

Dear Parents,

SMS messages

By now you will have received a SMS from school and this is something we will use from time to time to keep parents informed about school events. I hope you will find it useful.

Suspicious vehicles

I should like to thank the parents who have advised me of suspicious vehicles outside school at the end of the day. We are monitoring the situation and would again remind parents to give specific instructions to their children about who will collect them and where the car will be located. Students are not permitted to wait alone outside the school; they must always be near to the security guard. Please speak to your child about 'stranger danger' and we will continue to reinforce the message – gently – at school.

Rugby

The U'13 Boys took part in their first Rugby Tournament - held at AKIS on Tuesday the 31st of January. The boys played extremely well against more experienced opposition, just losing their first game 10-5 to DC. The boy's second game was also against DC and after making a great start and taking the lead they were eventually overpowered and lost 17-5. In their 3rd/4th play-off game. They were up against the hosts, AKIS, the boys battled; continuously threatening the AKIS line. Eventually after some great work from the forwards, notably, Abdulaziz Al Dafa and Abdulrahman Al Saad, Naji was given the opportunity to pass the ball out to the hard working Hussein and lay on a great pass to Man of the Match Andrenz who scored under the posts. Well done to all that took part and Mr. Brewer and Mr. Irvine who have got the boys up to speed in such a short space of time.

Athletics

On Sunday the 5th February a small athletics team went up to Al Khor for the annual QUESS Road Race. This consists of a 3Km race for the U'12's, U'13's and U'14's with the U'16's and U'19's completing a 6Km course. All who went performed admirably, but the real stand-out performances came from Sami Qush, in the U'13's who just missed out on a medal finishing 4th, Yousef Makki went one place better in the U'16's finishing in 3rd and winning the bronze. We then had two other great performances one from Thiago in the U'14's who finished strongly in 2nd to win the bronze, but the highlight of the day came from Baden who was magnificent winning the U'13's race and earning a gold medal for his efforts.



Accreditation

I mentioned in the last newsletter that we hope to be accepted by the Supreme Education Council to start our self-evaluation leading towards full inspection and accreditation. I am please to let you know that we have been accepted and we are now awaiting the SEC report and the standards which we must meet. All members of our school community will be involved in the school self-evaluation which will support all our development work. Already parent, teacher and student responses to questionnaires have been gathered and these will all be taken into consideration when planning for improvement. I hope that you will continue to respond to such questionnaires and that you will come forward with suggestions and comments to help as we progress.

Coffee Morning

On Monday 5th March I will be holding a coffee morning for those who wish to drop in. This will be held in the secondary quadrangle. It will provide an opportunity for parents to meet informally.

Modern World Debate Tournament

Last week two Year Nine students, Muhamed Faraaz Dheen Muhammad and Haziq Bin Yazid, travelled to Dubai to represented QIS at a three-day international debating tournament. The competition drew teams from around the world, competing in the challenging British Parliamentary format, a style usually reserved for university debaters. The students debating a wide range of topics, with motions ranging from banning underweight models from the runway, to televising criminal trials, to forcing colonial powers to return stolen artefacts. Although the students were eliminated before the semi-finals, they still did an excellent job and managed to significantly improve their debating skills.

As well as competing in the tournament we were lucky enough to witness some very high quality debate, with the grand final between Modern High School and Jemeriah College debating 'This House would abolish all restrictions on immigration' being particularly impressive and memorable.

After the challenging debates of the day were over there were a range of evening activities, ranging for a desert safari to a formal dinner complete with a live band, allowing students, judges and staff time to get to relax and get to know one another better. However, the undoubted highlight of the trip for the students was the school's hot chocolate machine – the boys' record was 10 cups each in one day! Both Mr Jackson and I were very impressed with the quality of the Haziq and Faraaz's debates, the improvements they made over the three days and their commitment to representing QIS. Congratulations to both students.

Ms Emily Fitzpatrick
Debating Coordinator



Year Three – Roman Day

On Sunday 12th February the Year 3 students had a Romans Day. The children got dressed up as Romans and had a day of activities related to their Theme; for example, playing Roman games and food tasting. These really helped to bring their curriculum work to life. The teachers worked very hard to organise the day and a great time was had by all.



Hide n' Seek

A Guinness World Record for the largest game of 'Hide and Seek' was broken on Friday thanks to the help of QIS students/ the Charity Committee! Out of all schools in Qatar, we are one of the biggest supporters and receive special mention on stage, in front of 1200+ people.

We are the only school in the country – apart from our neighbours the Lebanese School - to host ticket sales in school for a full two weeks before the event, raising valuable funds for Qatar Red Crescent.

