



## Secondary School Weekly Information Letter Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November 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
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> November –Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> November	Anti-Bullying Week
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> November – Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November	Whole School and Individual Photos
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> – Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November	Doha Expo trips (Year 7-11)
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> November	U16 Boys Football at Doha College
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> November	U14 Boys Football at Dukhan English School
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November	Year 10 and 11 Parents Evening
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 7 reports sent home
Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 10 and 11 DT trip to M7
Further ahead	
Date	Event
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 7 Parents Evening
Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December	Arabic and Islam End of Term examinations
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 10 reports sent home
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 11 reports sent home
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 8 reports sent home
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 9 reports sent home
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	Last School day of Term 1

### Welcome - Head of Secondary



You may have noticed me alongside a colleague during morning gate duty, and I'm delighted to announce that we have a new addition to the DBS Rawdat community, Mrs. Alica Hill, who will serve as the new Head of Secondary.

Mrs. Hill, an experienced Head teacher, is dedicated to enhancing achievement at all levels - from individual to class, team, and school-wide. She firmly believes that teaching should be fueled by a genuine passion for learning and should cater to the unique needs of each student. With a strong foundation in education quality and data analysis, she possesses the knowledge and skills needed to strategically improve and advance educational settings. Mrs. Hill has a diverse background, having worked in various educational environments, including mainstream, private/independent, and special education schools. In each setting, she consistently delivered high-quality services and provided tailored solutions to address specific educational needs.

With many years of experience as a senior leader in diverse educational settings, Mrs. Hill has a track record of transforming education at all levels. Her prior experiences in both corporate and educational contexts have given her a comprehensive understanding of the vital relationships among educators, students, caregivers, and other professionals. This perspective allows her to deeply comprehend and provide customised solutions for each educational setting. She is well-prepared to support educational professionals and providers in achieving their goals of excellence.

Mrs. Hill is excited and proud to become a part of the DBS Rawdat family, and she eagerly looks forward to meeting and collaborating with everyone. She also extends warm wishes for a wonderful weekend and is eager to meet you as parents in the coming weeks.

### Friends of DBS – Breakfast Morning

The Friends of DBS (FODBS) play a vital role as our school's Parent-Teacher Association, and they were established just last month. I was thrilled to be extended an invitation to our inaugural community gathering, meticulously organized by FODBS, hosted at the Waldorf Astoria for a delightful breakfast. It was truly heartening to witness a large turnout of our parents coming together for a social event. Given the outstanding success of this initial gathering, I am already eagerly anticipating future events and the chance to meet everyone again.

I would like to convey my deep appreciation to all the dedicated FODBS members who invested weeks in ticket sales and event promotion. I'd especially like to extend a big thank you to Mrs. Sana and Mrs. Anulf for their exceptional contributions.



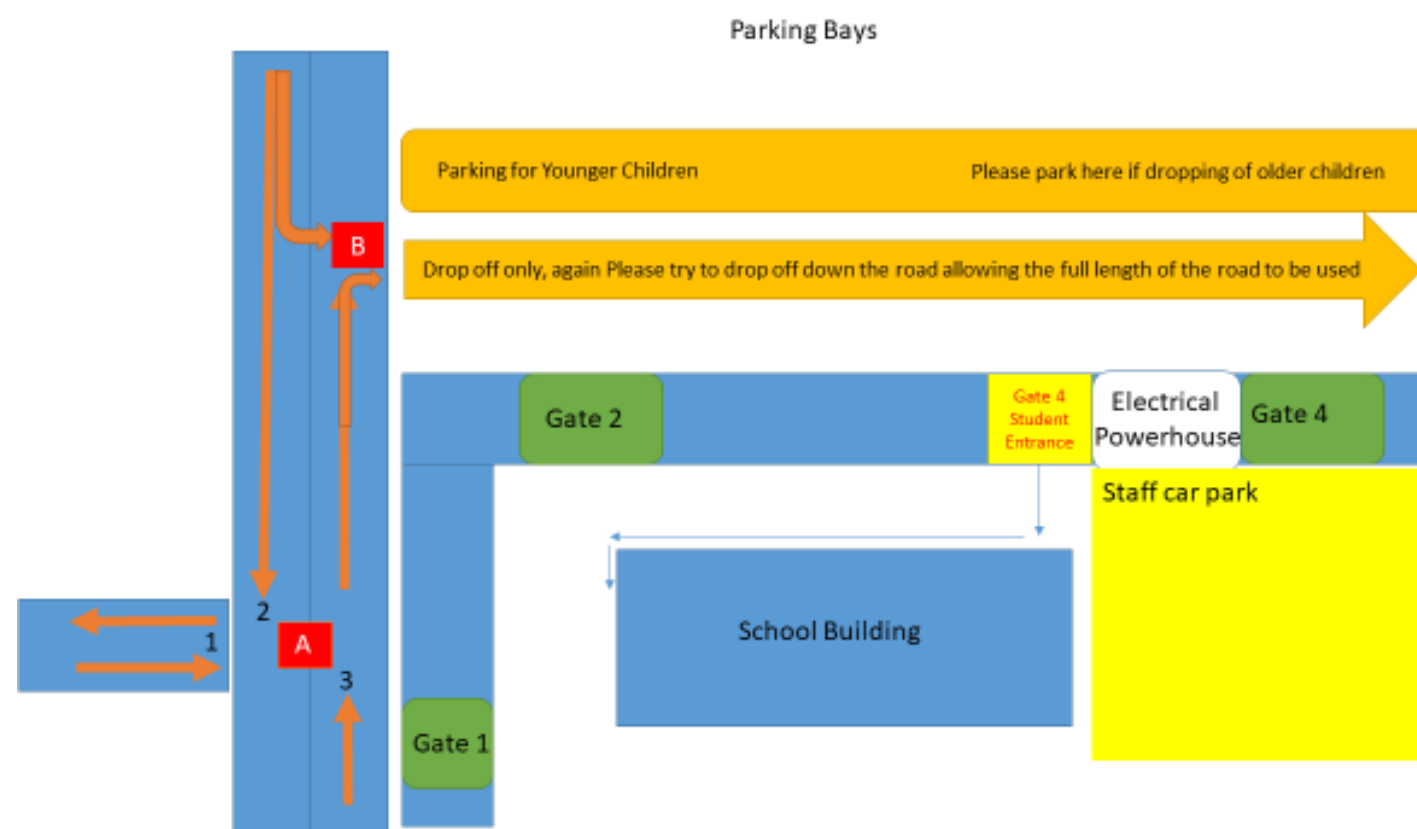


## Morning Drop off - Gate 4

Over the past few months, we've maintained a continuous eye on the traffic patterns around the school during drop-off and pick-up times. Our observations have shown that, as we've all settled into a regular routine and especially when we've collaborated to enhance traffic flow at the two main intersections, the traffic generally moves quite smoothly.

In our ongoing efforts to further expedite the drop-off process, we'll be conducting a trial for the next couple of weeks, focusing on also having student drop-offs closer to gate 4. Starting from Sunday, November 12th, we will open gate 4, allowing parents to drive to the lower end of the road to drop off their children, who can then enter the school through the gate 4, student entrance

In addition, please note that Gate 4 should exclusively be utilised by parents who intend to drop off their children, and in such cases where the children can independently make their way to their classes. If parents need to accompany their children into the school, we kindly request that they continue to use Gate 2 for this purpose.



## Important Notice for Parent & Guardian Campus Access



For the continued safety and security of our entire school community, from Sunday 5th November onwards, all parents, drivers, nannies, and guardians who need to enter the campus for child drop-off or pick-up must visibly wear the red parent lanyard.

Please ensure you have your lanyard displayed. Entry to the campus will not be permitted without it. If you do not have a lanyard, you can order one from the main reception desk after being signed in by security.

We appreciate your understanding and cooperation in adhering to this policy, ensuring the safety of our staff and students.

## 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 the 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: Mukaddes Ulugmayan**

 **Green Scorpions: Duyghu Abasova**

 **Purple Camels: Muna Fakhouri**

 **Red Onyxes: Anya Garcia**

 **Yellow Falcons: Naomi Dsouza**

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

## **Anti-bullying week**



In the upcoming week, we will be focusing on enhancing awareness regarding bullying and advocating for strategies and activities that foster an anti-bullying environment. As a tangible demonstration of our dedication to eliminating bullying and spreading awareness, we have designated Monday, November 13th as Odd Socks Day. On this day, we warmly encourage our students to wear mismatched socks to school, symbolising unity and acceptance of diversity, and sending a powerful message that it is not only acceptable but also commendable to embrace differences and take a stand against bullying and discrimination.

## **Doha Expo**

We are pleased to announce that our students will participate in the Doha Expo from Sunday, November 19th, to Wednesday, November 22nd. The Expo is dedicated to the theme "Green Desert, Better Environment," which highlights sustainable agricultural practices in arid regions and focuses on the following key themes:

- Modern Agriculture
- Technology & Innovation
- Environmental Awareness
- Sustainability

These themes underscore the importance of fostering sustainable practices in agriculture and encouraging the use of modern technologies, innovation, environmental consciousness, and the pursuit of long-term sustainability. The Expo provides a unique opportunity for our students to explore and learn about these critical aspects of agricultural development while also contributing to the global efforts to combat desertification.

## **Ongoing reminders – Useful to Know (New Parents)**

- [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](#)
- [Google Classrooms](#)

Kind Regards



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