

Newton British School Newsletter



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

**October
2010**

Another year starts with a fantastic NBS event.

The Usual Suspects

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Focus on?

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Well the 2010 / 2011 term has been underway now for five weeks. We have been working very hard since the 19th September. This term's first edition of the Newsletter brings lots of new elements together. A new format for the Newsletter means that this edition will be the first of two editions in the first term. We have a new editor on the Newsletter as well, more on that later as we introduce the editorial team to you. We have many new staff at Newton British this term and we will have a focus on them in this edition. We have also have a new Principal, Mrs. Gray and she will be giving us her insights into the school and her vision for the future of our great school. The events have started in earnest and this year we have already had a really wonderful and memorable International Day and are gearing up for the visit of an author, Ian Billings, on the 24th October.



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It seems to be the edition for new things; the Newton British School Parent Teacher Association (PTA) was launched on Tuesday 12th October with a meeting in the gym. Mrs. Gray spoken to around 80 parents about the PTA and the roles and responsibilities of the members. This is a very exciting time for us all at Newton British School as we head into our third year and we want to share everything with you as we move forward into the future and all that it has in store for us. So read and as normal if you have any comments, why not write them in your child's planner and we can see if we can incorporate your ideas.

The Principal's Column

Hello Parents!

Welcome to the first edition of our newsletter for this academic year. I would like to thank the school community for the warm welcome I have received to the school. During my first couple of months here, I have been very impressed with the quality of education the school is providing. When I flick through the pages of this newsletter, I can also see how busy we have been. We have celebrated International Day and are busy preparing for Book Week, as well as teaching regular lessons. All pupils from Year 1 – 6 have completed some form of baseline standardised test, which will help us to track our pupils and gauge their progress more effectively.

I would like to thank all the parents who came to the PTA evening. The evening was to talk about what a PTA is and what it does. The response from parents was fantastic and shows the commitment our parent community has towards their own child's school as well as to NBS. I will be in touch again soon with more information about the PTA.

Enjoy this newsletter and please make a note of the dates below.

Diary Dates

These are the special dates for this term, why not print this page off and then cut them out and stick them on the fridge so you will never forget any of the exciting events that are happening at Newton British School.

24th October Book Week Starts with a Arabian Theme

24th October Author Visit—Ian Billings comes to school

11th November—Half Term

21st November—Specialist Exams

28th November—Core Subject Exams

8th December—Parent Meetings

16th December—End of the first term and winter break



International Day

The Newton British School International Day was a fantastic success with so many countries being represented by the children's traditional dress. The school created ten countries that children visited. In each country the children made things or ate food from the country or just found out something new about the country. The NBS staff and children had a great day and children were able to have passports stamped as they jetsetted about the world without leaving the school site.



The classrooms were transformed and the children had many challenges to get through in the twenty minutes which has been allocated to stay in one country. Mexico had a chilli challenge and the wonderful food in South Africa meant that a return visit for some people was essential. Italy was amazing with pasta and spaghetti on the menu. The International Day is a success because it celebrates the diverse nature of the school that we are all part



of. International children are able to celebrate the fact that they are not in the country that they were born in and this fosters a great deal of pride in their own country whilst finding out about their friend's countries. Another reason for the success of International Day is the hard work that staff and parents put into making the day as fun and enjoyable as it can possibly be. A very big thank you to all of the parents who took part by being a helper on the day or by providing some wonderful food

for the children to taste and experience. We look forward to your continued support as we look forward to other great days at NBS such as the school fair and winter wonderland. The dates of these have been posted on the Dates for your Diary section of the newsletter. Mr Clarke took many pictures on the day and there were so many wonderful costumes that we thought we would have a page dedicated to the outfits and the children who wore them. Once again the whole school community went to great lengths to ensure the day was full of learning and fun. If anyone has any comments or suggestions about what went well during the day or how the event could be improved, please let us know.



International Day Photos



These pictures are just a tiny selection of those taken on International Day. I know that you agree that all of the children look awesome!!!!

Focus on The New Staff

Newton British School has expanded once again this year and this has meant we have new staff in The Foundation Stage, Key Stage One and Key Stage Two.

In Foundation we have:

Mrs. Wren and Mrs. Rucker

In Key Stage One we have:

Miss King, Miss Stewart, Miss Wilson, Miss Parker, Miss Stewart and Miss McHugh.

In Key Stage Two we have:

Miss Clark and Mr Hill.

We also have a new PE teacher, Mr Rucker.



Ethiopia Orphanage Update

We had a surprise visitor in school this week; Mrs. Craig came back and shared her great news with the school, Jacob! Jacob is a baby boy who has been adopted by the Craig family. Jacob has come to Qatar from the orphanage in Ethiopia that was our focus charity last year.

Through your help and generous donations the orphanage received some much needed supplies. Mrs. Craig's visit caused quite a stir in school as Jacob wooed everyone with his stunning good looks and general all round delightfulness, clearly well on his way to being an excellent Australian.



The view from...

This issue we get a view from Miss Monty, our Year Three teacher, she writes; as I walk around the site that makes up Newton British School I cannot help but remember the school when I first arrived in Doha three school years ago. The school was still in its first year of running. Now, after three school years I have watched NBS more than double in size, double in staff, triple in shade and become a great place to teach and learn.

Now a veteran resident of Doha (this happens quickly) I feel more and more like Doha is my home (this happens slowly). Although it can seem brown and dusty to outsiders, you quickly discover that Doha has a lot to offer. Coming up soon there is professional tennis, the Doha Film Festival, the Asian Cup etc. These international events in any other country would cost a fortune and sell out quickly, but here in Doha we can take advantage and see them all for a fraction of the cost and without hours in a ticket queue.

As a teacher, it should not be surprising when I see past students growing up, however, the first lot of Year 3 Blues are now in Year 5. Of course they grow up, but they do this surprisingly fast. If my experience in Doha has taught me anything it is this: Make sure they feel like Doha is their home. Take advantage of the unique experiences they can have here. This is their childhood and their experiences now will shape who they are in the future. Each and every member of staff at NBS is dedicated to shaping your children into responsible, respectful, polite young adults at school from Sunday to Thursday, but we do not compare to the impact of you, their parents.



The Newsletter Team

As Newton School expands so do the roles and responsibilities in it. The Newsletter team is no exception and this year the Newsletter is being edited and produced by two people. Mr Clarke, who is the ICT Teacher at Newton British and Mr Rooney who teaches Year Two. Both teachers were at Newton last year and will use their wide and varied experience to make the Newsletter an excellent publication which is entertaining and informative.

The Newsletter does take a lot of organising and in combination with the Weebly website creates a huge task for the team to produce. Both Mr Clarke and Mr Rooney do find the role enjoyable though and I know that Mr Clarke who was solely responsible last year is very happy to have Mr Rooney sharing the work this year. Good luck to them both and watch out for the Newsletter!



Now for the N E W S

NBS Head Girl and Head Boy

As we have waved goodbye to Ulrik and Christine the search for the next Head Boy and Head Girl began. Mr Mustoe, our excellent Year 6 teacher searched for the students who have the qualities to be one of the candidates. Mr Mustoe also looked for the next Deputy Head Boy and Deputy Head Girl and the House Captains. Newsletter is pleased to announce that Yehia and Thariene will be the new head boy and head girl. The deputy head boy and girl will be Youssef and Daniela. The house captains will be Husam for Wright, Hegar for Curie, Youri for Edison and Auni for Bell. We wish every success in their new roles. Look out for the next edition when we catch up with them in their new roles.



Newton Parent Teacher Association

As part of the progressive nature of Newton British School it was thought that a Parent Teacher Association (PTA) would be a great idea. The Principal, Mrs Gray, held an open evening where parents were informed about setting up a new Parent Teacher Association. Around eighty parents attended the evening and were informed of the roles and responsibilities of the committee of a PTA. Mrs Gray was supported on the evening by many staff and took questions from the floor at the end of a great evening. A PTA works with the school on areas of the school that would enhance the enjoyment of children at the school. For example the PTA might be able to look at playground equipment and raise money to fund this. A very big thank you to those parents who attended the evening and put their names forward to be part of the committee in the four roles of the Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary and Ordinary Member.