

Sherborne Qatar Newsletter



SHERBORNE
QATAR

September 23rd 2010

Welcome Back!

We have had a busy first week of school, but it is good to be back after the summer holiday. We now have 505 children at Sherborne Qatar and we have been joined by many new members of staff, most of whom have been in school since the beginning of the month to prepare for the start of term.

There have been many changes to the building over the holiday: the library has moved to a more central position in the building upstairs overlooking the atrium where seating areas and shelving are able to extend out onto the balcony, bringing the library truly into the centre of school life.

The area formerly occupied by the library has now become a 'music suite'. As well as the music room for class lessons, we have an ensemble room and four music practice rooms to be used by our visiting instrumental teachers.

We are delighted that the shading for the three play areas is now in place and we have a greater range of play equipment for use during break times. We have created a new boys' changing room, converted a number of toilets around the school. There is a new Learning Support area in the Year 2 block.

The new system of pupils arriving in the mornings is working well. Please could the children continue to use their correct entrances in the morning: Pre-prep go around the outside of the school to come in through the door on the left, Y3-5 come in through the door by the Sports Hall and Y6-8 come in through the Auditorium.

I am aware that parking at collection time this week has not been easy. Next week, once the activities programme has started, the pick-up times will be staggered which will help and we also have other plans to create more spaces. In the meantime, please could I ask you to park in the marked areas only and not to stop on the yellow painted area.

Welcome to all new pupils and staff, have a great term!

Mr Prowse

Water Bottles

Please could you make sure that your child has a named plastic water bottle in school that can be kept in their classroom. (This is as well as the drink in their lunch box).

Please can pre-prep children bring their morning snack in a separate container which should be named.

Older children should have a snack which can easily be taken out of their lunch box at break time.

Thank you very much.

Instrumental Tuition

A number of children have voiced interest in learning a musical instrument at school. If your child is interested please ask them to collect a form from Mrs Thomas or the front office. Not all instruments are as yet available, but please voice your interest so we might entice more instrumental staff.



From the Library

The school will be visited by Ian Billings, children's author and performer on 7th October. He will be working with the children and selling copies of his books. More information to follow next week.

Ms Rees

French and Arabic for Years 6-8

Many parents of children in Year 6-8 have returned the form to indicate their choice for their child to study French or Arabic.

In a change to the letter you may have received, any pupil may now choose the Arabic option. They DO NOT need to speak the language fluently already. If you have not made your preference known to your child's tutor, please could you let them know after the weekend which language you would prefer them to learn, bearing in mind this latest information. Please note that Qatari pupils all learn Arabic.

Thank you.

Activities

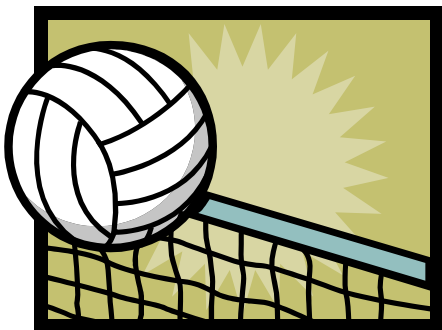
Confirmation of which After-School Activities your child is attending has been sent home with your child today.

I would like to apologise to anyone who has tried to contact me via email over the last week. It appears my account was closed accidentally when we switched servers over the summer. The problem has now been fixed, but please be patient with me while I work my way through the emails that have been sent.

The Gymnastics Club for Reception and Years 1 and 2 is unable to start this week. Sheila Innes sends her apologies and looks forward to seeing the children on Sunday 3rd October. The fees will now be QR 600 for the term.

Parent – Staff Football. This will start this Sunday; any parent wishing to play football in a friendly 'semi-competitive' environment (I don't like to be on the losing team!) feel free to come and join us at 6.30 pm in the Sports Hall.

J. Rawlinson.



The Newsletter

This newsletter appears every Thursday. In future we aim to send the newsletter by email only. However, there will be a few paper copies available from the front desk if you prefer.

Islamic Studies

Islamic Studies lessons take place at the same time as some music classes and some games lessons. Therefore, those children who are required to take Islamic studies because of S.E.C. regulations may miss some of their music and games lessons. Please remember that they can choose to attend music and games activities after school.

Birthdays

Happy birthday to everyone who had a birthday during the summer. The following pupils will celebrate their birthdays this week:

Adam Green

Yusuf Saquib

Max Mearns

Asmin Yildiz

Faisal Abu Shawish

Harry Gardiner

Reema Al Abdulghami

Ceyda Ergulec

Essa Alshammari

Teagan Merriman

