



The
SCHOLARS'
INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL
Where scholars discover themselves

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In Touch

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL OF THE SCHOLARS

From the Principal's Desk...

The journey of The Scholars' International School towards excellence advances meritoriously by the grace and blessings of God Almighty. The school has become the centre of the universe for our little scholars and with unbridled enthusiasm they enjoy the unique learning experiences provided for them to unlock their full potential.

The year 2012, with all its challenges and opportunities, is about to ring out and 2013 rings in with new hopes and promises. For us, though the year 2012 was rather short, it was truly memorable. In the four months we had to provide learning experiences for our children, we were able to challenge many of the existing common perceptions of the teaching-learning process. During this period, not only did we enable the students to have an undivided focus on academic pursuits but also egged them on to experience the world beyond their textbooks and the four walls of their classrooms. We believe that such learning experiences are vital for deepening the understanding of the children and for developing their life skills. They also help in the formation of character,

the development of aesthetic awareness, independence and confidence.

The months of November and December were filled with numerous curricular and co-curricular activities, all of which were instantly popular. This issue of *In Touch*, will unfold the sincerity of our efforts to accomplish our dream of eliciting greatness from each individual of the Scholars' family.

One of the most commendable achievements of the little scholars in the month of November was their performance at Katara, the cultural village of Qatar, where people from different cultural backgrounds come together for a common cause. To perform at Katara 'where the grace of the past meets the splendour of the future' is an unvoiced dream of every artiste who is aware of the magnificence of the place. Our little scholars made the best use of the opportunity to lift higher the banner of our school and they won the hearts of the audience and the organisers alike.

The professional growth of our staff has

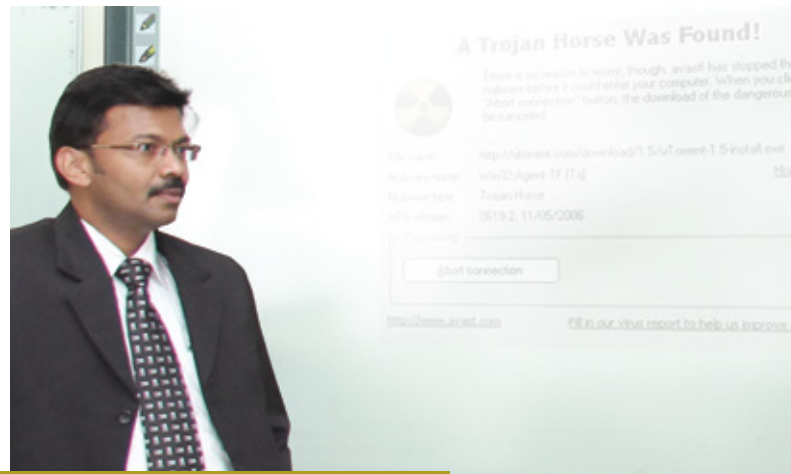


always been one of our top priorities. In the first week of November, the teachers were again given a three-day intensive training to sharpen the skills required to transform the school's vision to reality.

The first Parent-Teacher Conference of the school provided the right platform for giving proper feedback and for planning strategies that will help in drawing out the best from each child. It was indeed a great encouragement for us to note that all the members of the parent community attended the Conference.

With the grace of God Almighty and the whole-hearted co-operation of all who are associated with us, we have moved ahead each day with a definite sense of direction towards reaching our goal of moulding a community of life-long learners who will live with honour. Let us continue to strive hard in the living present and entrust the unborn tomorrows to the care of God Almighty.

Anand Victor
Principal



Teacher Training Programme

A three-day (31st October, 1st and 3rd November) intensive training was conducted for the teachers this month also in order to update their understanding of the latest innovations in the methodology of teaching various subjects. The highlight of this training session was that the teachers and directors took pains to lead the sessions. Fourteen teachers empowered themselves

to empower their colleagues. The directors also contributed their expertise and the training sessions helped the educators in acquiring skills required to transform the classroom situations and make them more beneficial for the little scholars.

Mind Mapping, Mnemonics, Learning by Doing, Classroom Management, Language

Acquisition, Creative Drawing, Innovations in Learning, Psychological and Behavioural Disorders among Children, Critical Thinking, Technology Aided Instruction, Objectives of Children's Theatre, Learning Activities, Communicative Competence, Montessori Method of Education, Health Issues among Children and First Aid were the main topics discussed in the Training Programme.



Soft Board Training

A one-day Soft Board training session was conducted for the teachers on 27 November, 2012. Mr Naveen Sethi, a professional trainer from Dubai, led the training. It was attended by all the members of the teaching staff.



STUDENTS' DAY



Commemorating the 123rd birthday of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, November 14 was celebrated as Students' Day. The school administration and classroom teaching were entrusted with the little scholars on that day, thus giving them a unique learning experience.

At the morning assembly the Principal Mr Anand Victor, Administrative Director, Mr Abdulla Savad and Academic Co-ordinator, Mr V.S. Sreekumar, handed over their duties to the Student-Principal Master Kavish Singh, Student-Administrator Master Faiz Nihal and Student Co-ordinator Master Musuab Bin Musthafa, respectively. This was done symbolically by handing over a scroll of honour, key of administration and lesson plans to the student-leaders.

In his address, the Student-Principal motivated the Student-Teachers to do their best and expressed his gratitude to the school authorities for having given them the opportunity to step into the shoes of their teachers and to experience the joy of teaching.

Immediately after the morning assembly, the Student-Teachers took charge of the classroom management and teaching. Seventeen student-teachers handled various subjects in Grades 1 to 4 using ICT through activity-oriented, child-centred approach.

At the afternoon assembly, the charges vested in them were handed back to the

school authorities by the student leaders.

Prizes were distributed for the Best Teacher in each subject. The following are the names of the Best Student-Teachers in each subject;

English	Musuab Bin Musthafa
Mathematics	Shahil Sha
Science	Kavish Singh
Social Studies	Saif Ali Khan
General Knowledge	Nadia Shadab Khan
Physical Education	Risvanula Fariz
Art	Muad Bin Musthafa
Librarian	Fathima VP
Story Telling	Fathima Rifa

Kadeeja Sana Mottammal of Grade 4 was adjudged the over-all best teacher of the day.

The principal congratulated the student-leaders and teachers for contributing their best in making the Students' Day a memorable one.



SCHOLARS IN KATARA

One of the most commendable achievements of the little scholars in the month of November was their performance at Katara, the largest and the most multidimensional cultural platform of Qatar. As part of the Doha Tribeca Film Festival, Katara was transformed into a centre of entertainment and educational activities for children. The main objective of DTFF was to provide opportunities for the children to play, experience, perform and learn together in community spaces.

Thirty-seven talented participants from our school performed at Katara on 22nd November, 2012. After reciting a few verses from the Quran, the school choir sang two popular songs in English and Arabic. A graceful French dance entitled 'Sur Le Pont d'Avignon' added variety to the show. This was followed by a thought-provoking Mime reflecting the deterioration of values in the society. The half-an-hour long performance of the little scholars culminated in a dance number to the rhythm of the Hindi song 'Bum bum bole'. The performance was well-received by all.



Parent-Teacher Conference

Hallmarks of The Scholars' International School



A very fruitful Parent-Teacher Conference was held in two sessions on 10th and 17th of November for Grades One & Two and Grades Three & Four, respectively. All parents availed the opportunity to interact with the teachers of their wards.



- An Advisory Panel of experienced and renowned Educationists
- An independent status which affords the latitude for innovation
- A stimulating environment conducive to unlocking a child's full potential
- Professional, talented and dedicated staff
- Digital Campus-in collaboration with Education to Home (ETH Ltd.) providing 24x7 online access to students and their parents
- State-of-the-art, spacious, audio-visual, smart classrooms equipped with computers, smart boards etc.
- Well-researched and stimulating curriculum as recommended by the CBSE, Delhi, India
- Online Learning Management System that adds an extra edge to classroom activities
- Small class strength that facilitates individual attention and excellent standards of teaching and learning
- Inspirational, innovative and technology-aided teaching methodology
- Continuous and comprehensive system of assessment with timely feedback
- Remedial Classes for slow learners and Special Classes for the gifted
- A high level of parent and community involvement
- Special coaching in sports, games and cultural activities
- Undivided focus on Value-building

QATAR NATIONAL DAY



Qatar National Day was celebrated in the school campus on 11th December with great fervour and enthusiasm. The celebration was conducted early due to the onset of winter break on 13th December.

The heritage of the beautiful country of Qatar and the principles on which the country is founded were chosen as the main themes for the celebration. Children from fifteen different nations expressed their fidelity and solidarity to Qatar by wearing dresses akin to that of Qatar's traditional costume.

The day started with a colourful procession by the students and staff, waving the Qatar national flag and raising slogans of love and admiration for Qatar. The procession which started in the school campus proceeded to the nearby street and culminated at the school assembly ground. Ms Biva Bhattacharaya, welcomed the gathering. Mr Anand Victor, principal, motivated the students to love and respect the country where they reside and to contribute their best

for its development. Mr V.S. Sreekumar, Academic Co-ordinator, briefed the gathering about the historical milestones that paved way for the modern-day developments in Qatar. Mr Jabir Muhammed, Ms Seloua Moulay, Ms Susan Jeomon, staff representatives, spoke and sang about the glory of the land of Qatar. Student representatives also expressed their admiration and love for the nation of Qatar through speeches and songs. The official ceremony came to a close with the singing of the Qatar National anthem.

Abdulla Savad, Director, Administration, presided over the function. Mr Abdul Azeez compered and Mr Jobin Jose delivered the vote of thanks.

The official function was followed by various competitions like colouring, poetry recitation, patriotic songs etc., in which children participated whole-heartedly. The day's celebration concluded with the distribution of prizes to the winners in the competitions.



SPORTS DAY



The first historic Sports Day of the school was celebrated in the school campus on 4th December, 2012. A variety of sports competitions and fun-filled games were organized to mark the maiden event.

Fun-filled activities comprised Ball Gathering Relay, Musical Chairs, Lemon and Spoon race, Skipping race, Sack race, Ball Passing Relay, Duck Walk, Frog Jump, Rama and Ravana, Catch the Water Balloon etc. What was unique about the celebration was the fact that both the teaching and the support staff participated enthusiastically in the fun games, adding to the festive mood.



Fathima Ayisha Vayalil of Grade Four welcomed the dignitaries and invited guests. Dr Wandoor Aboobacker, chairman of the school, inaugurated the Sports Day celebrations. Mr Anand Victor, principal, sensitised the spectators and the participants to the importance of sports and games in education. Risvanula Fariz of Grade Four delivered the vote of thanks.

The excitement of the day culminated in a thrilling volleyball match between two teams from among the members of the staff.

After the official inauguration, there was a colourful March Past by the enthusiastic participants of the four Houses clad in their respective House-Uniforms and commanded by their House Captains. This was followed by various track and field events. The first event of the day was the 50 m race for boys.

Trophies, medals and certificates were distributed to the winners. The Individual Champion among the boys was Mahmood Abdul Razak of Grade Two. Rana Shirin of Grade Three was the champion among the girls.

The mood of our first Sports Day was one of fun, excitement and laughter.



Citius, Altius, Fortius.



House Activities

House Assembly

The first House-wise assembly was conducted on 8th November, 2012, by Honesty House. In addition to the prayer in Arabic and English, News Reading and Thought for the Day, the programmes included a speech on International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment during War and Armed Conflict, group songs in English and Hindi, mime and a skit.

Loyalty House conducted the assembly on 6th December, 2012. A speech on the importance of International Volunteers Day, a Thought for the Day on the importance of Loyalty, storytelling, songs in English, Malayalam, French, Hindi and Arabic and a graceful French dance, were the main items included in the assembly.

Charity House conducted its assembly on 13th December, 2012. The programmes included songs in English, Malayalam, French, Hindi and Arabic, Urdu shayari, skit, reflection on some scientific truths and a General Knowledge quiz.

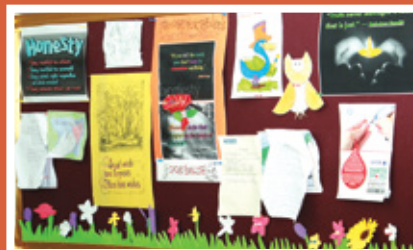


Display Board

In order to provide an opportunity for the students to display their creativity and to teach them to appreciate the works of others, Display Boards are placed inside and outside the classrooms.

House Display Boards are placed in the corridors. Each House takes charge of the weekly display. The House members eagerly await their chance to display their creations. They plan and work together stimulating the feeling of belonging within the group.

Prizes are distributed monthly for the Best Display. This month, Charity House bagged the First prize.



Special Prayer for Rain

As per the directives of the Supreme Education Council, we conducted a special prayer on 4th December, 2012, invoking God Almighty for showers in the land. Mr Abdul Azeez, Islamic Studies teacher, led the prayer.



Volunteers' Day

As part of observing International Volunteer Day, we celebrated Volunteers' Day on 5th December, 2012. Mr Shihab Kunnath, the physical education teacher, briefed the students about the importance of the day. In his presentation, he highlighted the significance of the role of Volunteers in the development of individuals, institutions and nations. He also applauded the dedication of the Volunteer Leaders Musuab Bin Musthafa and Faiz Nihal and encouraged all the students to be aware of their responsibility to make the world a better place to live in.

Christmas

Christmas, the festival of love and brotherhood, was celebrated on 13th December, 2012. The atmosphere and the mood of celebration was created by campus decorations, singing of carols, presentation of the Nativity Scene and the arrival of Santa with the choice sweets for the little scholars. Both teachers and students took part whole-heartedly in the celebration. Mr Jobin Jose delivered the Christmas message. The highlight of the celebration was a hilarious speech delivered by Santa who spoke in an unknown language, which was translated to English for the kids by Mr V.S. Sreekumar.



Off-Campus Tidings

Welcome to the new Indian Ambassador

The Chairman, Managing Director, Principal and three representatives of the Director Board participated in the reception organised by the ICC along with ICBF and IBPN affiliated organisations at the Concord Hotel on 9th November, 2012, to welcome H.E. Mr Sanjiv Arora, the new Ambassador of India to Qatar.



Visual Arts Forum India

Indian Ambassador to Qatar, H.E. Mr. Sanjiv Arora, takes a close look at the world-class paintings of our Art Teacher, Mr Shajee Chelad, at a painting workshop organised by Visual Arts Forum India at Birla Public School.



Education Excellence Day

Mr Abdul Aziz and Mr Jabir Muhammed of the Arabic Department, attended a seminar conducted by the Supreme Education Council at Hotel Al Sharq on 15th November, 2012 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. The seminar focused on promoting creativity and excellence in the schools in Qatar.

Prevention and Reporting of Foodborne Diseases

The school nurse, Ms Melanie B.A. and Mr Jabir Muhammed, Arabic Teacher, attended the seminar organized by the Department of Food Safety and Environmental Health, regarding food safety in schools and foodborne diseases - prevention and reporting, at the Supreme Council of Health from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on 19th November, 2012.

Traffic and Pedestrian Safety

A one-day Traffic and Pedestrian Safety Course expatriate schools, organized by the Traffic Department, Ministry of Interior, was held at the Capital Security Department Auditorium from 4 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. on 17th November, 2012. Mr Abdul Nazir E., Transport Co-ordinator, Mr Abdul Aziz, Teacher of Islamic Studies and Mr Shihab Kunnath, Physical Education Teacher, attended the course.

Safety and Security Forum

Under the patronage of His Excellency, the Minister for Education, the Qatar Independent Technical School in collaboration with the Supreme Education Council organised a Seminar on Security and Safety at the Sheraton Hotel on 12th December, 2012. Our teachers, Mr Abdul Azeez and Mr Shihab Kunnath attended the Seminar, representing the school.

Kids' Film Screening Day

The Supreme Education Council and Doha Film Institute organized a series of special screenings for school students at Katara Cultural Village from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. from 18th to 22nd November, 2012. Twenty-nine students from Grades Two to Four were taken for the 3D movie *Asterix and Obelix: In Britain*, on 21st November, 2012. They were accompanied by three teachers.



Kindergarten Activities

My heart leaps up when I behold
A rainbow in the sky:
So was it when my life began;
So is it now I am a man;
So be it when I shall grow old,
Or let me die!

William Wordsworth

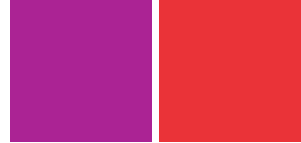
Rainbow Day

A rainbow in the sky is one of the most exquisite sights that nature paints. It inspires all, irrespective of age and nationality. The little scholars of the Kindergarten section were introduced to the world of colours by exploring the rainbow. During the months of November and December, they familiarized themselves with all the beautiful colours of the rainbow.

The children identified passionately fruits, vegetables, flowers and other objects associated with different colours. During the weekly celebration, the tiny-tots engaged in activities like colouring, sponge painting, making corns with pulses, vegetable printing etc. As part of the Green Day Celebration, the little ones took a tour of the plants in the school campus singing "Save the Earth".

Colours help children to understand the diversity of the world around them. Integrating colours in the curriculum prepares the little scholars to observe, comprehend, distinguish and categorize what they see.

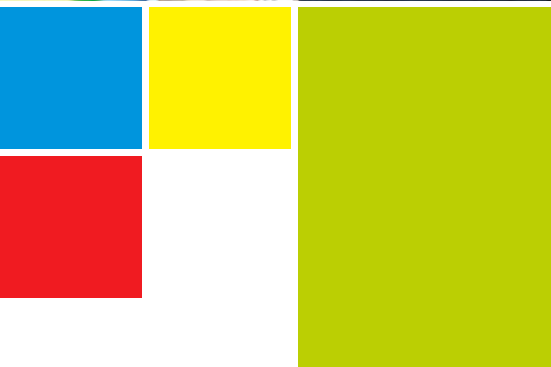
Prizes are given every week to those students whose attire perfectly suits the vision of the Rainbow Week celebrations.





Circle Time

Circle Time activities enable the children to strengthen and reinforce Listening, Speaking and Reading skills. They also help in promoting positive behaviour and in nurturing creativity. During Circle Time the children act, play, learn and enhance their knowledge by identifying shapes, colours, numbers, alphabets, animals, birds etc.



Sand-Tracing

The objective of this activity is to introduce the alphabets and numbers to children and to familiarize them through Tracing.



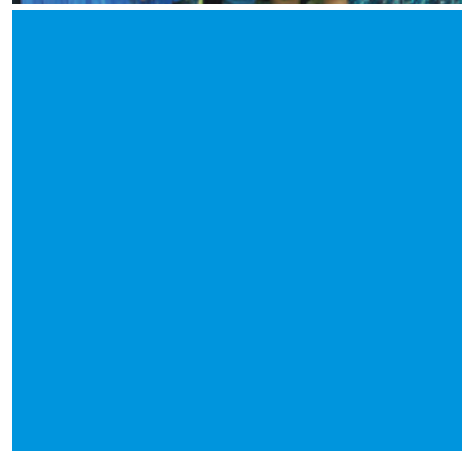
Show and Tell

This activity gives the children a chance to explore the details of a selected topic each week. It sharpens their language skills and helps them to fight off stage-fear at a very young age.



Playtime

Playtime entices the young minds to explore their subtle physical energy, thus enhancing their alertness and mental faculties.



Admissions Open for Academic Year 2013-14. Kindergarten to Grade Five.



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