

Qatar Canadian School Newsletter

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Mr. Mike O'Leary
Principal

Ms. Angela Pitcher,
Vice-Principal

Mr. Haitham Alkhateeb
(PAC Chair)

Upcoming Events

Nov. 3 – Remembrance Day Assembly at 8 a.m. Parent are welcome to attend.

Nov. 6 – 10 Eid Holiday

Nov. 23 – After School Activities end.

Nov. 27 – Secondary School progress reports issued

Principal's News

Greetings:

Welcome to the 2011 - 2012 school year!

We got off to a fast start to the school year on September 11th and it seems like we just fast-forwarded to the end of October.

So much has happened since September and our newsletter is one way to keep you up to date on what is happening at Qatar Canadian School.

We are about halfway through our first session of our After School Activities. Students are involved in a variety of activities, sports and events that lead to an enhanced education. We are continuing with our international accreditation and look forward to another site review in the spring. This is also our first year for Grade 10 and we will offer Grade 11 next year.

Also, we are very proud to be a "high tech" school as we have access to two fully functional computer labs and students have scheduled classes in Information and Communication Technology. In addition, we have 19 Promethean Interactive White Boards in classrooms that are used to enhance student learning. This year, QCS entered it first team in the National Robotic Olympiad and had a very respectful showing.

As you will notice in the rest of the newsletter, students at Qatar Canadian School are very involved in a great variety of educational endeavors.

Please feel free to drop by the school, email or call if you have any questions or concerns.

Respectfully,

Mike O'Leary
Principal

Fond Farewell

Staff and students are sad to say farewell to our security guards Man Kumar, Chhowang, Narendra Rai, and Guatam Rai. We are indebted to their outstanding service to us. These men have been caring professionals, dedicated to the safety of all. Man Kumar and Chhowang have been with QCS since August 2008 and Narendra Rai for just over 2 years. Gautam Rai joined us this September.

At an assembly this morning staff and students thanked our security with a giant thank you card and gifts. We wish them all the best for the future.



Man Kumar and Chhowang
faithfully served QCS for 3 years.



Mr. Mike and Ms. Camille present Man Kumar and Gautam Rai with a farewell card from staff and students at QCS.

QCS Robotics Club

On October 22, 2011 the QCS Robotics club (also known as the QCS Robot Pirates) competed in the Qatar National Robotics Olympiad at the College of the North Atlantic Qatar. Our club, consisting of Rayane Azani, Thomas McKinnon, Christopher Ford, and Renee Madronic, were set with the task of creating a robot that improved life. Using the Lego Mindstorms 9797 kit, generously provided to the school by the College of the North Atlantic Qatar, we built a robot designed to mow the lawn. All in all our team put in over 15 hours of dedicated work after school.

Thomas and Renee oversaw the building of the robot and Chris and Rayane programmed the robot. Like all good



inventors, we named our robot: Captain Mower.

On the day of the competition, our students proudly showcased their robot to the judges and to other schools and placed in the top nine out of 28 teams in the division. A huge accomplishment for first time robot builders! As coach of the QCS Robotics club I am proud of how well these 4 students worked together and of all the amazing things they learned. A big thanks to the College of the North Atlantic Qatar for this opportunity...we are already eagerly anticipating next year's competition!

For a video of the competition please visit this YouTube link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kLFZTINeBSA&feature=colike>

**Ms. Camille
Science Teacher**



The QCS Robotics club (From left to right): Camille Garewal (coach), Rayane Azani, Renee Madronic, Christopher Ford, Thomas McKinnon

A Dinosaur in my Backyard

As part of their Language arts curriculum the Grade 3B class wrote stories called "A Dinosaur in my Backyard". As a follow up activity they made dinosaurs out of clay.

Trudy McPherson, Grade 3B Teacher



Some of the many colorful dinosaur creations by Grade 3B students.



Natasha, Zainab and Amal proudly display their dinosaurs.

Healthy Lifestyle

This year the focus of the initiatives instigated by the nurse will focus on living a healthy lifestyle. There will be many different programs completed by the nurse to coincide with this theme. Several steps have already been taken to ensure that QCS is an environment that promotes a healthy lifestyle.

1. In September we had a lice check. We are proud to announce that at the time of the check QCS was lice free! We will be continually monitoring for lice throughout the school year.
2. MMR immunization- the Supreme Council of Health came on October 13th to immunize our students for the measles, mumps and rubella.
3. Students have been weighed and measured to determine their BMI and growth percentile. This allows us to monitor changes through the year and help to establish programs for students who may need extra support in this area.
4. The cafeteria is serving up snacks daily to all the students of QCS. We have been able to request several healthy changes to the menu. These changes include no fried foods, white milk and 100% juice fruit drinks, fresh cut fruit and vegetables, and no added sugar or salt to foods served. We will continue working to make the snacks as healthy as possible.
5. Please remember that we would like you to send healthy food to school for your child. This means no chips, no chocolate, no soda pop, and no candy or other sweets. We are also a nut free environment as well as a shellfish free environment due to severe allergies in the school therefore **nut** and **shellfish** products are **NOT** allowed at QCS.

Let's continue to work together to promote a healthy lifestyle for all of the students here at QCS!

Raigne Symes
School Nurse



Junior Kindergarten students enjoying a healthy snack.

Costume Parade

Dressed in their spooky, elegant and zaniest best staff and students gathered in the outer courtyard then paraded through the school today.



Some of our Grade 5 and 6 girls looking their scary best for this year's costume parade.



Cool hippie dude and his T-shirt bandit friends.



Kindergarten students line up for the parade.



Grade 6A proudly standing in front of their Autumn poetry display.

Alberta Education Accreditation

Qatar Canadian School began the process of becoming an accredited Alberta school during the 2010-2011 school year. After being visited by a representative from Alberta Education in February 2011 the school was granted preliminary accreditation status. This was the first stage in a 3 year process to achieve full accreditation. All staff members are currently undergoing procedures to acquire Alberta Teaching Certification which is a requirement for all Alberta accreditation process. A second visit from an Alberta Education representative will occur in the spring of 2012 to review the progress towards full accreditation.

Cindy Meagher
Curriculum Coordinator



Grades 1 – 3 boys practice their soccer skills with Mrs. McPherson as part of the After School Activities.

Exam Schedule Change

Our Grade 10 students will be participating in the Model United Nations Conference sponsored by the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service from Feb. 1 - 4. As a result the exam schedule for Grades 7 - 10 will be moved one week earlier. Exams will be held on January 25, 26, 29 and 30th.



Colourful Thanksgiving turkeys created by Grade 1 students.

Parent Advisory Council News:

We would like to welcome everyone back! Here is the latest update on PAC.

We held two general meetings so far and before the Eid break with great discussions and inputs from parents. PAC carried out elections for this year's executive. We are pleased to announce the positions that were voted for this year as follows:

- Chair: Haitham Alkhateeb (Professor of Mathematics Education at Qatar University)
- Co-Chair: John Penton (Program Development Coordinator at CNA-Q)
- Treasurer: Jacqueline King (Director of Finance at the University of Calgary)
- Secretary: Karen Donnelly (Instructional Coordinator TPP at CNA-Q)

The QCS Parent Advisory Council invites you to visit our table at the CNA-Q Holiday Bazaar on Saturday November 26, 10:00 - 4:00.

Poinsettias · Tim Horton's Coffee · Doughnuts
All proceeds will benefit QCS student activities

Next meeting of PAC is Monday December 5th at 6:00 p.m.

Haitham Alkhateeb
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