



# Blyth Academy Newsletter

November 30, 2017

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*Presents*

**CELEBRATION OF THE ARTS**  
**ALADDIN- A Musical Spectacular**



**Tuesday December 5<sup>th</sup>**  
**@ 5:45pm**

**Where: College of the North Atlantic-Qatar-**  
**Large Auditorium**

**Families are welcome to attend!**

## Announcements

- Blyth Academy Qatar has completed their annual evaluation from the Province of Alberta and we are pleased to announce we have maintained our accredited status. We will have the full report shortly and look forward to hearing about the improvements we have made and how we can continue to improve the school going forward
- December 5, we will be holding a Winter Concert to celebrate the season and showcase our amazing student talents
- December 6, we will be holding A Career Fair for students to learn about potential careers they may be interested in pursuing in the future.
- Qatar National Day December 10. This day will be celebrated both inside and out of Blyth Academy Qatar
- **If your child is not returning semester 2 please let us know, we have a waiting list of students waiting to attend our school**

## Class Notes compiled by Grade 11 ELA

### Grade 3

The grade 3's visited the Dhow Festival! Both Grade 3 classes attended the event where they took a dhow ride, learned about traditional fishing methods and collected shells.



### Grade 4

The grade 4's visited the Dhow festival last week! The grade fours were exposed to many cultural

experiences including going out on a Dhow, watching some of the men weave fishing nets, and examining the falcons!



## Grade 6

In the last week Grade 6's have had some fun with street soccer, J.K. buddy reading, and a fieldtrip to the Dow Festival! In class they are learning about local government and by laws, and Bernoulli's Principle.

## Junior High

This week, in English class, grades 7, 8, and 9 have been working on presenting their portfolios to the class.

In Science class, the grade 7 students are having a competition to see which team can build the strongest tower and bridge using household items.

In Math class, the grades 7's are shooting paper balls into the trash can and calculating the percentage of their shot in a game called "*trash hit ball*".

The grade 8's are trying to figure out how big "Zoolander's" school needed to be in order for people to fit into it.

The grade 9's measured Mr.Nic using paper cups and guessed how many pennies were in a giant pyramid.

## CLUBS

The Blyth Academy soccer season is well underway with both the Middle School and Senior High School teams competing this week. The middle school battled hard before falling to GEMS Academy by the score of 3-2 while the Senior Boys triumphed against GEMS by the same 3-2 margin. We are looking forward to even more sports activities becoming a part of Blyth school life going forward.



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## STUDENT WORK SHOWCASE - HUDA SALEH

The Grade 11 Class just completed a poetry anthology assignment and Huda has been recognized for her outstanding work.

# The Blank Hour

By: Huda Saleh

## Familiar

Watch as the words leave the page  
Slowly move towards you  
And whisper  
'You are not alone'  
Digging inside your head  
Finding things you've long forgotten  
A half remembered memory  
The words tugging at your heart  
Provoking a good cry, a swift smile,  
Or an abrupt feeling of sorrow

## Doha 2 am

It's that **hour** again  
She **creeps** up on me  
**Infecting** my head with **trivial** images  
Leaving her **marks** to stay for hours  
**Not** a single thing goes **unthought** of  
I weep of **tiredness** but she insists  
She **keeps** me awake with **feelings** I can't shake  
My **thoughts** pass through the night like **trains**  
The rapid **ticking** of the clock,  
constantly **reminding me** of what I cannot obtain  
As I'm on the **verge** of slipping away,  
She **pulls** me back in again  
Like a predator catching its **prey**

## Melancholy Battle

How are you leaving us,  
And taking up with the enemy?  
Implementing an act so treasonous  
We're sick of your insensibility

I'm sure we're taller in another dimension  
Hoping for life somewhere unsound

You say we're small and not worth the mention  
There is no point to stick around

But we're tired of moving  
Looking for something profound  
Our bodies are aching  
Hoping to go beyond the bound

## **Chocolate**

Im what you crave  
Sweet and addicting  
The matriarch of beauty  
A gift given to your loved one  
You grab me by the hand at your darkest times  
I'm who gives you a hug when you need it  
The one that dries your tears  
I'll be there for you when no one else is  
Make you forget life's stress  
Worship me in your harshest days  
When you recognize that I'm no good  
I'll already have you hooked  
You can never escape my grip

## **You the bully**

You broke my nose and my heart

I feel more worthless than a dime  
Your words pierce through my heart every time  
Keeping my head held up high, i try  
But you seem to always make me cry

My head is just a mere egg in your hands  
Played with to amuse your fans  
Their eyes bore into my soul  
Ripping it out through the dead heart in my chest  
Is this just a contest?

Your comments and actions damaged my brain  
Gradually fading away like a raspberry stain  
You made me want to scream  
You shattered my vigorous dream

Can't you comprehend?  
All I wanted was a friend

Is there no end?

## **Online Heroes**

They are the saviours of the internet  
The perfect individuals  
Taking time out of their day to better others  
you've been living unknowingly  
without their insight  
You must follow as they say  
Because they know it all  
You should be thanking them  
Using their hours to spur you into action  
They're not harsh  
You're just sensitive  
"You are fat" they say  
What a valuable comment  
The site of encouragement  
The remark that makes all the difference

## **Do not look at my grades and weep**

Who am i?  
Am I just a number on a computer screen?  
Three point two nine  
Is that how I'm seen?

Im rejected by society because I'm "incompetent"  
Im taught that i will never amount to anything with low grades

Overworking everyday to reach perfection  
Trying my hardest to live up to these charades

Many sleepless nights go unnoticed,  
because if you are not overachieving then you are not working  
Comparing yourself to the exceptionals  
Fearful of your work being unrewarding

Life that way fills you with stress and misery  
Grades do not define my intellect  
Talent, sharpness or cleverness  
The numbers have no effect

### **Building Student Resiliency – Don't Be Afraid to Let Kids Fail**

Written by International Teacher B. Han

As parents and educators, there is nothing more rewarding than seeing our kids succeed and achieving their full potential. As influential figures on their road to success, we do whatever we can to guide them along the way. It makes us feel good to put them out of harm's way and rush ahead to remove any bumps along their path.

But is this doing more harm than good?

On one hand, it is common sense for parents and teachers to provide kids with every opportunity to succeed: moms and dads checking backpacks every night so kids don't forget to pack their textbook, teachers checking student agendas every day to see if homework is written down, scenes like these are all too common. But are we really setting kids up for success when we are so worried about raising happy children with good grades than competent and independent young adults?

In her recent book, *The Gift of Failure*, author and middle school teacher Jessica Lahey argues that "parents must learn to allow their children to experience the disappointment and frustration that occur from life's inevitable problems so that they can grow up to be successful, resilient, and self-reliant adults."

Failure is almost an absolutely certainty in everybody's life. At some point in our lives we will fail to do or accomplish something. Be it a math test, a sports team tryout, an attempt at a new recipe, or a job interview, we will all fail at some point in our lives. It is what we learn from these failures and how we deal with these disappointments that determine how we can deal with similar problems again in the future.

If we protect and cuddle our kids too much, we have a tendency to produce needy, anxious, and fragile human beings.

Modern parenting has reached an unprecedented level of overprotectiveness: parents who rush to school at the whim of a phone call to deliver forgotten assignments, who challenge teachers on report card disappointments, mastermind children's friendships, and interfere decisions and calls on the playing field.

Lahey explains that even though these parents see themselves as being highly responsive to their children's well-being, they aren't giving them the chance to experience failure—or the opportunity to learn to solve their own problems. Over-parenting, over-teaching, and over-coaching have the potential to ruin a child's confidence and undermine their resiliency.

Of course this does not suggest that we should just throw our kids to the wolves and let them fend for themselves. We just all need to learn to step back a bit and embrace our children's failures instead of rescuing them in the face of imminent failures. Kids can do a lot more than we think; we just have to let them own it.

**HAVE A GOOD WEEKEND!**