



## Secondary School Weekly Information Letter Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2023

Dear Parents,

Please find below, key dates and information pertinent to the Secondary section of DBS Rawdat Al Hamama.

### Upcoming Events

There are currently no scheduled events for the next 3 weeks due to Ramadan.

### Student Iftar – Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> April

We are pleased to announce that following student requests, an Iftar for the student and staff community at DBS Rawdat has been scheduled for next Thursday from 5:45pm to 7pm. We hope that the event will provide a fantastic opportunity for us to come together as a community and develop a greater understanding of each other cultures and heritages. To make the Iftar more enjoyable, we kindly request all students who will be attending to bring a dish to share with one another. This will allow us to experience a diverse range of dishes, particularly Ramadan specialities from various countries and promote unity within our community. We look forward to seeing everyone there and sharing this special moment together.

Ms Lorente will be speaking to the students early next week to compile a list of food and beverages that students can bring, following which we can share more details of the organisation.

### Garangao

They say that you are never too old to learn, and this was certainly the case for me this week. Until now, I had been completely unaware of the Garangao celebration. For those who, like me, are unfamiliar with it, Garangao is a traditional celebration observed during the month of Ramadan in certain countries of the Middle East, including Qatar, Bahrain, and some parts of Saudi Arabia. Typically, it falls on the 14<sup>th</sup> night of Ramadan, also known as the Night of the Full Moon.

During Garangao, children dress in traditional attire and visit homes in their neighborhood, singing songs and receiving sweets and small gifts from their neighbors. The sweets are usually collected in a special bag, known as a "garangao bag," that the children carry with them.

Garangao is a festive and joyous occasion that is deeply rooted in the culture and customs of the Arabian Peninsula. It is an opportunity for families and communities to come together and celebrate the holy month of Ramadan, while also passing down their traditions and customs to future generations.

As for myself, I was delighted to learn about yet another celebration and to continue broadening my knowledge and appreciation for the rich traditions of the countries in which I have been fortunate enough to visit or reside. Seeing students arrive at school this morning in their traditional clothing, with an abundance of sweet treats to share with their friends and classmates, served as a reminder of how the customs of Ramadan bring us all closer together, regardless of our individual beliefs.



### Gymnasium

We are delighted to announce that the final part of our campus development project, the gym, has now been completed and handed over to the academic team. This comes as great news particularly as the weather is getting warmer, as it means that we can finally begin utilizing the entire facility to its full potential. With the auditorium and swimming pool already handed over, the gym was the only remaining part of the project, and we are thrilled to have it completed on schedule. Starting from this Sunday, we will be able to commence using the gym. We thank everyone involved in the project for their hard work and dedication, which has resulted in the fantastic final addition to our campus facilities.





Our core 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: To be a vibrant, welcoming international school that provides a first-class class education enabling pupils to thrive within a dynamic, global environment  
Our Mission: To prepare all pupils through a relevant, challenging curriculum and well-resourced facilities, to become lifelong learners contributing to a global community.

## Star of the Week

As a school and in line with the 'DBS way' our core purpose is to ensure that every child or young adult, who comes through our doors, gains as much from the experience of being here as possible. We base this on our belief that all learners can, need and want to achieve. We will, therefore, provide the highest standards of teaching and learning together with substantive support for character development. We want our students to complete their education here as well-rounded individuals.

Whilst students are at DBS, we aim to develop and instil the following values:



Character development does not happen in isolation, for it to be effective, it needs to permeate all layers of your child's education at DBS. Within the classroom we aim to develop and recognise many of the facets of character development. One of the ways we recognise this is through our 'Star of the week'. Each week teachers nominate a student in their class that they feel has exhibited one or more of the character traits we aim to develop. The student(s) who receive the most nominations are awarded our star of the week. Although we normally only have one or two students in each year group who are awarded the Star of the week, many other students are nominated. To celebrate all our students' success, we will share with you through the newsletter all the nominations. If your child has been nominated or has been awarded the Star of the week, then please recognise their success with them.

★ Star of the Week

★ Y7 Jawad Ksiki ★

Y8: Isam Abada ★

Y9: Hadi Batayneh ★

Y10: Emjay Gnanam

The full list of nominations can be accessed through the following [link](#)

## **Ongoing reminders from previous weeks and for New Parents (Please click the title)**

- [Access to E-library for Students – Information on how our students can access the free e-books library from home](#)
- [Home School Agreement – An outline of key expectations of students, parents and teachers](#)
- [Ties for Phones – Policy for students who do not have their ties](#)
- [Absence Procedures – Overview of what to do if your child is absent from School](#)
- [Welcome to Secondary Handbook – General information for parents who are new to DBS Rawdat](#)
- [School Calendar 2023/24 - Calendar 2023/24](#)

Kind Regards



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