

# Newton British Academy, Al Dafna

“An international community of learners striving for excellence and celebrating success”



## NEWSLETTER – March 22-23

Dear Parents and Friends of NBA,

What a full term we have enjoyed. Whilst Term 1 was marked with excitement about the FIFA World Cup, Term 2 was filled with inspections, events and pupil activities. We have had some lovely events this term and you will see a little more about some of these in the pages that follow.

The PTA has had a full and busy term. This year for the first time since the start of the Covid Pandemic, we had a school fair. What a lovely day it was. There were a number of external stalls as well as our normal teacher stalls. This year the PTA Committee ran the Tea Garden and spent the afternoon pouring cups of tea and coffee for parents and guests. A big thank you to Ms Meriam Naas and the teachers who organised the School Fair and ran the stalls, as well as to the PTA and Ms MacMurray who ran the external stalls. Thank you to all our parents and children who supported the fair. We had an overwhelmingly positive response and the largest turnout ever.

Our pupils participated in Inter-Newton events, inter-school events that were not Newton based as well as a national competition. Our newly formed choir sang at the Qatar National Choir Competition where they performed very well. We have pupils performing at very high levels in Olympiads and various sporting codes. This has been a very full term for the children of NBA Al Dafna.

This term we had our QNSA accreditation inspection for 5 days in January. It went well and we hope to receive a good result from the MOE – Insha'Allah. The inspectors left us with very many good points that they had observed and one of them asked the process to get their child into the school. We expect to receive notification of the outcome of this inspection in the next week or two.

As part of our Social Responsibility Programme we participated in the DEAP Beach Clean UP, and supported the drive for money, clothes and food following the tragedy in Turkey and Syria. Our Student Council has played a prominent role in organising collections for charity this term and we are proud of their efforts.

We put out our normal End of Term Survey a week or two ago and were pleased with the continued level of support you give us as parents. We will try our best to continually improve our school so that the learning opportunities for the children are constantly enhanced.

Term 3 will be a long term with the Holy Month of Ramadan crossing over March and April. Examinations will take place between 7 and 15 June. Once again all of our children from Year 1 – Year 6 will participate in the international examinations in English and Mathematics. Please do not book air tickets to leave Qatar before 15 June as these examinations are the final ones of the year and the results are reported to the Ministry of Education.



## School Fair

On Friday 17 February, the NBA Al Dafna community enjoyed its first School Fair since February 2020. A wide range of stalls and games were operated by teachers, parents and outside vendors, ranging from huge bouncy castles, to face painting with refreshment stalls when the children got hungry. This year was our biggest turnout ever with parents and pupils bringing family and friends with them to enjoy the afternoon. We look forward to doing this again next year.





## Sports Day

Al Dafna Sports Day was an exciting and energetic event where students made the most of their talents and athletic potential.

Through competitive and fun competitions, every student was given the opportunity to shine and win points for their house!

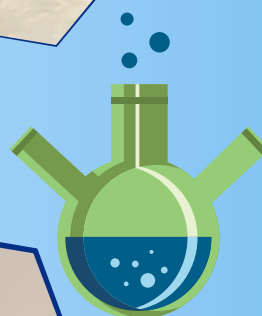
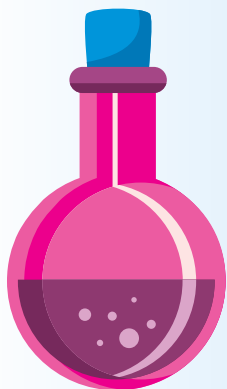
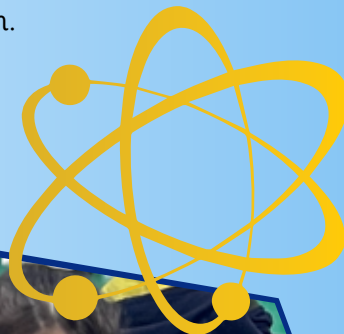


## Science Made Fun School Trip

EYFS and Year 4 pupils had a super exciting science day trip at school. This event was organized to extend our science curriculum beyond the class to inspire our pupils to have a love and appreciation of learning science.

The day started with a tour across our universe in the massive inflatable sky dome, set up in our PE hall. The dark interior combined with the latest technology, really made the stars come alive while our pupils learned about their solar system and the universe around us.

The second part of the trip was the hands-on Science activity where pupils got to experience, and experiment, with the concepts they are learning in the classroom. The pupils performed the experiments themselves and could even take the silly patty they made home with them.





## Sedra Farm

Year 5 & 6 students were excited to visit Sedra Farm, an hour north of Doha, where they had the opportunity to learn about agriculture and interact with a variety of animals.

Upon arrival at the farm, the students were greeted by the staff and given 6 coupons to redeem on activities. Pupils were split into groups with an adult and we explored the farm at our own pace. The students were free to interact with the animals as they wished, which made for a relaxed and enjoyable atmosphere.

We fed the goats, camels, llama, rabbits, and tortoises and learned about their diet and habits. The students were thrilled to pet and hand-feed the animals, and they were amazed to see the different types of birds and fish on the farm.

The highlight of the trip was definitely the camel ride, which the students were very excited about. They had the opportunity to ride the camels and staff took photos to remember the experience.

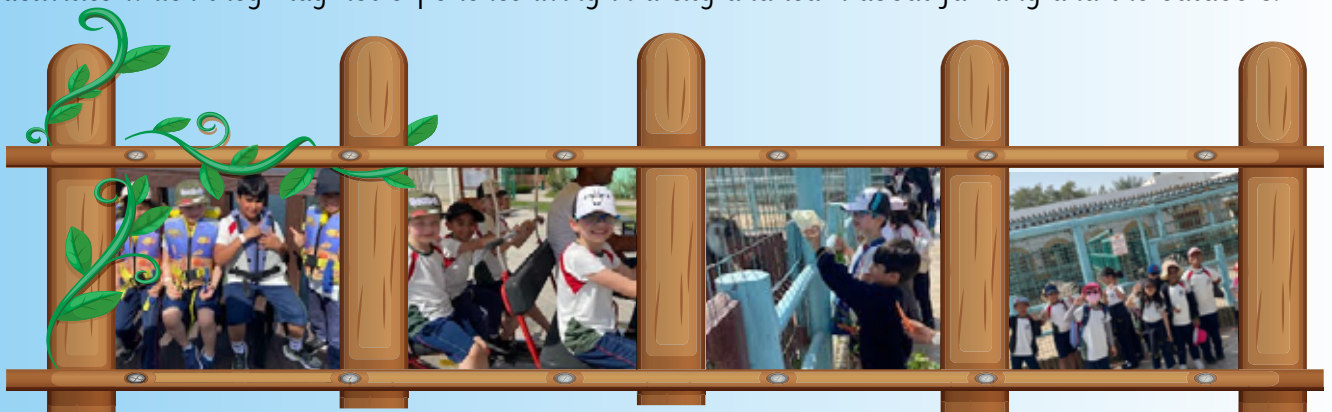
The students were also fascinated by a lone zebra, a unique sight for many of them.

We enjoyed a picnic lunch in the sunshine, which was a perfect opportunity to relax and enjoy the surroundings. Overall, the students had a fantastic time at Sedra Farm, and the staff provided a warm and welcoming environment that made the day truly memorable.



## Baladna Farm

Year 2 classes had a fantastic day at Baladna Farm. The children got to watch the cows being milked and learn about how different dairy products are made. They learned about how Baladna is an important company in Qatar and lots of famous people such as His Highness Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani have visited the farm. Next, the children spent time completing a range of outdoor, play based activities such as boating, bouncy-castles, group biking and bungee trampolines. We were also joined by the year 1 classes which gave the children a chance to form new friendships. The Y1 and Y2 ate lunch together and classes headed to the petting zoo where they had the chance to feed a range of animals and visit the reptile enclosure. This was a great opportunity for the children to try new outdoor activities which they may not experience living in a city and learn about farming and the outdoors.





## BEACH CLEAN UP

A big thank you to all the children and parents that attended the beach clean up! We had about 105 people from our school come to support us for this event. It was lovely to see so many people invested in taking RESPONSIBILITY to teach their children about RESPECTING our environment and showing ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS.

We are so proud of you!





## Coffee Morning

On 16 January we held a Coffee Morning. We had 168 parents attend this function. This gave us the opportunity to speak about a range of topics that affect the parents and pupils as well as to answer questions that parents have. After our conversation, the parents attended Lesson 2 of the day in their children's classes. Our next Coffee Morning will be in the first week back after Ramadan.



## Gifted and Talented

During Term 2, the gifted and talented students started a new weekly news report. Our Year 5 & 6 students planned, organised and interviewed different people about what was happening within the school. The students then put the videos together and uploaded this on a Thursday afternoon. This was a great way of creating a close school community and to keep parents and students up to date with all things related to our school. Well done to Baraa, Canaan, Layan, Haya, Nikoleta and Rithu for all their hard work on this.

In relation to competitions, we had a Year 3 & 4 general knowledge quiz in NBA Barwa. The students took part in a quiz and placed 3rd out of 9 schools. Well done to all of the students who took part in this and thank you to all the students who took part in the qualification rounds.

Looking forward to Term 3, we are going to attend a Year 1&2 Quiz after Ramadan and we will also host an NBA Al Dafna spelling competition. Keep your eyes on our news bulletin in Term 3 for all our events.





# PARENT SURVEY ANALYSIS

February 2023

Responses from 217 parents. There are a total of 389 families in the school. The response rate is 56%. The participation rate was good, although it is lower than the term 1 response rate.

	Strongly Agree		Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
1. My child is happy at school	49%		47%	4%		
2. My child feels safe at school	45%		50%	>4%	<1%	
3. My child is well taught at school	34%		57%	8%	1%	
4. I value the British curriculum	36%		55%	9%		
5. This school ensures that children are well behaved	33%		58%	8%	>1%	<1%
6. This school deals effectively with bullying	26%		52%	19%	1%	1%
7. This school is well led and managed	51%		45%	4%		
8. This school responds well to concerns I raise	35%		51%	14%		
9. I support the Vision and Mission of this school	44%		51%	5%		
10. I support the teaching of character and virtues at school	63%		34%	3%		
11. I would support the establishment of a secondary school at NBA	57%		34%	8%	1%	
12. I would recommend NBA Al Dafna to other parents	51%		44%	4%		
AVERAGE	92%			7%	<1%	
13. The most important values my child learns at school are:	Respect	Responsibility	Support	Transparent Communication	Diversity	Environmental Awareness
	74%	64%	38%	35%	43%	42%



## PUPIL SURVEY ANALYSIS TERM 2 22- 23

Based on responses from KS1 & 2 pupils 367 responses

Questions	Positive Answer	Neutral / Unsure	Negative Answer
1. I enjoy school	87%	10%	3%
2. Teachers help me to do my best	89%	10%	1%
3. My teacher gives me work that challenges me	75%	19%	6%
4. I enjoy learning at this school	89%	9%	2%
5. Teachers listen to what I have to say in lessons	89%	8%	3%
6. There is an adult I can talk to if something is worrying me	91%	6%	3%
7. The behaviour of other children in my lessons is good	66%	30%	4%
8. The behaviour of other pupils around school is good	71%	24%	5%
9. Is bullying a problem at your school?	97%	2%	1%
10. I feel safe when I am at school	94%	4%	2%
11. My school encourages me to look after my physical fitness	90%	9%	1%
12. My school encourages me to be independent and to take on responsibilities	91%	8%	1%
13. My school encourages me to respect people from other backgrounds and to treat everyone equally	96%	4%	<1%
14. My school provides me with information about my next steps	90%	9%	1%
15. I would recommend this school to a friend moving into the area	90%	8%	2%
<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>87%</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>2%</b>

Thank you for the support this term and for being such an active and positive part of our school community. Your constant and unwavering support of NBA Al Dafna is one of the reasons that this is such a positive learning environment for the children.

Yours sincerely  
Patrick Salvage  
Principal

“Darkness cannot drive out darkness, only light can do that.  
Hate cannot drive out hate,  
only love can do that” - Martin Luther King

