



Secondary School Weekly Information Letter Thursday 28th September 2023

Dear Parents,
 Please find below, information pertinent to the Secondary section of DBS Rawdat Al Hamama.

Dates for you Diary

Upcoming Events	
Date	Event
Thursday 5 th October	Poetry day
Sunday 8 th October – Thursday 12 th October	Mental Health Awareness Week
Tuesday 10 th October	IGCSE Students Geography Field Trip
Wednesday 11 th October	Year 8 Parents Evening
Sunday 15 th October – Wednesday 18 th October	Doha Expo Visits (Year groups TBC)
Wednesday 18 th October	Year 9 Parents Evening
Thursday 19 th October	International Day
Sunday 22 nd October – Thursday 26 th October	Half Term – School Closed
Further ahead	
Date	Event
Sunday 12 th November – Thursday 16 th November	Anti-Bullying Week
Sunday 19 th November – Wednesday 22 nd November	Whole School and Individual Photos
Wednesday 22 nd November	Year 10 and 11 parents Evening
Monday 27 th November	Year 7 reports sent home
Wednesday 29 th November	Year 7 Parents Evening
Sunday 3 rd December	Arabic and Islam End of Term examinations

Languages Week

Were you aware that students at DBS speak approximately 22 unique native languages? Most of our students are bilingual, and some even trilingual! Even though English is the main instructional language, many in our diverse student community are fluent in languages such as French, German, Urdu, Russian, Hindi, Norwegian, Chinese, Czech, Hindi, Gujarati, Afrikaans, Indonesian, Malay, Malayalam, Persian, Russian, Tagalog, Teluga, Tamil, Turkish, Urdu, Arabic, Swahili and Kazack amongst others.

This week, DBS Rawdat Al Hamama celebrated World Languages Week. We place immense value on teaching and mastering modern languages. Our students engage deeply in studying English, Arabic, and Spanish. Research shows that students who actively engage in the study of a least one additional language have increased cognitive abilities which then have appositive impact on all their studies.

The programme of events this week included:

- How to make a Tortilla de patatas and Scavenger Hunt ,
- Which language is it?
- Find someone who speaks a particular language
- Similarities between Spanish and Arabic languages video.
- International music played during break and lunchtime in the shaded area.
- Spanish and French Breakfast



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.

Designer of the month

In design and technology, students delve into the processes related to product creation, market viability, and materials utilized. Every month, we spotlight one exemplary designer. For September, our praise goes to Eirielle Radislao, a Year 10 student, who has crafted exceptionally imaginative and impressive posters for our material study sessions. Kudos for your outstanding effort, Eirielle! Keep up the brilliant work. Best, Miss Khan.



Artists of the Month

Congratulations to our Artists of the Month! These students' exceptional talents are not only a testament to their inquisitiveness, ambition, and creativity, but also highlight the numerous benefits of studying art. Their recognition within the art department this month is a clear reflection of the positive impact art education can have on personal and artistic growth.



Student Council

The Student council at DBS, play a vital role in enhancing the overall school experience for both students and staff. The council has been elected by the student body, and serve as the voice and representation of the students, bridging the gap between them and the school leadership. With the recently concluded election campaign, we are pleased to announce the formation of our student council for the academic year 2023-24.

The General Purpose of a Student Council

- **Representation:** One of the primary roles of the student council is to represent the student body. Members of the council ensure that the voices, concerns, and opinions of the students are heard and considered by the school administration.
- **Leadership Development:** Serving on the student council allows students to develop leadership skills as they take on responsibilities, make decisions, and work collaboratively with peers and school staff.
- **School Improvement Initiatives:** Student councils actively participate in creating and implementing ideas to enhance the school environment. This can range from organizing events to suggesting changes in school policies.
- **Community Building:** Through events, fundraisers, and various activities, student councils play a role in fostering a sense of community within the school. They promote unity, inclusivity, and school spirit.
- **Feedback Mechanism:** Student councils provide feedback on various academic and extracurricular programs, ensuring that they cater to the interests and needs of the students.



After a spirited and dynamic election campaign, the students have made their choices clear. The new council members, representative of our diverse student body, are ready to take on their roles with enthusiasm and dedication. We believe they will be instrumental in bringing about positive changes and improvements in our school community.

Within the broader student council, we also have subcommittees dedicated to enhancing student wellbeing, sports, and eco-friendly initiatives.



As we welcome our newly elected representatives, we also want to extend our heartfelt wishes to them. The journey of a student council member can be challenging, but it is also incredibly rewarding. We are confident that these representatives will rise to the occasion, making impactful contributions and leaving a lasting legacy of positive change.

A thriving student council is instrumental in shaping the school environment. To our new representatives, we say: Congratulations on your election! We eagerly anticipate the strides you will make this year. Your hard work, dedication, and passion will surely make a difference. Best wishes for a productive and fulfilling academic year ahead!

Google Classrooms

You may recall our mention of Google Classroom during the induction meeting and the 'Meet the Tutor' evening. It's paramount for us to ensure that all stakeholders, especially our students' first educators – the parents, are well-informed about the tools we use to facilitate learning.

Google Classroom stands as a key platform in the academic journey of our student. It is more than just a digital classroom; it's a hub for student-teacher interactions, fostering a dynamic and interactive learning environment. Teachers at DBS use google classroom in the following ways:

- **Presentation Uploads:** Teachers frequently upload presentations, making it easier for students to revisit lessons, clarify doubts, and strengthen their understanding.
- **Worksheets and Resources:** Google Classroom is the repository for essential worksheets and other academic resources, ensuring students have access to everything they need to excel.
- **Timelines and Deadlines:** Staying organized is key to academic success. With Google Classroom, students are informed about submission dates for assignments and assessment schedules.
- **Primary Communication Tool:** It serves as the central communication channel between students and teachers, enabling interactions, feedback, and support.

While Google Classroom is primarily student-centric, we deeply value the home-school partnership. We recognise that when parents are informed and involved, students thrive. The synergy between home encouragement and school efforts often results in improved student outcomes. For our parents to have a better understanding of Google classroom, Mr Thomas has created a short video to help you navigate and understand how the platform is organised.



Click on this icon to view the Video

Beach Clean-up

We have been contacted by Doha Environmental Actions Project (DEAP) to inform us that they have planned a Zekreet Beach Cleanup for this Friday, 29th September, from 4pm to 6:15pm.

Joining this event would be an enriching experience for our students, emphasizing the value of community service. Besides contributing to environmental preservation, it also stands as a chance for our students to grow personally and learn the importance of collective responsibility.

Both parents and students are invited to participate. United, we can foster a greener and more sustainable environment for our school community and the wider Qatar.

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.

This week's Stars of the Week are:



Blue Horses: Hannah Gamal El Din



Green Scorpions: Zaira Monzur



Purple Camels: Tamara Mohamed



Red Oryxes: Anya Lois Orcullo Garcia



Yellow Falcons: Mea Theron

For the full list of students who were nominated please use the following link: [Star of the Week](#)

Ongoing reminders

- [Access to E-library for Students – Information on how our students can access the free e-books library from home](#)
- [School Calendar 2023/24 - Calendar 2023/24](#)
- [School Uniform and School Shoes 2023-24](#)
- [Staff email contact list](#)
- [Welcome to Secondary - Handbook](#)

Kind Regards



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