

# SHERBORNE QATAR

NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2010



## Qatar National Day



As soon as we came into school I could tell that today was going to be AMAZING! There were Qatari flags on the wall, stickers and lots of other things. We all had different slots during the day to go and do all the events.

At 1 o'clock we went to The Atrium to get henna or face paints. Also there was plenty of traditional Qatari food. There was a whole sheep and various rice and chicken dishes. So we could eat as much as we wanted.

Then, after we had had 15 minutes in The Atrium, we went into the Sports Hall to do some games. There was basket ball, balancing, beanbag throwing, javelin, cone hitting and hoop scoring. All the activities were amazing and really really good fun.

After we had an assembly. An important man spoke to us. Some of the Qatari boys were in their thobes and the girls were in their Qatari national dresses. The boys performed a traditional sword dance and the girls did traditional Qatari dancing. They also sang the Qatari national anthem.

Qatar National Day was amazing and fun and I can't wait till next year!

Rachael Williams  
7Q



## The Vision For Sherborne Qatar

This month parents, staff and governors were invited to contribute towards the design process for our new school buildings using a web-based tool to collect views.

*Socrates' Tree* is a unique tool which enables us to find out what our parents, pupils, governors and staff are thinking. Unlike other methods, our tool and methodologies engage users, and elicit responses, which otherwise might only be obtainable through one-to-one interviews.

The mission of Sherborne Qatar is to bring the Sherborne

education and ethos to Doha.

There isn't a right or wrong way to design a school. Sherborne Qatar has its own set of values, its own way of working and its own ethos based upon Sherborne UK. It is important to understand these values, to investigate the school's needs, the activities it wants to offer, and the way its members want to work and feel, in order to create the right environment.

*Socrates' Tree* helps us to do this. We've created a number of themes that capture some of the dilemmas that Sherborne Qatar faces. On the screens in

*Socrates' Tree*, we have set out each theme as a continuum: a spectrum: a scale, going from one way of thinking all the way over to the opposite way. By understanding the responses to these dilemmas we can get a clearer idea of a school's priorities and therefore create solutions for the best use of space and time.

The responses and comments will help as we come to work with architects to design the new school.

*Peter Barton* Principal

## Focus on Reception News Writing



Reception E were asked to think about 'something we have enjoyed this term'. The children chose our news time as their favourite thing. Every Sunday morning we sit in a circle and take turns to roll a ball, calling out the person's name to whom we are rolling. If someone gets the ball it is their turn to talk and tell their weekend news to the circle. I write the news down in our class news book. Then the children write their own news with me in their writing books, illustrating underneath with a picture.



The photos show Teagan Merriman holding the ball and sharing her news with the circle and later writing her news in her book. The scans are Teagan's news writing and her piece of writing telling you what we have enjoyed this term

This term Reception  
E have enjoyed  
telling and writing  
our news.

I went to  
Meggamoff and I did  
paper to make a  
CHRISMAS tree

## Sherborne Qatar Goes To Egypt



*Posing in front of the Great Pyramid at Giza*

On December 2, 2010, a group of Years 5, 6 and 7 children flew to Cairo on a five day trip, designed to enhance their school studies of ancient Egypt.

The tour was organised by Mrs. El Sherif from the Arabic Department and the tour was led by Mr. Hudson, Head of Seniors.

Also accompanying the group of twenty one children were Mr. Withey, Deputy Head and Miss James from the P.E. department.

### Diary

#### Day 1:

- ◆ Flew to Cairo on Qatar Airways. Met at airport by guide from Blue Sky Travel.

#### Day 2:

- ◆ Coach to Sakkara to visit open air Mit Rahina Museum and see Rameses II statues.
- ◆ Visited Imhotep Museum at Saqqara and ancient temples of Memphis, the old capital of Egypt.
- ◆ Saw 'Steps' pyramid and went inside to burial chamber.
- ◆ Went to three pyramids at Giza.
- ◆ Rode camels.
- ◆ Visited Sphynx.

#### Day 3:

- ◆ Visited Pharaonic Village theme park. Watched actors showing aspects of life in ancient Egypt with displays.



*Miniature Sphynx at Mit Rahina open air museum*

- ◆ Boat ride.
- ◆ Shopping in souvenir shop.
- ◆ Guided tour of the Egyptian Museum. Saw tomb of Tutankhamun and treasures (including golden mask).

#### Day 4:

- ◆ Tour of Old Cairo. Visited Citadel of Salah Al Din (ancient Islamic leader who fought the Crusaders). Tour of Mosque of Mohamed Ali. Tour of Coptic Museum (including 'hanging church' built on old Roman columns. Saw ancient Roman aqueduct.
- ◆ Evening cruise on River Nile.

**Day 5:** Return flight to Doha.

## 4S Science



This term, 4S really enjoyed learning about electricity and making electrical circuits. As they progressed, they were given the task of designing a 3D model of some kind which had something that could spin and something which would light up. In groups, they designed and made the following models:

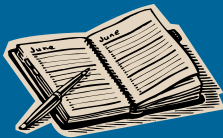
- A waterfall, which lit up from the inside and had a spinning pool at the base.
- A clown's face with lights that glowed and a spinning bow tie.
- A garden, which lit up from the inside and has a spinning flower.
- A robot with glowing eyes and a spinning clock.

The children worked very well in their groups and really rose to the challenge!

Well done!

## Junior Department Play

Performances  
will be on  
23rd and 24th  
March 2011



Next term, the Junior Department will be staging its first musical production *What a Knight*. Auditions have been held and we are delighted to announce the main parts as follows:

Watt Cobblers: *Aini Hashim*, Year 5.

Kitty Cobblers: *Nadine Zarroug*, Year 5.

Merlin the Magician: *Hisham Sajjad Khan*, Year 4.

Princess Alice: *Nagham Mekky*, Year 5.

Dusty Dragon: *Abigail Griffin*, Year 5.

Miss Savage, Mrs Keens and Mrs Rawlinson are really looking forward to starting rehearsals during Drama Club next term and would like to wish all those with lines to learn GOOD LUCK! All the children in Years 3, 4 and 5 will be involved in the production, either performing in the choir, working as a stage hand, dancing or acting on stage. We would be very grateful for adult help as well. There will be scenery to paint, props and costumes to produce and children to marshal and assist. If you think you can help in any way please let a member of the Junior Department know.

Let the fun begin!

## Sherborne Qatar Lecture Series



We would like to offer parents and pupils a series of lectures on matters of general interest. We therefore invite any parent who has a specific area of knowledge or experience to share it with us in the form of a lecture or seminar. The range of topics can be as broad as you wish but the content must be suitable for children up to the age of 13 years. We would expect each lecture to last for no more than one hour and could take place after school or possibly during the school day.

If you think you would like to contribute to this programme of lectures please contact the Deputy Headmaster, Mr. Withey, regarding your specialist area and availability.

## Year 3 Rainforest Day

On Monday 13<sup>th</sup> December you might have noticed the Year 3 children arriving at school in rather strange clothing and in a state of greater excitement than normal. This was because they knew that today was 'Rainforest Day'.

As the climax of the Rainforest topic, the children spent the day participating in five different activities. They had been asked to wear comfortable clothes in rainforest colours to help them get 'in the mood'. They were organised into five groups across the year group and during the day they helped to build a rainforest, made a beetle or bird mask, helped compose rainforest music, made rainforest fruit kebabs and choreographed a rainforest dance.

When asked what they had enjoyed most at the end of the day, there was a wide variety of responses. Not surprisingly, the highlight for many of the children was making (and eating) their fruit kebabs. This gave some of the children a chance to taste unfamiliar fruit and helped towards their 5 a day! However, the music making activity, where they had the opportunity to use unusual instruments such as rainsticks, was also very popular, as was the chance to use up some energy in the dancing sessions.

The children enjoyed themselves so much that they wanted to show their parents what they had been doing so we invited the adults to join us on Tuesday afternoon for a very informal 'performance'. It also gave them the chance to show their parents the rainforest, masks and some of the work they have been doing in class.

The Year 3 children and staff would like to thank Mrs. Thomas and Mrs. Brewis for helping with this special event.



## Inter-house Photography Competition

A large number of entries was received for the Inter-house Photography Competition and choosing winners in each category was difficult. However, the overall winner of the Portrait section was Olivia Dillistone (Y8), with a well-composed photograph-obviously taken specifically for the competition-which captured something of the personality of the sitter. Olivia also came first in the Everyday Objects section, with a colourful close-up image of cushions. The Buildings category was won by an excellent shot of the 'old and new' in Qatar, showing the Islamic Museum with a wooden dhow sailing by it. This was taken by Fira Mucharun(Y5). Well done to all those who took part.



### Year 5

Year 5 have been studying Vikings this half term and are currently exploring Viking attack methods and weapons. Did you know that the Vikings often worked themselves into a frenzy before attacks and howled like animals until they "could feel no pain?" In Science, we have planted seeds in an effort to explore germination. Our classroom should smell nice in a short while with coriander and basil growing. We recommend that you use the coriander in a mild, salsa-based, thin crust pizza on Lebanese bread, topped with mozzarella and fresh basil. In PE, Mr. Wood has been whipping us into shape with fitness training (and some ultimate dodge ball). We have reviewed our heart rates and are getting healthier each session.



### Year 7 Science

## P.E. Department



The Inter-house competitions started this year with Basketball. The qualifying rounds took place during lunchtime and the finals were held during House Assembly. The atmosphere created by the whole school watching was electric and all the players that took part demonstrated the true Sherborne spirit of *Teamwork, Co-operation and Sportsmanship*. Congratulations go to Irons House who were the eventual overall winners. Future events include Football, Rounders, Netball, Cross-country and the Sports Days.



### Year 6 Football

We travelled all the way to Dukhan to take part in the 7-a-side tournament. The boys showed a really tenacious spirit in the group stages and were unlucky not to have progressed to the later stages.

### Year 4 and Year 8 Basketball competitions

After the success of the Inter-House competition we all looked forward to competing against other schools. Here the boys talk 'plays' with Mr. Wood and show the cooperation that will make them successful.



### Year 5/6 Girls Football Team

This was the first time the girls had played together in a competitive situation. The girls improved with every game and the team will no doubt be a force to be reckoned with in future fixtures.



### School Cross-Country

This event was held at Doha Golf Club and saw competitors from Years 4, 5 and 6. We entered a very young team and special mention must go the Year 4 boys who ran extremely well.



## Chamber Choir to Sakena School

As part of the preparations for the Qatar World Cup bid, Sherborne Qatar was invited to participate in a concert at our neighbour school, Sakena Preparatory Independent Secondary School. The Chamber Choir jumped at the opportunity to perform.

Consisting of nine students from Year 8 and Year 9, members of the Chamber Choir are required to successfully audition at the beginning of the year. Traditionally, chamber choirs are small choirs or vocal groups consisting of singers who are able to sing independently as well as with the group. Our Chamber Choir is no exception.

The concert programme included fencing and tae-kwon-do displays, traditional dancing and of course, us. It was in fact a wonderful preparation for the Soiree that was to be at School the next week. The Choir sang beautifully and were thrilled with the presents they received from Sakena, some of which were presented to Mr Withey at Headmaster's Assembly the following Sunday.

### Choir

The first Soiree of the year was a marvellous success. Soloists, choirs and recorder ensembles delighted the full house on November 24th. For some it was their first performance before an audience, while other members of the Sherborne Music Community are becoming seasoned professionals. A highlight of the evening was the audience helping the Chamber Choir perform their canon "Rhythm and Syncopation."



### Year 1

Children in 1B have been experimenting with light and dark colours in Art and exploring Light and Dark in Science this term. The children have produced these stunning pieces of work.



By Miguel Munoz



By William McGuire

1B and 1G have also been enjoying Games with Mr. Wood and P.E. with Miss James. These periods are some of their favourite times of the week. Take a look at the gymnastics they have been learning to do this term....



## Year 4 Evacuation Morning

In order to give the children a sense of what it may have been like for those who were evacuated in World War 2, children in Year 4 were split into different groups and spent the morning with a 'host' teacher. Each child had a name tag around their neck with their name, address, school, age and height written on. Children were also asked to pack a bag with a list of essentials, including a gas mask. Each child's experience differed, highlighting the fact that some children had great experiences with their host families and some did not. The children then shared their experiences with each other and produced some written work based around the morning and the group discussions.



## Year 4 Highlights

**George** – I enjoyed Mathematics, inter school competitions and evacuation day. Mathematics is great, because it improves your mental Maths, you can also interact with people from around the world. Inter school competitions such as the indoor athletics, the basketball and the cross country, I found challenging. It was tiring, but in all of the competitions I tried my hardest. One of the best experiences was evacuation day, when we had to bring in suitcases full of different clothes. I also brought in a gas mask that was fun to show the class.

**Abdullah** – I liked the Inter House Basketball Competition because we played from our hearts and we won the cup. I liked History, it was interesting to see how people lived during WW2.

**Hisham** – Going to the library was one of my favourite things this term, because I really enjoy reading books, I also like using the computers there. One of my favourite books was *Secret Agents Handbook*. I liked making information texts, because I got all the information from real books and we drew pictures in them.

**Aatikah** – This term I really liked History, because I learned about World War II. We learned about countries being bombed and watched videos about the wars.

**Max** – I enjoyed the human body, because I liked running up and down to see what happened to our body. It was fun, but it tired you out. I enjoyed P.E., because I played games that I have not played before.

**Emma** – I am a big fan of Art and I'm very good at doing it. This term we have done a map from our house to our school using oil pastels; we're also going to do some painting. I'm interested in what the human body does. I can remember a lot of the human bones and muscles, like triceps and biceps, and when I went to the library I chose a book called *Horrible Science*. It's also about what the body and cells do. Hopefully I'll get a microscope for Christmas and study a few things.

**Kyra** – My favourite things I did this term were learning about the human body, one of the things I learned was that there are 206 bones in your body. It was fun, because I got to do a diagram, label it and lots of other fun activities as well. My second favourite was History, because we learned about evacuees and where they were sent to. I particularly liked the 'evacuee day'. Miss Savage wasn't very nice to us, she pretended we weren't there! Mrs. Keens was nice, Mrs. Rawlinson wasn't nice either.

**Megan** – I liked the basketball competition, because we got to cheer on the teams and we shouted "Let's go Amna, let's go" *clap, clap*. I liked making the information texts, because we printed pictures and found out information.

**Tajwar** – This term I liked Maths, because we did lots of fun stuff like adding and subtracting, different triangles, angles, shapes, multiplying and dividing and all sorts of different stuff.

**Faiz** – My favourite things I did this term were games, because I really like Sports, and Science. My Dad is a good scientist and I want to be like him, I enjoyed making the electric circuits in school.

## New Playground Equipment

This term we were fortunate to have new outdoor playground equipment and shading, which is used by Pre-Prep and Junior children. December also saw the arrival of new playground equipment for Reception children, including water play, drums and a giant story chair.



**Jewellery making has been a very popular after-school activity this term.**



## In The Hot Seat!

This month 1C practised their questioning skills when they put each other on the 'hot seat'. They worked in pairs to come up with a description of an imaginary dragon. The rest of the class asked them questions about their dragons.



Still working in pairs, 1C created their own dragon tales and made them into very colourful and exciting comic strips. These stories are on display outside our classroom.



## Year 1 Maths

The children in 1D have been learning about money in Maths recently. We have been ordering different coins from the UK, buying food at 1D's shop and looking at Qatari Riyals. We all had great fun!



## Reflecting on Term 1

This term has gone at a frantic pace. It seems like yesterday that 3B were working out where their lockers were and what to do with their drink bottles. Two topics, a World Cup bid, Qatar National Day, building a rainforest and a whole bundle of learning later ..... we paused to think about the term so far. We looked back to consider how life at Sherborne Qatar has changed since last year or how it differs from our previous school. Here is a sample of some of the children's reflections:

I feel excited because I have lots of friends and they are kind. The school is very big; it is bigger than my old school. **Reema**

Sherborne is bigger and kinder and the people really help each other. They have new teachers, students, more classes, bigger classes and new subjects this year. My favourite subject is everything and Assembly. Sherborne is happy, super, kind and sweet. **Maya**

I feel that Sherborne has got better. It has more classes and more teachers. I have learnt to do times tables and run faster. **Jemma**

Sherborne has lots of activities to do. **Hafsa**

Last year Sherborne didn't have planners and I had a different teacher. Her name was Mrs. Barraclough but this year I have Mr. Brewis. I love recess, lunchtime and the children in my class. **Audrey**

Sherborne is great. **Mohammad**

Sherborne Qatar has lots of classes. It is full of more friendly children than my old school. There are new teachers and the classes are different than my old school's classes.

I feel great at Sherborne Qatar because the teachers are teaching better than at my old school. I like Maths, P.E, English, Arabic, Art, ICT, break and lunch. **Adithya**

With such enthusiasm it's easy to understand why the time flies so quickly in the classroom. Have an excellent winter break. Store up your energy for Term 2 which should be even bigger and better! Watch out, here come 3B! **Ed Brewis 3B Class Teacher**

## End of Term Parties



We hope you all have a well-deserved break after a very busy term!  
Wishing everyone a happy and successful New Year.

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