



THE NEWTON GROUP

"An international community of learners striving for excellence and celebrating success"



Newton International School Lagoon Newsletter

Term 3
June 2026



News and Updates

Previously, Upper School pupils Rakkan Almiqbal and Alhareth Al-Tamimi joined a three-day program at the Abdulla Bin Zaid Al Mahmoud Islamic Cultural Center, exploring Islamic values, Qatari heritage, and the scientific contributions of Muslims through guided tours and interactive workshops. The Center has since invited the school to nominate English-fluent pupils for its Young Mentor Program.



Events

Eid Celebration – Newton International School Lagoon Primary

Last week, Newton Lagoon Primary was filled with joy and celebration as pupils came together to mark Eid in a vibrant and memorable event, organised and led by our Arabic Department. The celebration created a wonderful sense of community across the school, with pupils dressed in bright and colourful Eid attire, reflecting the spirit and traditions of this special occasion. The atmosphere was lively and inclusive, with a range of engaging activities that brought smiles to pupils and staff alike.

The event was carefully planned to ensure both enjoyment and wellbeing, with thoughtful consideration given to clear communication with parents regarding allergies. Pupils also enjoyed sharing small Eid giveaways with their classmates, further strengthening the sense of togetherness and celebration.





Events

Middle School Scientists Bring Chemistry to Life

Our middle school scientists had a fantastic time exploring chemistry in action! Pupils tested the pH of various liquids and used litmus paper to identify acids and alkalis, building their understanding through hands-on investigation. To wrap up our chemistry unit, they conducted a lab experiment, applying their skills and observations like real scientists. It was a fun and engaging way to bring science to life!



Our New topic of Occupations in EYFS

This week in EYFS, our pupils have been exploring their exciting new topic: Occupations. The children have loved taking on different roles and dressing up as doctors, vets, teachers and many other professions. They enthusiastically shared what they would like to be when they grow up, sparking wonderful conversations about the world of work. It has been fantastic to see their imagination, curiosity, and creativity shine as they explored the many jobs that help our community.





News and Updates

EYFS Outdoor Play returns!

Our EYFS pupils have had a fantastic week settling back into Outdoor Play, and it has been great to see their excitement and enthusiasm. The children have thoroughly enjoyed exploring the outdoor area, making the most of the swings, bicycles, jungle gyms and a wide range of engaging activities.

Throughout the week, pupils have been developing their gross motor skills as they climb, balance, ride and move in different ways, all while building confidence and coordination. Most importantly, they have been having lots of fun with their friends, sharing, taking turns and creating special moments together.



Newton International School Lagoon Receives Cultural Recognition

Newton International School Lagoon was recently recognised by the Sheikh Abdulla Bin Zaid Al Mahmoud Islamic Cultural Center (Fanar) for its active participation in cultural leadership programs. Principal Mr. Patrick Salvage formally received the certificate, recognizing pupils' excellence in heritage workshops.

This award highlights the school's commitment to nurturing future leaders who value and respect Qatari culture.





News and Updates

Cultural Awareness Talk Inspires Respect and Understanding

We had the honour of hosting Mr. Hasan Al Mannai, Protocol Officer, at Newton International School-Lagoon Secondary Library, where he delivered an engaging and insightful talk on cultural awareness to our secondary pupils. He emphasized the importance of respecting cultural differences, with particular focus on appropriate physical contact and sensitivity around photography.

The session inspired pupils to develop a deeper understanding and respect for diverse cultural practices, both within the school community and beyond.

Events

Year 5 step back in time to Ancient Greece!

Year 5 pupils stepped back in time on Tuesday 21st April as they celebrated their Ancient Greek WOW Day in style. The day was filled with excitement from the very start, with pupils arriving in a range of creative and culturally respectful costumes inspired by Ancient Greece. From philosophers to Olympic athletes, the effort and enthusiasm on display truly brought history to life and created a vibrant learning atmosphere across the year group.

Throughout the day, pupils took part in a variety of engaging activities, including learning to write in Greek, participating in mini-Olympic events, and even trying their hand at making traditional tzatziki. The interactive experiences helped deepen their understanding of Ancient Greek civilisation while making learning memorable and fun. It was a fantastic celebration of creativity, culture, and curiosity—well done to all of Year 5 for such a successful day!





News and Updates

A Week of Words, Wonder and Reading at Newton Lagoon

Last week, Newton International School Lagoon came alive with the celebration of English Week, expertly organised by our English Coordinators, Mr. Doherty and Mr. Mathers. The week was packed with exciting and engaging activities designed to promote a love of reading and language across the school. Pupils enjoyed a wide range of experiences, including lively puppet shows for younger learners, an inspiring author visit, and the ever-popular Book Fair, where children had the opportunity to explore and purchase new books.

A particular highlight of the week was the Dress-Up Book Character Day, where pupils and staff brought their favourite stories to life with fantastic costumes. Alongside this, initiatives such as 'Bring a Book to School' and creative activities like book cover design and vocabulary challenges encouraged pupils to immerse themselves in reading in fun and meaningful ways. Overall, English Week was a great success-celebrating creativity, imagination, and the joy of reading across our school community.





News and Updates

Book Week – Middle School Highlights

Our Middle School pupils enthusiastically participated in this year's Book Week celebration held in the Secondary Library. The event provided a wonderful opportunity for pupils to showcase their creativity, imagination, and love for reading through a variety of engaging activities.

The pupils took part in story writing, storytelling, comic strip creation, and book character mask design. They worked both independently and collaboratively, sharing ideas and bringing their favorite characters and stories to life. The library was filled with excitement as pupils expressed themselves through writing, drawing, and discussion.

One of the highlights of the event was seeing pupils confidently present their stories and proudly display their work. Their creativity and effort truly reflected their passion for literature and learning. Book Week was a memorable and enriching experience for all, encouraging pupils to explore the world of books.



Events

Celebrating Our Arabic Spelling Bee Champions

Last Monday, the Arabic Department recognised primary school pupils who achieved the highest scores and were top performers in the Arabic Spelling Bee.





Events

It's Business (or Enterprise...) As Usual For Year 10!

This week, our Year 10 Enterprise pupils took to the stage to present their IGCSE coursework event proposals for a prospective Middle School Sports Day. Pitching "Dragon's Den/Shark Tank" style to a select panel of staff: our Director of Sports, Mr Strydom, Head of Commerce, Ms Cox-Jones, plus specialist teachers Ms Lewis, Ms McGleenon, and Mr Saleh, the teams demonstrated fantastic entrepreneurial skills and operational planning.

Pitches included "Edge Play," a tiered football shooting challenge, a "Battle for the Table" ping-pong tournament, as well as a healthy snacks and refreshment stand, brought to you by "Beat The Heat".

Congratulations to all the pupils for their impressive teamwork, strategic thinking, and public speaking skills under pressure. We can't wait to see which of these innovative ideas make it onto the field!



Birthday Thursday in EYFS and Primary

Last week in EYFS and Primary, we came together to celebrate all of our March and April birthdays with a fun 'Birthday Thursday' celebration.





News and Updates

EYFS Term 3 ECA's

Last week in EYFS, we kicked off our Term 3 ECAs, with pupils spending the afternoon with their class teachers taking part in fun and engaging Maths activities focused on addition.



School Olympiad Program Victory: Celebrating Our Medalists!

The entire school community is beaming with pride following the stellar performances of our athletes at the Schools Olympic Program (SOP) competition. We would like to extend a massive congratulations to Aliya Zaidi, who secured a Gold Medal in Judo, and Fatemaalzahraa Hasan, who earned a Silver Medal in Taekwondo. Both girls displayed incredible skill, sportsmanship, and dedication on the big stage, representing our school with absolute excellence. Well done to our champions on this fantastic achievement—you have made us all incredibly proud!





Workshops

SMT training with Christopher Hyndman

Last Wednesday, our Head of Primary, Christopher Hyndman, delivered another valuable session for SMT colleagues from various Newton schools. The session focused on the effective use of data for school improvement, as well as SEND and EAL interventions, planning, and tracking.



Those in attendance shared how useful the session was, highlighting that it provided them with practical strategies, plenty to reflect on, and a renewed sense of excitement about what they can implement in their own schools.

We are already looking forward to the next session.

Events

Bonjour, Newton Lagoon! Celebrating French Culture Week

Newton International School Lagoon Primary was filled with colour, creativity, and excitement as we celebrated French Culture Week, led by the wonderful Miss Nahla. Pupils in Years 3-6 enjoyed a vibrant programme of activities during their French lessons, bringing language learning to life in fun and memorable ways. From a stylish French-themed Fashion Show to engaging cultural games, face painting, and even an exciting Eiffel Tower Hunt, there was something for everyone to enjoy.

French Week featured creative and collaborative activities across year groups. Year 7 worked on an Eiffel Tower design project and a recycling initiative. Art inspired by Jean Monet and Henri Matisse was showcased, alongside Year 9's miniature French food crafts. Highlights included a student-designed quiz and a French Food Fayre with homemade treats like brownies, cake pops, cheesecakes, and cookies.

Throughout the week, pupils also had the opportunity to practice simple French expressions in a playful and meaningful context, building both confidence and enthusiasm for language learning. A highlight for many was experiencing elements of French culture through themed food and drink, with thoughtful alternatives provided for all learners. French Week was a fantastic success — celebrating language, culture, and creativity.





News and Updates

“Fitra” Initiative Lecture

The Arabic Department activated the “Fitra” Initiative as part of the “My Values Shape My Identity” project by organizing an awareness lecture for both the middle and secondary school stages. The lecture aimed to reinforce Islamic values, strengthen students’ innate identity, and connect them with moral and behavioral principles derived from Islamic teachings. The session witnessed remarkable student engagement and included discussions and educational activities.



Maths Week Mania!

A Fantastic Week of Numbers, Problem Solving and Fun at Newton Lagoon

Maths Week at Newton International School Lagoon Primary, which took place from 10th-14th May, was a fantastic celebration of mathematics, creativity, and problem-solving across the school. Organised by the amazing Michael Doherty, pupils from Years 1-6 took part in a wide range of exciting and engaging activities designed to develop fluency, reasoning, teamwork, and real-life application of maths skills.

Throughout the week, pupils enjoyed activities including the Maths Encoding Hunt, Mental Maths Bee competitions, maths-focused P4C sessions, daily fluency starters, and creative Art and Maths lessons exploring patterns, symmetry, and shape in the world around us. The week created a real buzz of enthusiasm for mathematics around the school and encouraged pupils to think deeply, collaborate positively, and enjoy maths in fun and meaningful ways. A huge thank you goes to Mr Doherty for organising such a successful and memorable week for our pupils.





Events

EYFS Maths Stay and Play

As part of Maths Week this week, EYFS hosted a wonderful Maths Stay and Play session. Parents joined us for an hour in the morning to take part in a range of fun and engaging activities that had been carefully planned by the teachers. It was fantastic to see so many parents in attendance and to witness the smiles on the children's faces as they proudly showed off their Maths skills. Thank you to all of our families for your continued support and participation in making these experiences so special for our learners.



Teachers vs. Seniors Football Match

NIS Lagoon Upper School Year 12 students recently took part in an exciting school football tournament, which culminated in a spirited match against their teachers. After a closely contested and hard-fought game, the Teachers' Team emerged victorious and were crowned champions. The event was enjoyed by all participants and spectators, creating a fantastic atmosphere of teamwork, sportsmanship, and school spirit.



Health Awareness Session

The Primary Nurse conducted an engaging health talk for primary pupils, promoting healthy habits and raising awareness about personal hygiene, nutrition, and daily wellness practices in an interactive learning environment.





News and Updates

Middle School Maths Week

Maths Week was a successful and engaging event that encouraged KS3 pupils to explore mathematics through creativity and real-life applications. Pupils designed and presented projects on a variety of mathematical topics using posters and 3D models.

Throughout the week, pupils enthusiastically participated in a variety of exciting and interactive maths activities during break times that sparked curiosity, encouraged critical thinking, strengthened problem-solving skills, and promoted healthy competition. The enthusiasm and effort demonstrated by all participants contributed to the success of the week.



Middle School Reading Literacy Activity

Our Middle School pupils participated in a Reading Literacy and Research Activity using the Follett Destiny Library System. They explored the library catalog, searched for books, discovered new titles, and accessed reading resources independently.

The activity helped pupils develop research and digital literacy skills while fostering a love for reading. We are proud of their enthusiasm and responsible use of library resources as they continue to grow.





News and Updates

Transition day

This week, NIS Lagoon came alive with the spirit of looking forward as pupils stepped into their future classrooms for the 2026-27 academic year and spent quality time with the Class Teachers who will guide them next September. Our learning spaces were filled with energy and brilliant icebreaker activities all designed to ease the anxiety of change and turn nerves into excitement. A special mention must go to our F2 pupils who showed such confidence and bravery as they spent time in Year 1. They blew us away with their grown-up attitudes, tackling the unfamiliar with immense curiosity, courage, and big smiles.

At the other end of the Primary spectrum, our Year 6 pupils faced an equally exciting milestone as they transitioned into Secondary to experience a day in the life of a Year 7 pupil.

A huge thank you to Mr. Strange, Mr. Queiros, Secondary staff and our fantastic student ambassadors for ensuring the day was packed with engaging, high-interest activities.

Because of the collective care, planning, and warm welcomes from all our staff, our pupils have returned to their current classes standing a little taller, feeling much more confident and far less anxious about the big step ahead in September. Thank you to everyone involved for making this transition day such a resounding success!



Achievements

Proud moment for our F2 gymnast

We are extremely proud of one of our Foundation 2 pupils, Olivia Higgins, who competed in a gymnastics competition over the weekend.

Olivia achieved an incredible 4 medals, including gold for both the bars and vault events, what an amazing accomplishment! Well done, Olivia—we are so proud of you!





Achievements

Celebrating Our Model United Nations Award-Winning, Record-Breaking Delegates of 2026
Looking back over this past year, it's safe to say that I am filled with immense pride for everything our delegation has accomplished.

We began the year as a group of curious students with a sparked interest for international relations, and today, we stand as a community of confident diplomats, and critical thinkers. From bringing our largest delegation to date at the GTU Fall Conference, to taking our talents abroad to Dubai, our delegates have consistently stepped up to the podium with conviction and grace. But as much as I love celebrating our external victories, the true heart of this club has always been the dedication shown during our weekly sessions—watching delegates find their voices, collaborate on resolutions, and just overall support one another.

Our recent closing ceremony was the perfect capstone to an unforgettable year.

To the faculty who guided us, the parents who supported us, and every single delegate who dared to speak up: thank you. The future of NISL MUN is in incredibly capable hands, and I cannot wait to see how the next generation of leaders continues to shape the world.



NISL Black Piranhas Continue to Make Waves in Qatar

The NISL Black Piranha Swimming Team once again proved that determination, teamwork, and school spirit can compete with the very best, proudly standing as the only school team participating against the major swimming clubs in Qatar.

What an incredible day it was for our swimmers at the latest competition. For some athletes, it was their very first competition experience. For others, it was the excitement of earning a first-ever medal and for a few, the unforgettable achievement of winning a medal in their very first competition.

Every swimmer represented NISL with courage, commitment, and pride, and the team's achievements were nothing short of outstanding.

Competition Highlights:

- 7 Gold Medals
- 5 Silver Medals
- 5 Bronze Medals
- Over 25 Speeding Tickets earned for exceptional performances in the pool





Achievements

NISL Black Piranhas Continue to Make Waves in Qatar

Our swimmers truly flew through the water like flying fish, demonstrating remarkable effort, sportsmanship, and determination throughout the event.

A huge congratulations goes out to every member of the team. Whether competing for the first time or standing proudly on the podium, each swimmer contributed to another memorable chapter in the Black Piranhas' journey. Special thanks go to Mr. Retief for his valuable assistance and dedication, as well as to all the parents whose unwavering support continues to strengthen and inspire our team community. Your encouragement from the sidelines never goes unnoticed and is deeply appreciated.

We look forward to celebrating these achievements together at the upcoming team photo shoot on Sunday with their medals proudly on display.

Well done, Black Piranhas! The future is bright, and the waves keep getting bigger!





News and Updates

From Seed to Harvest

Celebrating the Class of 2026 and Twenty Years of Excellence.

Newton International School Lagoon proudly celebrated the graduation of the Class of 2026 while also marking a significant milestone, the 20th Anniversary of Newton Group.

The ceremony was inspired by the Qur'anic verse:

"The example of those who spend in the way of Allah is like a grain which grows seven ears; in every ear is a hundred grains."(Qur'an 2:261)

From this verse emerged the theme "The Wheat That Grew" symbolising the journey of our pupils from young learners into confident, capable graduates.

Just as a single grain grows and flourishes, our pupils have been nurtured by the dedication of their teachers, the support of their parents, and the values of the Newton community.



The evening celebrated twenty years of educational excellence of the Newton Group of Schools. Honouring the teachers who cultivated knowledge, the parents who provided unwavering support, and the pupils whose achievements reflect the success of this partnership.

As the Class of 2026 crossed the stage to receive their certificates, they represented the continuing legacy of Newton. We congratulate our graduates and wish them every success as they embark on the next chapter of their lives.





News and Updates

COBIS Pupil Awards

We were recently contacted by The Council of British International Schools and asked if we could nominate a maximum of three individuals who exemplify British Values. The following three individuals were chosen for their dedicated service and commitment, not just in the classroom, but in the wider life of the school.

Sasha Naumova and Salwa Al-Naemi were selected because of their dedication and hard work in their leadership roles. They have provided a shining example to the rest of the school in how to go the extra mile and constantly strive for excellence in everything they do.

The third certificate was given to Anindya Mahanta in Year 4, for his positive attitude and commitment in his work as a school council member. He has not only organised and taken part in activities organised by the school council, but he has also been a key instigator in devising ideas.

A huge well done to all three of those nominated and surely you will continue your good work and example into the future.



EYFS end of year celebrations 2026

On Monday 15th June, our Foundation 1 pupils enjoyed their End of Year Celebrations, followed by the Foundation 2 Graduation on Tuesday 16th June.

These were two wonderful days filled with excitement, energy, and plenty of smiles as we celebrated the achievements of our youngest learners. From confident performances to special graduation moments, our pupils truly shone and made us all incredibly proud.

It was fantastic to see so many parents and family members in attendance, supporting and celebrating their children's learning journeys.

A huge thank you goes to our dedicated teachers and teaching assistants for their hard work, creativity, and commitment in making these celebrations so memorable.





Achievements

NIS Lagoon Celebrates Diamond Award Achievement

We proudly celebrate NIS Lagoon for winning the prestigious Diamond Award for the project “My Values Shape My Identity,” a testament to our commitment to embedding core values and strengthening the identity of our students. Congratulations to the entire school community on this remarkable achievement.

To mark this success, the school gathered to recognise the dedication and hard work of the Qatari Values Committee at NIS Lagoon. Staff commitment and teamwork were instrumental in earning this distinguished award, and we sincerely thank them for their outstanding efforts.



Celebrating a Young Author

With great pride and joy! We proudly congratulate our talented student, Reem Fahad Nasser Al Dafa, Year 8 pupil at NIS Lagoon, for winning the “Aqlam Wa’eda” competition organized by the Ministry of Education and Higher Education for her outstanding story: “My Friend the Horse”. Her story was proudly published and showcased at the Ministry’s pavilion during the Doha International Book Fair, where she also had the special opportunity to sign copies of her story among wonderful engagement from visitors — a beautiful reflection of her creativity and talent.





Events

KS2 Choir Concert

It was a genuine privilege to work with such a talented group of KS2 pupils for this year's choir concert. Their enthusiasm for music, alongside their discipline and commitment to rehearsals, created an inspiring process and an impressive final performance.



From the outset, the choir showed strong responsiveness to musical direction, quickly developing confidence in vocal technique, ensemble awareness, and expressive singing. Each rehearsal reflected their growing musicality, careful attention to detail, and ability to perform as a unified group.

The concert was a true celebration of their hard work. The pupils performed with poise, clarity, and genuine enjoyment, capturing the essence of collective music-making.

As their teacher, it has been a pleasure to guide them through this musical journey. Working with such engaged, respectful, and talented pupils has been deeply rewarding.

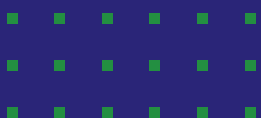
This experience highlighted not only their musical ability, but also their teamwork, resilience, and artistic expression. The KS2 Choir should be proud of what they have achieved together.

Well done to all involved for an inspiring and memorable performance. Their dedication is evident in every note and reflects the high standards they consistently strive to achieve.





Thank You



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