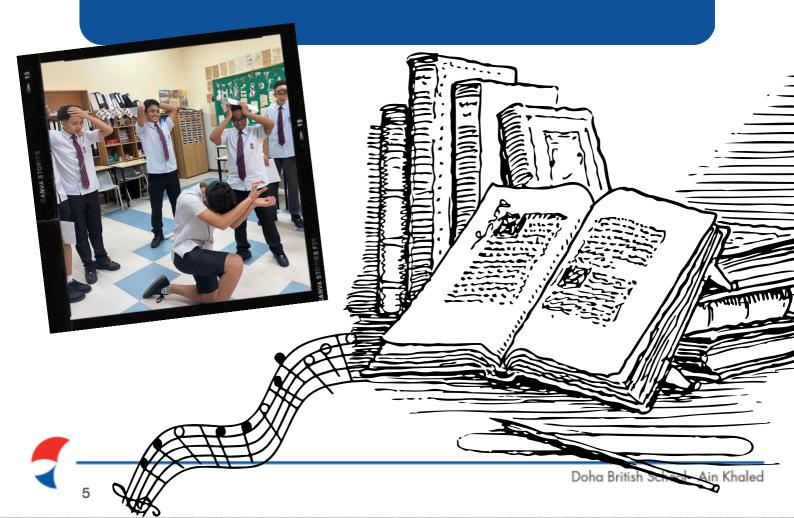




#### Year 9 take a dramatic approach to their English lessons this week

As year 9 get stuck into their studies into Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet - Mrs. Kings' class have been exploring the opening scenes through a woosh!

This uses drama to bring the play to life and to help understand the key scenes and characters. It looks like the class have had great fun! Down with the Montagues! Down with the Capulets!

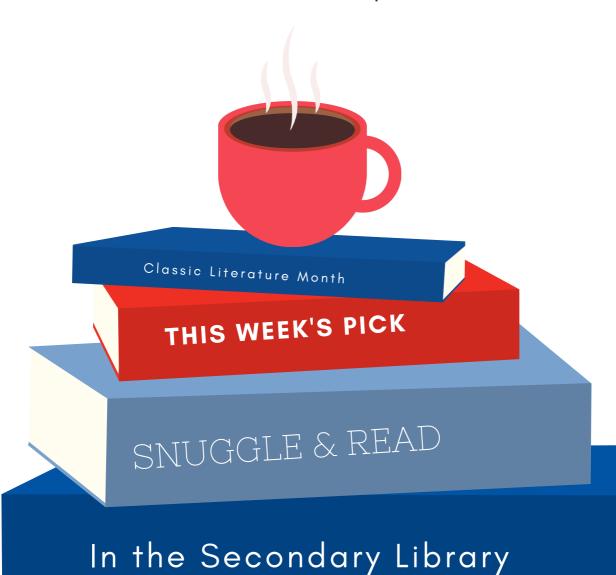




Commencing on the 14th January, Listen to a story/watch a movie while snuggling down and drinking hot chocolate with marshmallow! (Ever Sunday, Monday and Thursday during Lunchbreak)

# **Sundays & Mondays- English Stories Thursdays- Arabic Stories**

- Sign up in the Library prior to event
- Bring your own favourite mug (optional)
- Hot Chocolate and Marshmallows will be provided







#### Year 6 Transition IDL Lessons

# SCIENCE NEWSLETTER

Developed by science teacher Mr Jameel, the IDL program allows students to directly engage with local ecosystems. Key highlights the global perspective on ecosystems. The students learnt about different kingdoms of life and made a model version of an algae cell.

They learnt more about the subcellular organelles and the importance of algae to ecosystems. Students also linked this to photosynthesis and the importance of interdependence.









We are super excited about the upcoming show of The Wizard of Oz which will take place on Monday 25th and Tuesday 26th February. Students have been working extremely hard in rehearsals to ensure we are ready for opening night.

The show has nearly sold out for both nights and we can't wait to see you all there, for what will prove to be a spellbound evening!











# STARS OF THE WEEK

#### **Another great week!**









#### BLUE HORSE HOUSE

- El Shaarani
- Skyla Rose
   Naemi
- Hasti Pramod
- Shidun

#### RED ORYXES HOUSE

- Gullapalli
- Nidhyathi
   Killian
- Shannon Noor Tabakov
- Daniel

#### PURPLE CAMEL HOUSE

- Farooq
- SarahOzkayik
- Melike Zweir
- Aylein

#### GREEN SCORPION HOUSE

- Ali
- Menatallah Rami Benade
- Adam Shatat
- Sama

#### YELLOW FALCONS HOUSE

- Abdalla
- Omar Alam
- Anya Ben Haj
- Rhouma Ibrahim



Thank You