

# Qatar Canadian School Newsletter

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**Mr. Mike O'Leary**  
Principal

**Mr. Fred Ripley,**  
Vice-Principal

**Mrs. Samah Al-Sabbagh,**  
Parent Advisory Council  
Chair

## Upcoming Events

Oct. 31 – Halloween  
(Special Events and  
Activities will be taking  
place)  
Nov. 2 – PAC Meeting at  
6:00 p.m.  
Nov. 14 – 18 Eid Al  
Adaha  
Nov. 25 – After School  
Activities end

## Principal's News

Thank you for your support.

**Catherine Forsey, Art Teacher**



### Greetings:

Things have been progressing well at Qatar Canadian School since our first day of school. Students and staff have settled in very nicely.

We have several new initiatives this year including a Junior High Fine Arts Program, Supreme Education Council requirements of integrating Qatari History throughout the Social Studies programs (JK – Gr. 9), Islamic Studies (for Muslim students only) JK – Gr. 3 and JK – Gr. 3 Arabic language instruction. We will also begin our second year of Local Accreditation with the Supreme Education Council and we intend to apply for International Accreditation with Alberta Education, Canada, this year. In addition, we have partnered with the CNA-Q Business Department to work on a High School and Marketing Business Plan that will be presented to the Qatar Canadian School Board of Directors in the next few months.

As you can note, there is lots going on at Qatar Canadian School as we are committed to bringing your children, our students, an exemplary and well rounded education program. We also encourage you to get involved in events at QCS and our Parent Advisory Council.

We look forward to bringing you many more highlights and milestones throughout the year.

Best regards,

**Mike**

**Mike O'Leary,**  
Principal

### Poppies for Remembrance Day

November 11<sup>th</sup> is Remembrance Day in Canada. Here at QCS we will be having an assembly to commemorate the occasion. Students will be asked to wear a poppy during the assembly. The poppy symbolizes remembrance. We remember those who fought and worked for our privileges and freedoms.

Poppies will be available from their homeroom teachers. We request a small donation for each poppy. The money collected will be donated to support veterans and their legions.

### Eid Al-Adha Exhibiting Artists

I am pleased to announce that the following 17 artists will have their work framed and hung at CNA-Q's library. The work will be shown starting November 1<sup>st</sup>. All other entries will be displayed in the library on the bulletin board upstairs.

I would like to thank all the students for their hard work and participation.

<b>Grade 1</b> Zaid Mahmood	<b>Grade 3A</b> Magda Saleh
<b>Grade 4</b> Hamza Ahmed Sadeq Hussein Maram Alkhateeb	<b>Grade 5A</b> Annas Rahuma Rachel Madronic
<b>Grade 6</b> Emilie Joly Sarah Mokhtar Aisha Abdella	<b>Grade 5B</b> Hardeep Soora Joshua Varghese Shainah Juras Ayal Alkhateeb
<b>Grade 7</b> Taha Kubbar	<b>Grade 8B</b> Rayane Azani Omar Al-Saad**

\*\* work is too large to frame

**Catherine Forsey, Art Teacher**



## Science in Action!

The Junior High science lab has enjoyed a lot of use throughout the month of October. The Grade 8 science classes have been building simple machines and calculating how much work humans and machines have to do to move a load. The Grade 9s have been learning about the basics of electricity by building circuits and creating cells made of fruit!



Nick, Ameer, and Rayanne are testing out their second class lever!

## Terrific Thursday Phone Calls

Has your heart ever raced a bit in receiving a call from the Principal or Vice-Principal of the school? It's normal to think the worst and that your child may have gotten in trouble. So many parents are pleasantly surprised when the phone call turns out to be the sharing of good news. Every Thursday here at QCS homeroom teachers fill in a Terrific Thursday form and pass it in to Mr. Mike and Mr. Fred. A student's name is put forward who has improvement in work or is working hard.

**Congratulations to these students whose proud parents have received a Terrific Thursday Phone Call.**

Hannah Abdella JKA; Zuhair Mahmood JKA; Nawal Qasim JKA; Lea Piot JKB; Omeed Tafreshi JKB; Raya Khedher JKB; Ahmad Izzeddin SKA; William Oldford 1; Dana Andraos 1; Khadeja Khan1; Kayleen Brewster 1; Natasha Sarkis 2B; Tara Tafreshi 2B; Arina Khawar 3A; Magda Saleh 3A; Madihah Khan 3B; Aashir Hussain 3B; Lauren Riome 3B; Mariam Zughraer 3B; Jenna Sonmor 4; Rebecca He 4; Aasem Rahuma 4; Annas Rahuma 5A; Hardeep Soora 5A; Joshiah Varghese 5A; Shainah Juras 5B; Yana Darouti 5B; Husein Rahman 5B; Brenna Riome 6; Hiba Hassan 7; Amundeeep Soora 8A; Hafsa Hassan 8A; Raizan Chowdhury 8A; Robert Madronic 9



This scary creature hangs in the entrance as part of Halloween decorations created by Ms. Forsey.

## Belonging in My World



Grade One students are working on their Social Studies unit "Belonging in My World". They are learning about belonging to different groups, the value of being part of a group, rights and responsibilities and mapping. Students brought in some items that represent some of the different groups they belong to.



Zaid Mahmood, Janet Smyth, William Oldford and Dana Andraos share with fellow students.

Ms. Lama  
Grade 1 teacher



Girls from Grades 4 – 6 receiving instructions in playing basketball from Ms. Dakins



**Grade 5B students wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving!!**

### Parent Advisory Council News

I would like to welcome back all parents to this new academic year at QCS and extend a warm welcome to those parents who joined the QCS family in September. We at PAC are anxious to start the year off on a great foot. PAC worked very hard last year to establish itself and before the end of the year we were able to make a positive contribution to the school and parents.

This year we are planning to be more involved in assisting the school in its march towards excellence. We want to reach out to all parents to get involved and attend our meeting.

We have two positions we are looking to fill, the secretary and treasurer. Both myself, and Co-Chair Jill Brown, would welcome new fresh minds to join our efforts in making PAC as successful as possible. We look forward to meeting each and every one of you when you join us in our meetings held the **first Tuesday night of every month at 6:00 p.m.**

*Samah Al-Sabbagh, PAC Chair*

### After School Activities

This year at Qatar Canadian School we have put into place two sessions of After School Activities for our students. The first session started on October 18<sup>th</sup> and will run for five weeks and **end on the 24<sup>th</sup> of November**. This is one week less than what we planned but with the Eid break and upcoming report cards as well as Parent/Teacher Interviews we will need the extra time for teachers at the end of November. The second session will run in the Spring starting in March.

We have 20 activities in place and 130 students who have signed up and have been placed in these activities. They range from Homework Club to Computer Clubs and various physical activities. These numbers represent 80% of our student body taking part in the program. A list of all activities was circulated to parents and students were given a chance to sign up for their first, second and 3<sup>rd</sup> choices. Our entire staff is involved in one activity or another and we have three parents helping as well.

*Fred Ripley - VP*



**Students in the Arabic Stories club with teacher Ms. Eman.**



**Mrs. Penney's Grade 6 class standing in front of their Thanksgiving poetry.**



**We can't wait to see the beautiful pictures these students will create in Picture Making Club.**



## While at QCS....

Between September 26 – 30, our School Nurse, Ms. Vanessa conducted a Peanut and Nut Allergy Awareness at QCS. She visited every classroom from JK's to Grade 9 and stressed to students that QCS is a **"peanut and nut free environment"**. Ms. Vanessa explained how nuts would affect the health of some of our students and staff. An Emergency Action Plan for related allergies at QCS has been explained to all staff. Hand-outs were also given out to students so that they could share the information with parents and guardians.

Ms. Vanessa, QCS Nurse

## International Accreditation

### Alberta, Canada

Qatar Canadian School, since it opened in 2006, has been using the Alberta Education Programs of Study. Alberta Education's system is recognized internationally as one of the best learning systems in the world. It also makes sense to follow a Canadian curriculum as most of our students are Canadian and will eventually return to Canada to continue their education. Two important requirements of Alberta Education's International Accreditation are: that the high standards of rigorous curriculum are met with regards to subject, time and learning outcomes and that teachers are either Alberta/Canadian prepared and certified or have qualification approved by Alberta Education. It is our intent to also offer a high school program at QCS next year, starting with Grade 10. In order for our students to obtain an Alberta high school graduation diploma we must be accredited by Alberta Education. This diploma is recognized by universities and colleges throughout the world. At present we expect a site visit by Alberta Education's Consultant in February. We will keep you informed as our Accreditation process moves forward.

## Local Accreditation

### Supreme Education Council, Doha, Qatar

The Supreme Education Council, in 2009, began a three-year Local Accreditation process with Independent, Private and International schools. The goal of Local Accreditation is to achieve consistency in education throughout the State. Qatar Canadian School was part of the start-up phase and is beginning year two of Local Accreditation. Last year's process included data collection and school visits. This year the Supreme Education Council's focus will be on developing process to ensure that schools' are accountable and intends to enhance the use of educational data and evaluation in monitoring and developing schools' performance. International testing, parent, student, school and Principal surveys will be part of this process. In addition the SEC will develop and issue an annual Report Card on each school. The Report Card will be available on the SEC's website.

## 10/10/10

The tenth of October, 2010 (10/10/10) was a day when the Junior High students reflected on what they can do to help the planet. On that day, our school hosted one of 7347 events around the globe where we did our part to help out planet Earth. We donned our rubber gloves and armed ourselves with garbage bags and cleaned the neighborhood. It was a blast! More information about 10/10/10 and the global work party can be found on the following website: [www.350.org](http://www.350.org)



Junior High students doing their part to help the Earth.

## QCS is a Safe and Peaceful School

At QCS we strive to create and maintain a culture of peace, respect, compassion and safety each day! This year, we have become part of the Peaceful Schools International program. As part of this exciting new initiative, QCS is now one of 300 participating member schools around the world. Monthly, each class will complete an activity that focuses on various topics such as peace, respect for self and others, conflict resolution and celebrating diversity. We ask the students, staff and parents of QCS to join together to promote a safe and caring learning environment for all. If you have any questions or ideas, please contact [nicole.penney@cna-qatar.edu.qa](mailto:nicole.penney@cna-qatar.edu.qa)



It all begins with me!