

# Newton British School



## Mission Statement

NBS - An international community of learners; striving for excellence and celebrating success.

January 2010

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With the prophetic words of “It won’t be long until we are back at school in January” still ringing in our ears, here we are back in January. So much has happened already it seems a little late to be welcoming everyone back and wishing you a Happy New Year. Nevertheless we give the compliments of the season to you all. We have a fun packed Newsletter for you at the start of this term so sit down, relax and read.



This edition focuses on the work that is being undertaken in school to make coming to school a fantastic experience for children and provide them with wonderful opportunities to get involved in new and exciting learning in a great environment.

## Newton British Head Girl and Head Boy

At the start of this term a new Head Girl and a new Head Boy were appointed. In addition a Deputy Head girl and boy were appointed. These children are always taken from Year Six and are selected based on their attitude to school life. This will include how they approach academic work, relationships with peers and adults and how they approach problems and situations in and out of class. Mr. Mustoe, Year 6 Teacher, and the Senior Management Team had a very hard time choosing the four children and were delighted to select Christine Husoy as Head Girl and Ulrik Ladouceur as Head Boy and Alice Arrica as Deputy Head Girl and Pablo Fernandez as Deputy Head Boy. Their appointments were announced at the Book Week assembly and in the next issue of NBSNL we will catch up with all of them and find out they how they are getting on in their new roles.



## The Principal's Column



Welcome to the second edition of our NBS Newsletter – I do hope you enjoy it and as always, the staff, students and myself welcome your feedback.

It was an exciting start to Term 2 with the Winter Wonderland festivities and students and staff alike were all kept extremely busy. I would like to take this opportunity to once again thank everyone for the enormous support for this event. As you are aware, it had to be postponed until January due to the unexpected flooding in December. Huge amounts of time, effort and energy were put into making it a success and despite the delay I believe it was definitely worth the wait. The support we received from NBS families and friends was quite overwhelming and I would like to thank each and every one of you who joined us in helping to make it such a special evening. We certainly didn't anticipate such an enormous turnout and apologise again for the insufficient quantities of food - we have certainly learned from this and going forward at such events will do our utmost to ensure sufficient hot dogs cakes and drinks for all.

This was the first time we have ever held such an event and as with all 'firsts' some things invariably go wrong (such as problems with our PA system!) but huge credit must go to all for doing their very best to overcome such challenges and make it a wonderful event.

Book Week saw the children and teachers focus on the joy of books and reading, with everyone showing their creative skills by writing super poems and stories to share with other year groups. The week ended with our first assembly of this academic year – an absolute pleasure for all! These weekly gatherings, where we celebrate the children's achievements and successes, are such an integral part of school life and have been sadly missed by all so it was truly wonderful to finally be given the go ahead to start them once more. We look forward to you joining us on Thursday mornings to share these for the remainder of this academic year.

Amidst such activity the weeks have once again just flown by and soon to be upon us is Healthy Eating Week and Sports Day, one of our favourite annual events. Last year this event was an outstanding success and I sincerely hope to see as many of you as possible on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> February to cheer the children on and help make this year even better.

Before we know it Half Term will be here and in anticipation of this I would like to wish you all a very safe and happy holiday, be that in Doha or further afield, and look forward to welcoming you back for another action packed second half on February 21st.

### Dates for your Diary and upcoming events.

**Healthy Eating Week is taking place between 7<sup>th</sup> February and 11<sup>th</sup> February 2010.**

**The NBS Sports Day is to be held on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2010.**

**The half term break will be between Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> February and Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> February.**

**The Newton British School Fair will be held on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2010 from 2pm to 5pm.**

**Exams for the Spring Term will be held on the 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> March 2010.**

**The last day of the Spring Term is Thursday April 1<sup>st</sup> 2010.**

## Walking in a Winter Wonderland

The trees were in place and the sparkling reindeer looked on. The fairy lights switch was thrown and shone light over the school. The whole scene was set for the magic of Winter Wonderland. The Winter Wonderland event that took place at the start of Term Two was absolutely fantastic. The children were wonderful and performed so magnificently in front of a record crowd and without the slightest hint of nervousness. We saw dancing and singing from Pre-School and Reception, performance poetry and singing from Key Stage 1 and more singing and a winter rap from Key Stage 2. Newton British School Choir also performed for the event and the singing which is directed by Miss Conn was magical and very befitting of the scene that had been created. Mrs Craig who was chairperson of the Winter Wonderland committee and the whole team must take a huge amount of the praise for the event which by anyone's standards was a runaway success. The evening began with a parade that



included all of the children from every class. As they walked along the main street of the school the children waved and wished everyone a happy winter. After the parade was over and the children had sang and performed the time for food and frolics had come. There were a multitude of activities. Adults and children alike took part in face painting and other party games. There was hot chocolate to buy and a wonderful stall selling cakes which were absolutely delicious. The hot dog stand was a big hit but soon it was obvious that the dogs were too hot and they sold out almost immediately, a lesson learned for next year for sure.

Now to the serious stuff - the event raised money and that was the whole point of it! All of the money that was raised will be given to an educational charity. A grand total of QR3000 was raised and this will be given as a donation from the children and parents of NBS. Very well done and a very big thank you for your support.



## Pictures from the Winter Wonderland



## The Foundation Stage Animal Adventures

Our brilliant Foundation Stage which includes Pre-school and Reception are always coming up with imaginative ways to deliver the Early Learning Goals. This term has been no exception and has seen them using the theme of animals. This has involved them looking at the caring aspects of animals as pets but also at how animals impact on all of our daily lives. This teaches children that we must look after and respect all of the animals that are around us.



Caring takes on a practical application in Foundation Stage. It required staff and parents to bring in animals for the children to see and touch and interact with. Well done animals for your patience and well done Foundation for bringing this excellent topic to life, literally, for the children. As you can see from the pictures it's all great fun.

The theme and focus in any term transfers in to every subject so Maths and Literacy are all taught using the theme. The practical element to the planning of lessons means that the children have a point of reference in their learning. Children in Foundation Stage are at the age where learning needs to be done through hands on experience of the world around them so the opportunity to have real animals in the class is invaluable to the development of these young minds.



## The Fabulous Book Week

Each year all across the world there is a Book Week. This is a week where the focus of schools, or anywhere where there are children, is books. This event is aimed at encouraging children and adults to read more. It is a sad fact of a technology driven age that we are reading less books and allowing technology to provide the stimulus to our minds that books once provided. NBS has taken part in Book Week since it opened and this year was no exception. The children from each class undertook activities that meant they read more. The activities that were generated out of this were varied and each was excellent. Some children created information texts such as Year 2 who wrote about dragons. Some children wrote a play and performed in front of younger children. Year 6 wrote a book for the children in Key Stage 1 to read. The week came to a wonderous conclusion on Thursday where everyone in school, staff and children, dressed up as a character from a book and we had some wonderful costumes at our assembly on Thursday. There were prizes for each year group and everyone had a fantastic time, it was a shame it had to end.



## The View from... Miss Shanab, Deputy Principal

This academic year has already been so wonderful in so many ways but I'm pleased to report it's about to get even more exciting! Over the next few weeks, we will all be making a conscious effort to lead a healthier lifestyle and make better choices thanks to Healthy Eating Week and Sports Day! Miss Phillips, Miss Tyrell and Miss Walker are motivating every child in school with their Rise and Shine morning routine, which has had a positive effect in encouraging the children to move to music to wake them up, ready to learn in the classroom. This is all part of Healthy Eating Week. There will be plenty of other activities to get the children thinking about their own health and fitness, not to mention Sports Day on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> February. Probably the most exciting part of the week will be our special visitors from Al Sadd Football Club, who will be in school to talk to the children about taking part in sports. They will sign autographs, pose for photos and who knows...they might even play a little match! All I know is...it's set to be fantastic!



### Focus on...



This term we focus on Newton British School Choir. The children and Miss Conn have worked so hard since the start of this term. I think that you will agree with me that the performance that the children showed us at Winter Wonderland was absolutely amazing. This is down to hard work and dedication on the part of both the children and Miss Conn. Special mention must be made for Miss An, our pianist, who was brilliant during the performance and is a real asset to NBS. The rewards are obvious as the applause begins and the cheers and shouts of all the audience take over. The choir has been running since the school started and is open to all of the children in Key Stage One and Key Stage Two. The NBS Choir is an asset that we should all be very proud of and I know that Mrs Foxwell, our Principal, was very impressed with the choir. So a very well done to you all and Miss Conn and Miss An. This reporter can't wait to hear when the next performance will be... maybe at the NBS Prize Giving Ceremony? Don't worry NBSNL will keep you totally informed.

### Mission Statement and Vision

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

We aim to provide the highest quality of education possible for students of all abilities. In doing so, we aim to positively encourage each student to achieve academic excellence, enjoy creative diversity, develop critical thinking skills and become lifelong learners and responsible citizens.

To achieve this, we will provide a diverse education in a safe, supportive environment that promotes self-discipline and motivation. We will provide and maintain a calm, trusting and caring atmosphere where teaching and learning are meaningful and developed. We will work in partnership with our staff, students, parents and the wider community to achieve our vision.

### In the next issue

- NBS Student Council
- Exam Tips
- The Funny Side returns
- Head Girl and Head Boy
- View from Key Stage Two

**DON'T MISS**

**THE NEXT ISSUE!**