

NEWTON NEWS

Bringing you the latest from NBA Primary School and all-around Qatar.

What's happening in EYFS

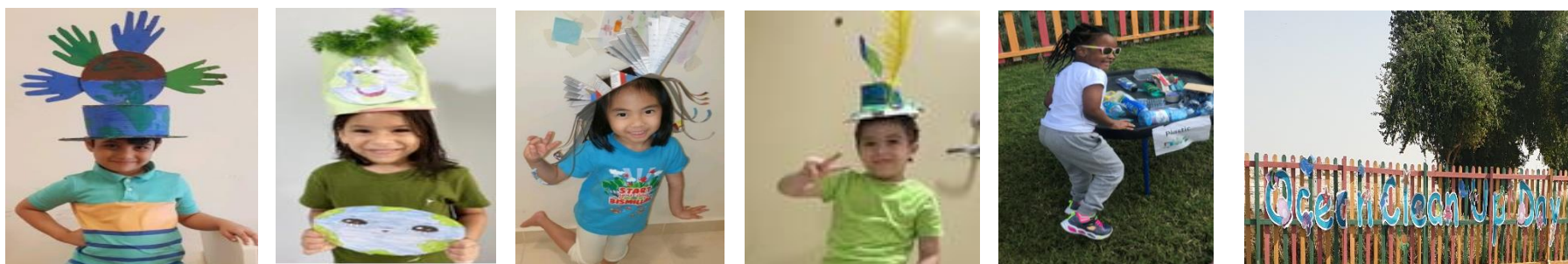
By Kathy Lockyer, EYFS Coordinator.

An important day to remember and celebrate all year round is Earth Day! The F1 and F2 children spent the day learning about how and why we need to help our planet and the importance of looking after our environment. I think Reyansh from F1 Green sums it up perfectly, "We need to look after all of the trees and the plants. We still need to make the ocean clean, we don't need to spill oil in the ocean we need to clean it up. Not just the ocean but the lakes and ponds. If we don't clean them up they will be all dirty and we won't be able to get water from anywhere! If we keep our earth clean it will be a nice place to live and we will have fruits and vegetables. The garbage needs to go in the bin and if they are full we need to empty them so they don't overflow." Part of the day involved dressing in green and taking part in a design a hat competition.

This Term the children in Foundation 1 and Foundation 2 took part in Science day and although it was online it was still a fabulous hands on experience for all students. The teachers planned and delivered several exciting experiments. The children or should I say the Crazy Scientist joined the teachers online as they turned their homes into laboratories. They made water walk from one cup to another and watched as the colours mixed together. They watched what happens to colour if you mix skittles with milk and the most exciting experiment of all was making the balloon blow up using special ingredients. The best part of the day was the dressing up. We had some wonderful and crazy costumes. A thank you must be said to all of the parents for ensure the children had the resources they needed to make the day such a success!



Our EYFS ' students enjoyed different events



A Day in Parents Life!

By Lulu K Abdulkader, Y4 Layan Mansour's parent



“Children are educated by what the grown-up is and not by his talk.” –Carl Jung

Children are the most beautiful gifts from God. But being a parent is not just a lovely and divine position but a significantly responsible one too. Firstly, as far as I am concerned, parenting is the most difficult job on earth. It is the only job which require your proper attention and enthusiasm 24/7. In-fact, it is one of the rarest of jobs where you could only get training and hands-own experience once you've become a parent. Although, there are countries where couples are given proper education before parenthood, it is still a rarity, and it should be more common as it is arguably one the most important ones. Secondly, in my religion a person is most responsible towards his/her parents after his responsibilities to his God. Moreover, we're taught in our religion that The Heaven is under the feet of our mother. We're taught to pray every single day for our parents as follows, “My Lord! Bestow on them Your Mercy as they did bring me up when I was small.” [Quran; Surah Al-Isra, Verse 24]. In my opinion this prayer explains more about responsibilities of parenthood than about responsibilities of children towards their parents. This verse is clearly asking to show mercy to parents as they cared for that child. So, if we are not a good, caring, compassionate and kind parent, we can expect mercy from our God also in that proportion only...

Thirdly, my religion also gives clear instructions on how to rear a child. In-fact it promises Heaven if a parent successfully raises one or more daughters. Therefore, the seriousness of this job is revealed for Heaven is offered for accomplishing this job successfully.

We must live as model in front of them. Our continuous encouragement and support are the positive strokes to our kids which make them capable to live up to what we believe of them. It is our duty to make them learn that failure is just the first steppingstone to success. Proper portion of Love and Care should be mixed up while moulding them. Not only we have to express kindness towards them but also, we must respect them as unique individual even from their infanthood. We are ought to make them feel our compassion and they should sense confidence with us.

At the age of 21, I became a parent. Thus, my hands-own experience started with our elder daughter's birth. I should say, it was just my training period. So, it was massive trial-and-error experiments. Thanks to God, now I believe that I have become a rather trained mother of three. I have corrected my mistakes I committed for bringing up our first child when we had our second one. And the rest of the mistakes when we had our third child. But still I am learning...I believe you never stop improving.

When we are going through this Pandemic-Covid-19 - the most difficult time of this era - we got more responsibilities to handle. All these years I've been trying to reduce our children's computer usage, but of-course now I am forced to encourage them to take advantage of computers. However, Thank God, I am happy because they don't endlessly surf the internet as they've already developed good habits on using E-time usefully. They spend much free time happily in reading good books.

POSITIVE SIDES OF ONLINE LEARNING!

By Lathik Walakularachige, Y6 Yellow

As we are well aware, all the children love going to school and meeting their teachers and fellow classmates, but due to the Covid-19 situation, we all have been forced to do online learning. Although attending school is a lot of fun, there are many benefits of online learning that are good for us!

If we were at school, all children and teachers need to move around different classes such as Arabic, PE and many more, but online learning, all we need to do is stay exactly where you are and just join with lessons via zoom links issued by the teachers. Easy as that! We also have our parents for extra help if needed as they can help us to overcome our weaknesses and can give a helping hand in many ways!

Another important benefit of online learning is that we have experienced better time management since we are not required to pack our bags and travel to school. Hence, we can enjoy some extra sleep. During the free time, we all have opportunity to make some fun, useful activities like reading, doing homework, or even playing TT Rockstar! Over the past few months, almost every one of us have gained new technical and IT skills and have indeed become mini technicians! All of us know how to use fusion and zoom! We all are experts of many useful websites and applications, which didn't even exist a year back! If there is anything that we are confused with, here's when google comes to action, which has proved that there is no limit to explore for those who are keen.

In school, if there is a lesson that you did not comprehensively understand and want to repeat, there is no chance, but when it comes to online learning, all lessons are recorded and they can be repeated as much as we want at any time that you wish. Instead of going to the library bringing books home and returning them back, we now have "Bug Club" that we can be accessed and read any book of your choice and interest!

We all recognise that there are some children who could be bored or tired and when at school but tasks assigned in the school will need to be completed at that time. In online learning, there are quizzes that we can do after another hour or two when we are recharged after a good break.

We all are comfortable working in our own home rather than going to school since we have our parents and siblings to chat or play with when its break time! Every child has even improved their virtual communication skills, like me! One more positive thing about online learning is that there are some teachers and children who are unfortunately stranded in other countries not been able to come to school. But thanks to online learning, those who are stranded in other countries can communicate and take part in school lessons.

Once Covid-19 finishes, hopefully we will be able to settle back at school. But until then, keep your positive energy and remember all these advantages of online learning, work nicely and be happy!



Y4 Blue enjoyed science day from home



Y5 Red had fun Thursday lesson

Well Being Activities at Newton

By Hiruki Kalansooriya, Y 5 Orange

At the beginning of Term 3, as Ramadan drew closer, the school decided that Well Being Sessions were to take place to improve & insure the mental as well as the physical Well Being of the students was being supported. The lessons were supervised by their assigned P.E. teachers. The students were asked to explain what they did over the week or weekend that improved their Well Being. This will ensure that the pupil has maintained an average amount of exercise and resting time. As per my view, before the lessons started to take place, I and maybe most of the other students were lazy and they had rare occasions where they went outside, especially during this pandemic. Once I came to realise wellbeing lessons would be in my time table, I felt like the rain had poured and the trees had grown. I was astonished...

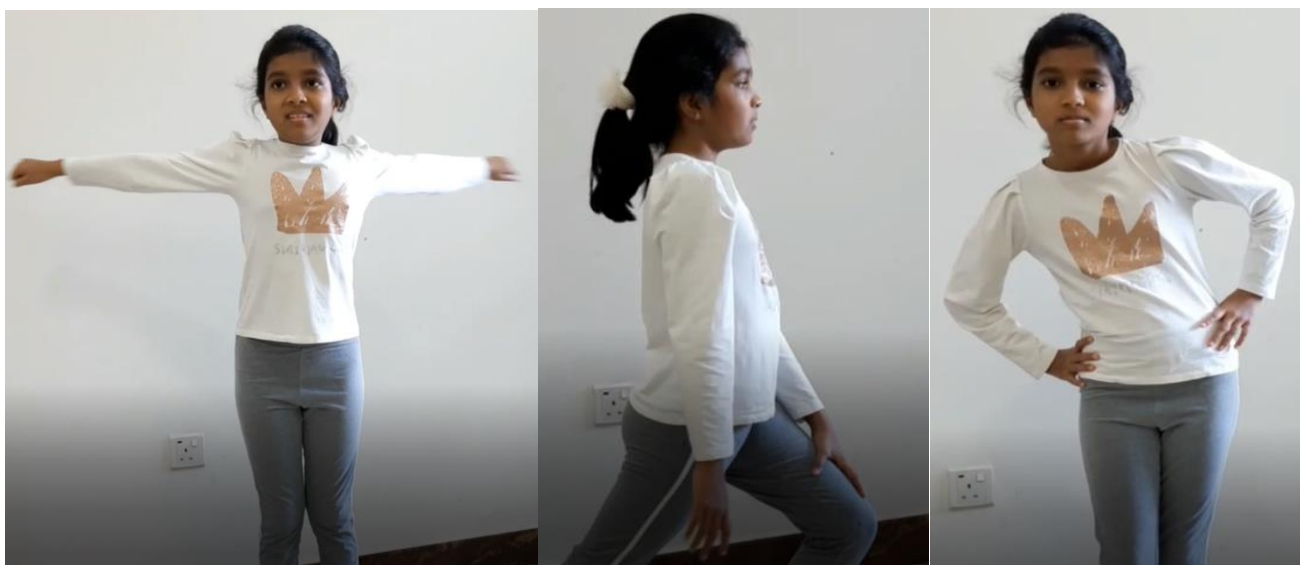
On the first day, I knew that this may be the chance to be healthier. The P.E. teacher asked us about what exercising my classmates and I had been doing lately. Next, my friend and I solved a few questions on what is good for our health and what was not. Then, the teacher told us about our Physical and mental Well Being, and how important it was. That is pretty much what my experience was in my first Well Being lesson. Then and there I exercised a bit more and rested according to what my age group required.

Our P.E. instructors at N.B.A made quizzes for us to make sure we had all the facts and habits for a healthy life style I would like to thank all the P.E. Department for making our lives better and healthier.

Thank you, for reading this article.



Hiruki, y5 orange student, enjoyed her wellbeing session



SCIENCE DAY

By Lathik Walakularachige, Y6 Yellow

Do you like science? Can you talk about science without “experiments”? Well, during Science day the kind-hearted teachers prepared a range of wonderful activities which helped to further develop the students’ curiosity in Science! WOW!!! We had an experiment contest (but unfortunately virtually due to COVID-19), had a live Kahoot quiz, were able to dress up as mad scientists and even had an opportunity to meet the Year 7 Science Teachers!

For the Year 6 students, meeting the enthusiastic Year 7 teachers was a great moment! We learnt new interesting things about science and they even had a video of each teacher doing an experiment, which was uploaded to YouTube. The experiments were so amazing!

The children came to school, on Thursday 27th May 2021, with fabulous outfits and we all looked just like mini-scientist geniuses, I’ll tell you that! Children had various types of scientist dresses and even our fellow teachers came to school dressed up making the event much more vibrant!

99% of all children adored the live Kahoot quiz. There were some magnificent results that the teachers couldn’t believe! Every question in the quiz was based on what we have learnt in Science throughout the year, and how possibly could some children remember what they learnt at the beginning of Term 1?!

Now we are coming to the best part of this great day, the experiment competition! Many, many children took part on this contest .I’m speechless! No one knew this many students had such confidence and presentation skills! There were some experiments of very high quality that were indeed better than the teachers’ ones, though the teachers even had kindly produced great videos too! The children – and the teachers - had to vote who had the best experiments and, again, congratulations for the winners!

Teachers and the support staff kindly worked very hard to make the Science Day a great and a memorable one. Did you like this day? Personally, I loved it!

Maybe the next year we can again have a Science day, but in the school with more physical interactions that will bring more fun to everyone!!!



Our primary mad scientist students

INTERNATIONAL DAY AT NBA

By Kholi Naeem, Y5 Purple

Can someone please tell me what day it is? Oh yeah! You don't need to tell me! Because... It's INTERNATIONAL DAY!! International day is where you have fun sharing things about your home country! As I said international day all about sharing about your country through fun things (not boring power points! UGH!!) One of the fun activities we can do is drawing and coloring our flags! You can show everyone what your home country flag looks like by drawing the designs of our flags and coloring them so they can be recognizable!! Cool right?! Another activity you can do on international day is sharing what type of clothes you wear in your home country! Just think about the clothes you would wear in your country!! It doesn't have to be fancy clothes, just what you would casually wear and if you have any fancy clothes you can wear them! That's right! Show off your fashion side!! One last thing you can do for international day is sharing what kind of food you eat in your home country! I mean... who wouldn't want to eat yummy, delicious food? You can make videos at home to also show how you make the food you are going to share!! Like biryani, maybe chicken or even curry!! You make what you eat and enjoy it!! In conclusion, International day is a great way to share your culture and your tradition and there are even more ways to show off your country!!



Our students celebrated diversity at NBA



The teachers behind the mask!

Hello, my name is Miss Murphy and I teach Year 1 Blue. I am from Belfast in Ireland. I really enjoy the lovely weather in Qatar. My favourite hobbies are swimming and running! My favourite subjects to teach are Maths and Art! My most favourite food is Italian food.



Cuisle Aibell Murphy - Year 1 teacher



Sinead Cleary - Year 2 teacher

Hello! My name is Miss Cleary , I come from a place called County Fermanagh in the North of Ireland. I have got 2 brothers and one sister. I am the middle child! I have a pet cat called Luna whose pictures are a regular occurrence in my classroom.

Hello, my name is Mr. McNamee and I teach Year 3 Orange. I am from Magherafelt, Northern Ireland. I really enjoy the beautiful weather and my favourite hobbies are swimming and kayaking. My favourite subjects to teach are Mathematics and Geography.



Kieran McNamee - Year 3 teacher



Newton
British Academy Barwa City

"AN INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY OF LEARNERS STRIVING
FOR EXCELLENCE AND CELEBRATING SUCCESS"

Mrs. Tatum Julies

Deputy Head of Primary - Pastoral

As this very unusual school year comes to an end we have to reflect on the year that we have had and all the wonderful progress and achievements we have accomplished as a school community. It has definitely been a year filled with new learning experiences with many accomplishments in academics and pastoral care. We have learned to be responsible, empathetic and safe.

Countless studies and reports show that parent involvement is the greatest predictor of student success. Parent involvement at NBA has meant something very different than it has ever before. Given the quality and quantity of parent involvement during the 2020-2021, we should have the most successful and well-behaved children in Qatar!

To our NBA students, as we move forward, you continue to demonstrate diligence, great resilience and determination. Your parents/guardians and teachers are proud of you. Always remember to study hard, read every day and dedicate yourself to making next year even better.

Thank you to the NBA staff who dedicate themselves day after day teaching our students new educational concepts and strategies, as well as kindness and respect. All the best to the teachers who are leaving NBA, I hope you have rich learning experiences and adventures on your new journey.

Have a happy, safe and healthy summer vacation. I look forward to seeing everyone in the new academic year.

Kind regards,

Mrs. Tatum Julies

Deputy Head of Primary - Pastoral



Gary Moss

Deputy Head of Primary, Academics



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After another interesting academic year, we reached the finish line. No more assessments! No more Zoom sessions! No more Fusion quizzes and, thankfully, no more homework!

While the end of the academic year is exciting, it is also a time to say goodbye to staff and friends. Students and staff who may be moving on, I would like to thank you for helping us make NBA an outstanding school. I wish you all the best in your future endeavours.

I use the term 'outstanding school' because we constantly strive to improve. We ask more of our teachers, students, and parents - this makes us regularly review, reflect, and enhance our academic and pastoral provision.

John C Maxwell talks about the tendency of people to 'freeze' or standstill during difficult and incalculable times. He highlights the importance of constantly moving forward, improving, and striving for excellence.

We have not been complacent during this time of uncertainty and implemented many new initiatives, such as a new handwriting scheme, White Rose Mathematics, further developed our Talk for Writing Approach in English and expanded our ability to support our rigorous curriculum across different online platforms. None of this would have been possible without the hard work of our teachers, parental support and ongoing student engagement. Least we forget our hardworking and friendly teaching assistants.

To all the Year 6 students moving on to Secondary School, good luck and take the time to come down to Primary and greet your former teachers - we love seeing our students grow up.

To all our parents, thank you for the support, patience and feedback provided throughout the year. We hope to welcome you back into the building in September.

To all students, we hope to welcome you back onsite full-time in September to support you in your learning journey. Remember to keep reading during the summer break.

Finally, I would like to thank all the teaching staff and management team at NBA for the support and guidance over the last six years. My family and I will be leaving Qatar at the end of June. NBA has been a big part of my life over the last six years, and I am grateful for the memories, friendships and learning opportunities.

Strength and honour,

Gary Moss

Deputy Head of Primary, Academics



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Martin Hutchin

Head of Primary

As we come to the end of the academic year, I would like to say a huge thank you to the NBA school community of; students, parents and teachers. The context of the pandemic has presented unique challenges throughout the year and the team work, of all stakeholders has ensured that we were able to maintain a high quality education for all students.

Congratulations to all students on your achievements but especially those who have shone enough to receive an award in our Annual Prize Giving ceremony. If you did not win one this year, please do not give up and redouble your efforts when you return to school in September.

To all Year 6 Students; I wish you all the luck in the world in your Secondary School journey. You have the skills to succeed, remember; believe in yourself and be confident.

If you are leaving us here at NBA, I wish you every success in your future endeavours.

I wish you all a relaxing and much deserved break.

Safe Travels

Martin Hutchin

Head of Primary