

Blyth Academy Newsletter

Nov. 22nd, 2018

VISION

To be a global leader in providing accessible, experiential, progressive learning experiences that prepare students for academic success at the primary, intermediate, secondary and post-secondary education levels.

MISSION

To have outstanding school leaders and educators facilitate the development of knowledge and character in our students through a caring, supportive and culturally sensitive learning community that brings together international and local students in a harmonious, creative, supportive environment.

IMPORTANT

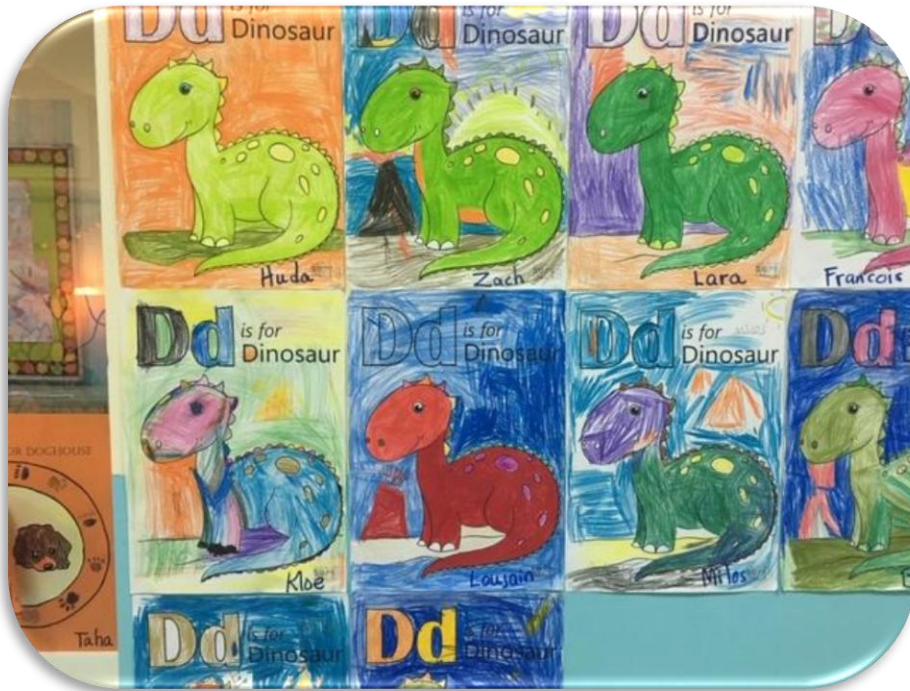
Parent Feedback	<p>Thank you to those parents who took the time to complete our Parent Survey. Some parents did try and had technical problems and we appreciate the effort. Some themes did appear and to those we offer the following:</p> <p>1. Many parents were non-specific about what additional involvement they would like offering answers such as 'everything'. We appreciate that but it is not really realistic so we offer the following:</p> <p>Attend School Advisory Council meetings. Invitations can be found in the newsletter. Volunteer to Chaperone field trips Attend sporting events if possible (sometimes these are last minute so you will find out last minute) Volunteer for Career Day (this year we had 0 parent volunteers) Offer an 'After School' activity, we would love to offer students more options Attend special events Meet the Guidance Counselors as needed, grades 9-12 especially.</p> <p>Academically</p> <p>Talk to your child(ren) about school, check notebooks, review tests and assignments Access Classroom Dojo or Google classroom to find out what is going on. Access curriculum information at https://education.alberta.ca/topic-search/?searchMode=3 Don't be afraid to email teachers, all teacher emails can be found on our website.</p>
School Advisory Council	<p>SAC is the means by which we gather with interested parents, students, and staff to discuss issues of concern and report on what is happening. While not a decision making body the group does provide guidance for the school and allows for honest discussion. Agenda items must be sent to the Chair prior to the meeting so we might prepare. To date there have been many important discussions about a variety of topics. Our attendance holds steady at about 10 people. Meeting notices are found in the newsletter.</p>
Curriculum information	<p>We have introduced Classroom Dojo and Google classroom to keep parents informed. We will ask teachers to provide a little more information on their google pages but a daily summary of a lesson and detailed plans is not reasonable. We require a weekly updates, assessment/test dates, homework summary at a minimum. Some teachers will provide more. If parents wish details about what their</p>

	child will be learning a full summary of the curriculum can be found at https://education.alberta.ca/topic-search/?searchMode=3 . Your children should be the best source of information.
Open Door Policy	Eighty six percent of the parents feel they can access teachers and administration at any time. We would like this to be 100%. Teachers are busy but can be available with appointments. I do not recall ever turning a parent away at the door and parents are always welcome. An 'open door' policy does not always mean we will agree but we can always have the conversation.
Dec. 3	School Advisory Council Meeting
GENTLE REMINDER	We have noticed that more and more students are being left on campus after hours. Please plan to pick up your children by 2:20. On after school activity days 3:30 is pick up time. WE DO NOT PROVIDE SUPERVISION AFTER 2:30 and students should NOT be on campus. On Monday and Wed. if students are not in an activity they are not to be on campus as there is no supervision.
UNIFORMS	Please do not send your children to school without the proper uniform. This only causes unnecessary conflict.

SENIOR KINDERGARDEN

Coloured dog houses and dinosaurs with the letter 'D'





GRADE 2

Made tempera paintings



Drew their own hands and feet



GRADE 3

Drew self portraits of colour exploding from their heads



GRADE 4

Made booklets on killer whales



GRADE 6

Read 'The Breadwinner' and made informational posters



JUNIOR HIGH ART

The junior high art class has been working on props for Frozen. Here's a sneak peek:



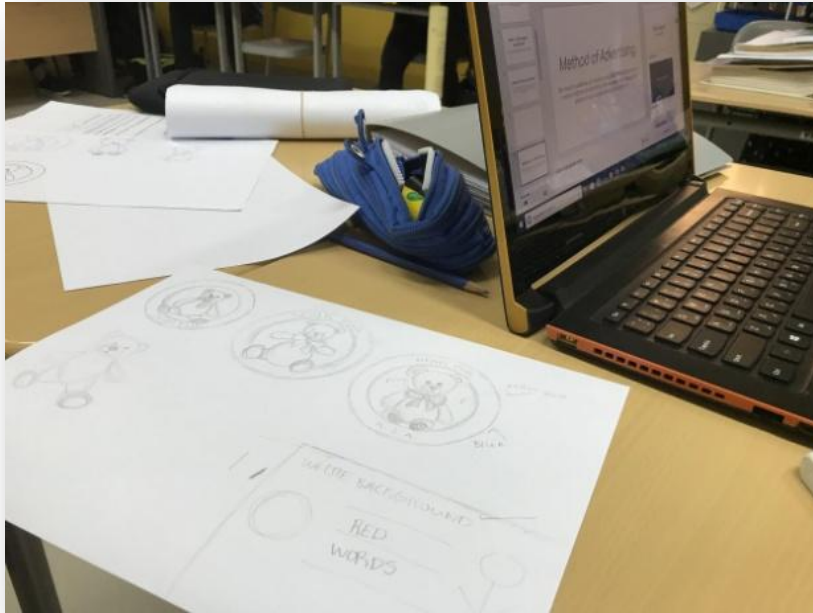
CHEMISTRY 20

The Grade 11s did a red cabbage lab to indicate whether a solution was an acid or base.



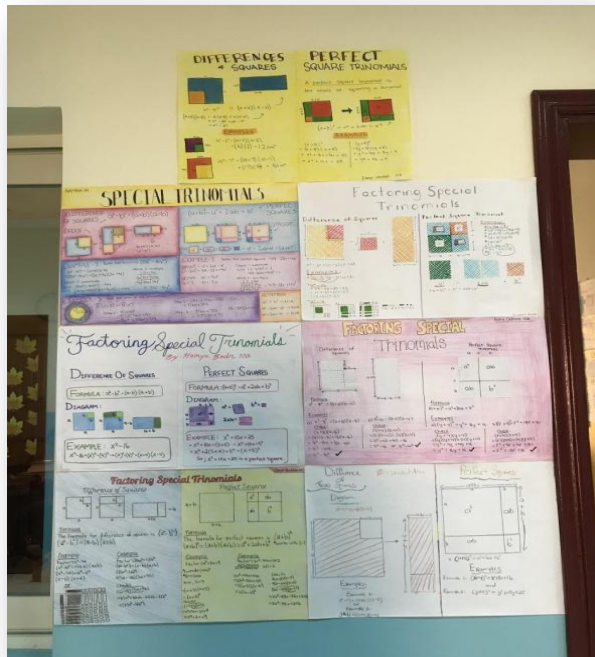
SENIOR HIGH ENGLISH

The grades tens have been working on an exciting project, where they research types of advertising and advertise their own products. Here's what one group is doing:



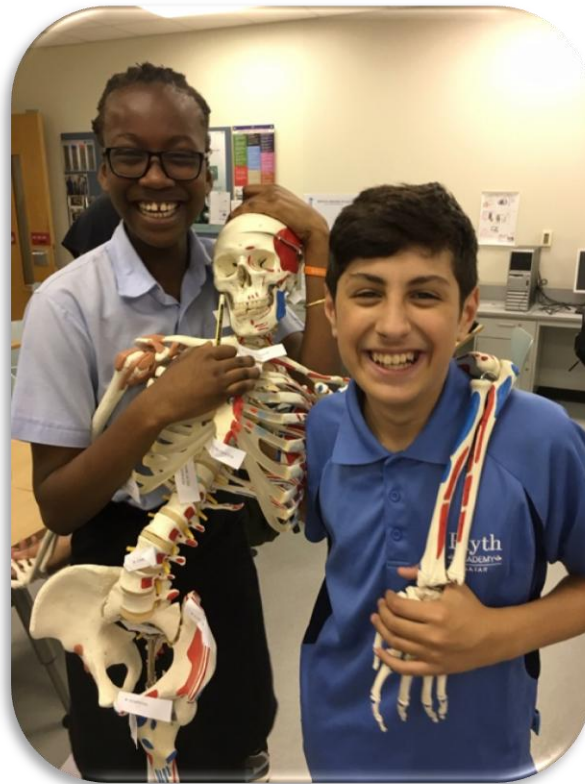
SENIOR HIGH MATH

The grades tens have been working on a project for factoring trinomials.



MISC

From the field trip at CNAQ thurs nov 8



Medical Radiography Technologist (MRT) day at CNAQ



MRT Day CNAQ



Arabic reading program & Quran Competition

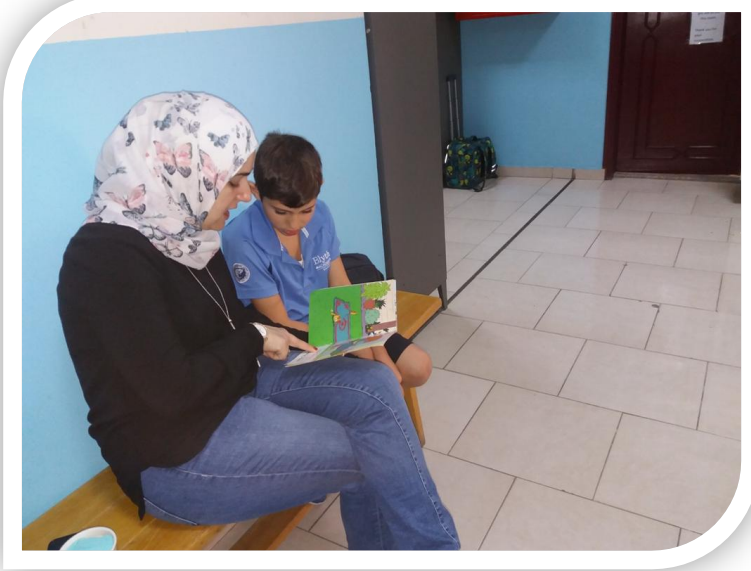
First week of Arabic reading program - We would like to thank all parents are support us and special thanks for Nooreldean G4 is mother, Anas G4 is mother and leia G 2 is mother for her time that spent with the students for reading.

Competition:

The annual Holy Quran Competition will usually take place in end of February the beginning of March 2019. In addition, Hadith Competition takes place in January 13th 2019. This prestigious competition will involve all schools in Qatar. If a student would like to participate, then they must return the relevant form attached to either his/her Islamic teacher no later than 11 December 2018.

For further information, you can contact Mrs. Mona (mona. tammam@blythacademyqatar.com)

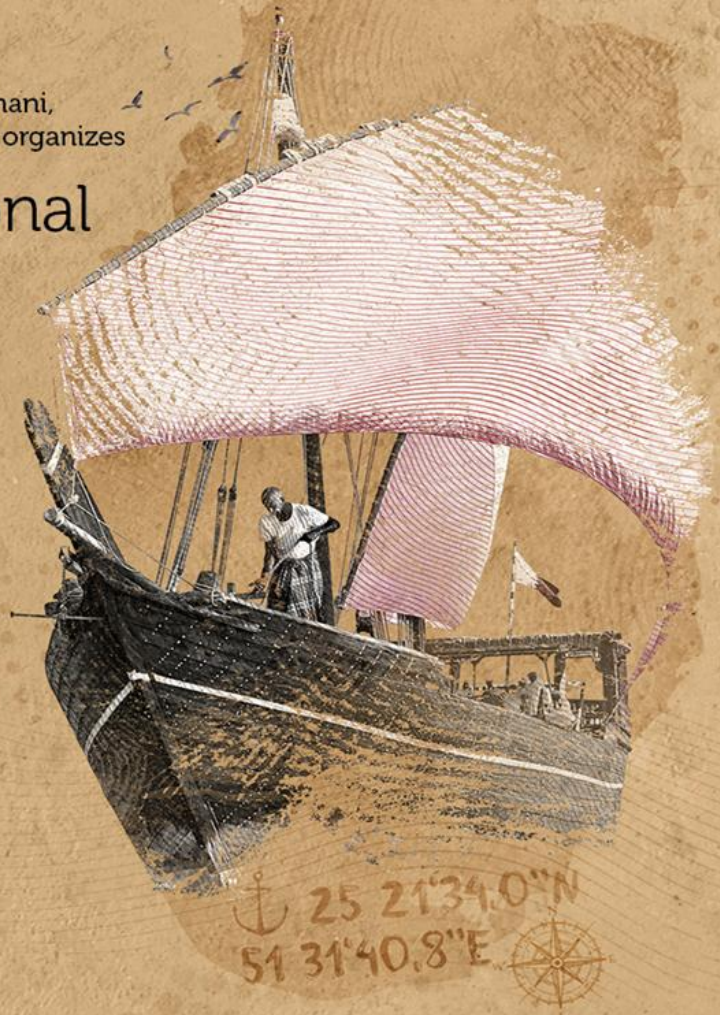




Under the patronage of His Highness
The Emir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani,
The Cultural Village Foundation - Katara organizes

Katara 8th Traditional Dhow Festival

20 - 24 November 2018
9:00 am - 12:00 pm
3:30 pm - 10:00 pm
Katara Beach



25 21'34.0"N
51 31'40.8"E

Be there to witness exciting activities and events throughout the Katara 8th Traditional Dhow Festival, at Katara's beach. During November and on a span of five days, you will thrive to experience a distinctive ambience that will showcase the authentic maritime traditions inspired by Qatar's past ancestors.

Traditions Preserved and Renewed

قطارا
katara

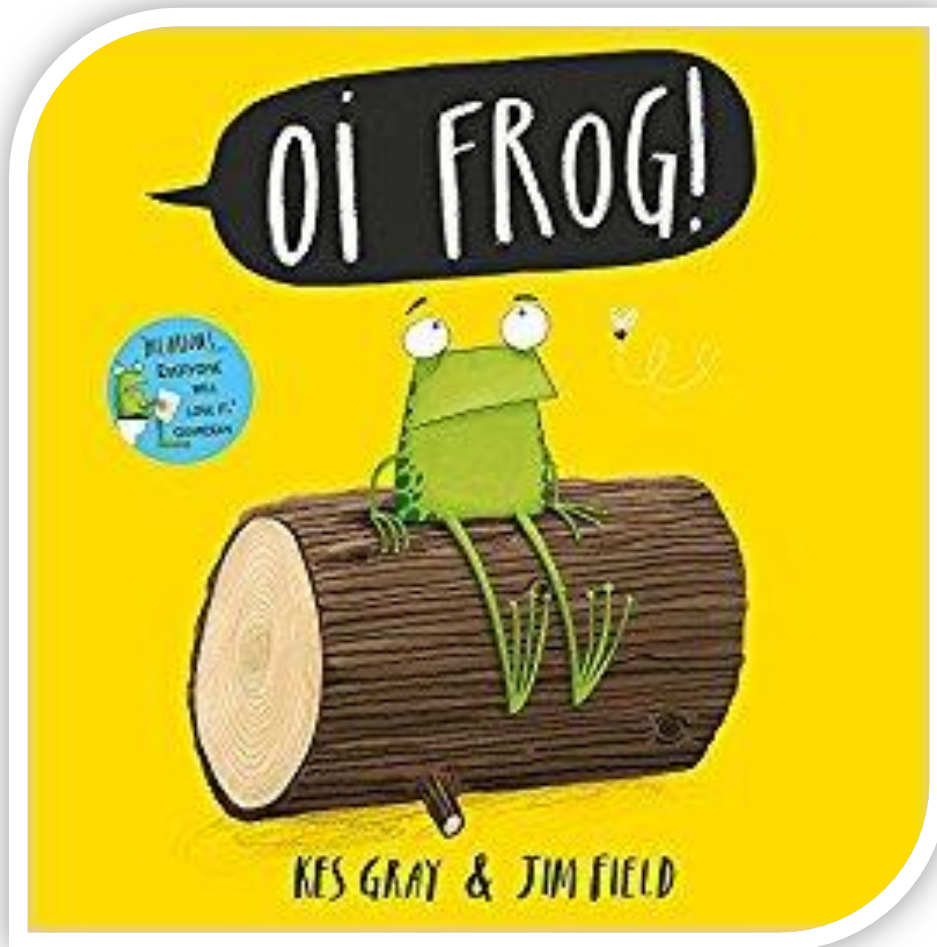
www.katara.net



SUZAN'S BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS

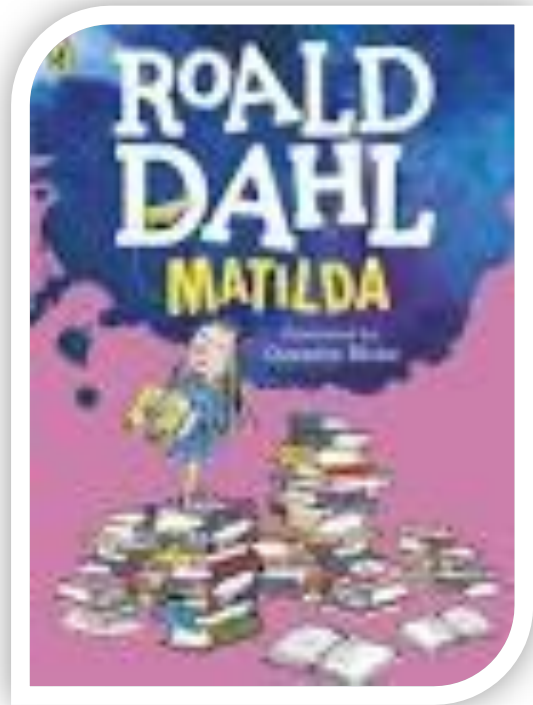
JKs & SK

Oi Frog is a rhyming book, and is pretty funny if you know how to read it. It's fun, lighthearted, and a good read for kids and their families.



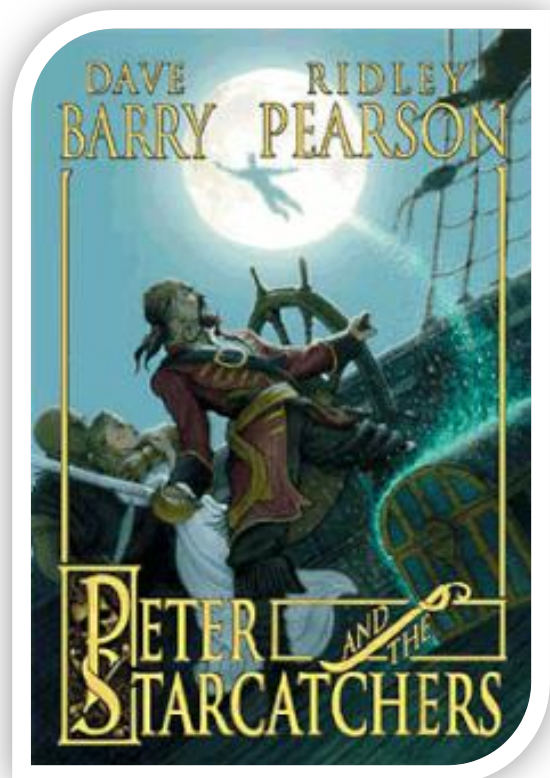
GRADES 1-3

- ✦ Matilda is now a classic. Everyone has seen the movie, but have they read the book? The movie was based off the book written by Roald Dahl.
- ✦ If you haven't seen the movie, Matilda is about a girl, named Matilda of course, who loves to read and figures out that she has telekinetic powers.



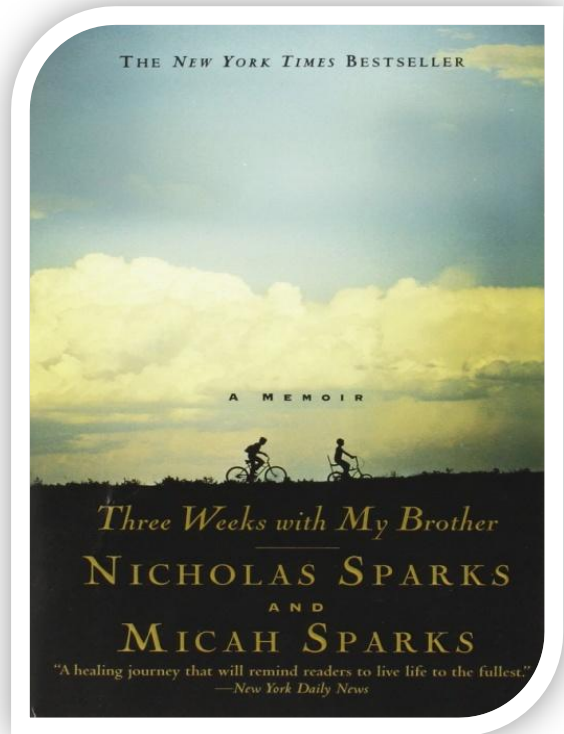
GRADES 4-6

- ✦ This week, I'd like to recommend Peter and the Starcatchers to the grade 4s, 5s, and 6s. It's the first of many fun and adventurous books to come.
- ✦ Peter and his friends are on a voyage on a ship that is carrying "the greatest treasure on Earth". On this voyage, Peter fights pirates and uncovers secrets
- ✦ When I first read the series, the order wasn't obvious, so I read the 4th, 2nd, 1st, then third book.
- ✦ Make sure you know that Peter and the Starcatchers is first.



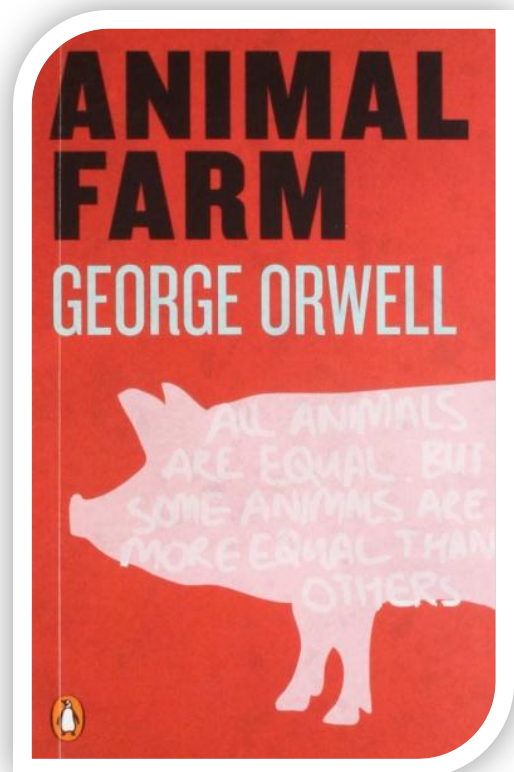
GRADES 7-9

- ✦ Three Weeks With my Brother, is a book by Nicholas Sparks and his brother Micah Sparks. It's an interesting account of what Nicholas did with his brother on a much deserved and needed three week vacation along with some stories from their childhood.
- ✦ This book also gives insight about where Nicholas Sparks gets his ideas for his books from.



GRADES 10-12

- ✦ Animal Farm is a great book if you like satire. It's about a dystopia that the pigs create after getting rid of Farmer Joe.
- ✦ You can read this and take it lightly or look at its deeper meanings.



Parents and Teachers

- ✚ This book is actually in Arabic for the Arabic parents out there. It's a book about positive parenting that helps you understand a lot about what not and what to do when raising kids.
- ✚ You can find this book in Jareer Bookstore, or maybe at QNL. If this book isn't available to you, you can listen to Moustafa Abousaad's talks on YouTube while cleaning, driving, drawing, and etc.



For any inquiries, email me at:
suzan.kadri@qcs.edu.qa

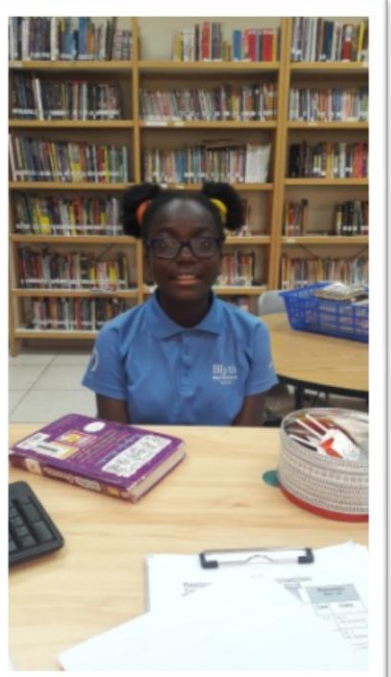
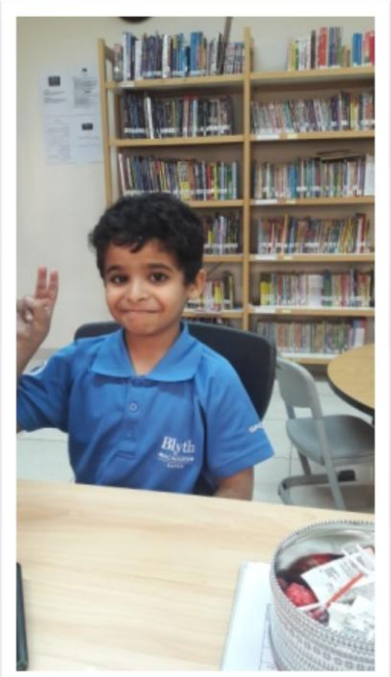
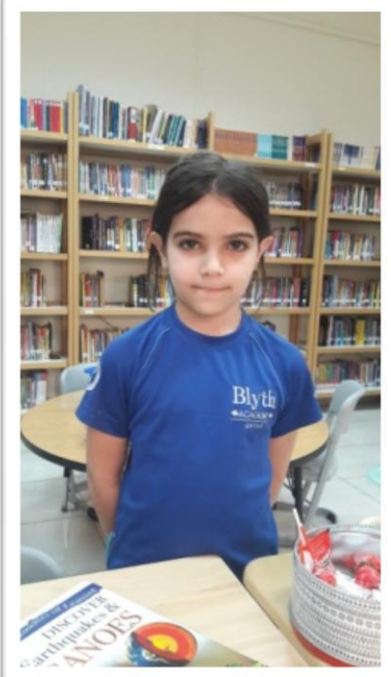
LIBRARY

Junior/High School Students
receiving gifts and participation
certificates in the BAQ Literacy
Award Contest November 2018





All Elementary students participated in the Annual Reading Comprehension Contest. Here are some pictures.





Participation Certificates and gifts were handed out – **WELL DONE EVERYONE!**





HIGH SCHOOL

UNIVERSITY INFORMATION



- ✚ Please see/contact our Sr. Guidance Mr. Bouakir for any inquiries at hassan.bouakir@blythacademyqatar.com
- ✚ More than 65 universities' representatives will attend University Expo Qatar on November 28-29. Expo Timings are: 8:00am-1pm/5pm-8pm. **Free registration here:** https://www.universityexpoqatar.com/visit/?tracker_id=AZ3251GSearch&utm_source=Google&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=VIS&gclid=EA1aIQobChMIpYfO2pz-3QIV0jUrCh3bFgXKEAAYASAAEgI09fD_BwE

28 - 29 November 2018 | Expo Timings: 8:00 - 13:00/17:00 - 20:00
Qatar National Convention Centre,
Doha, Qatar

UNIVERSITY EXPO QATAR

Under the patronage of the Minister of Education and Higher Education Qatar HE Dr Mohammed Abdul Wahed Al Hammadi

Explore a wide range of academic and career opportunities
50+ Universities. 15+ countries. 30+ seminars.

Exhibit At The Event Register As A Free Visitor

FINE ARTS

- ✚ Blyth Academy Art Competition for all grades' deadline has been **extended to the end of the month of November**. The theme is "I am Kind & Positive! Please encourage your child to participate!



OPEN TO JK-12 STUDENTS

- THE THEME IS "I am Kind & Positive!"
- ENTRIES CAN BE ANY SIZE AND MADE USING YOUR IMAGINATION
- ALL ENTRIES TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE ART ROOM BY NOVEMBER 8th
- ALL ENTRANTS WILL RECEIVE A CERTIFICATE OF PARTICIPATION & HOUSE POINTS

FOR QUESTIONS, SEE EITHER MR. MUTER or MR. B.

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JUNIOR HIGH ART



The junior high art classes have been hard at work preparing props for the upcoming production of “Frozen!” Shown are some beautiful cakes, icicles, amazing troll rocks, and a lovely tree! Oh, and of course a cute little troll! Great work has been made and will be continued to be made to make our school production special.

Photography and Writing by Morganna MacDonald

SOME PEOPLE ARE WORTH MELTING FOR!

BLYTH ACADEMY CELEBRATION OF THE ARTS

FEATURING:

Elementary, Junior, Senior High Choirs & Ensembles

Art Competition Winners

JUNIOR HIGH DRAMA PRESENTS

FROZEN



TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER 11TH

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STARS OF THE WEEK

Loujain Gheriani

Loujain is the model student. She takes pride in everything that she does, whether it is colouring, printing, and participating in all activities. She takes the lead when it is time to clear things and put items away. This humble student is so respectful and a friend to all. Keep up the great work Loujain!



Abdullah Alkelani

Abdullah showed great leadership and sportsmanship by helping his teammates during their soccer match this week. His expertise and guidance set a great example and helped all players become more involved throughout the game. Great work Abdullah!



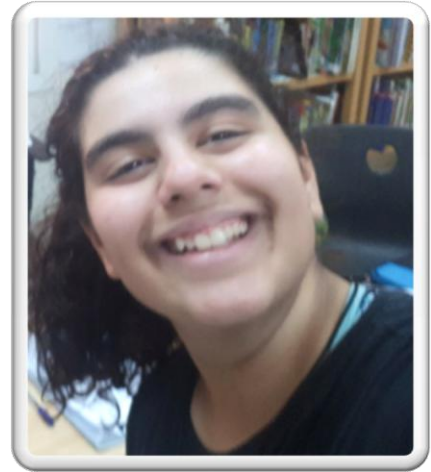
Yosor Al Hasani

Yosor has been very helpful to her peers in Math class. She is often assisting others and makes sure that her group is on the right track. Yosor is commended for going above and beyond and for being so considerate. Great work Yosor!



Zain Fanik

Zain has done an incredible job with the announcements each morning. Always having a positive attitude with lots of energy, she has been a great role model and leader for her peers and younger students. Keep up the great work Zain!



Caren Harkous

Caren has showed kindness and compassion towards a fellow classmate. She is ever so willing to help her classmate and checks on her regularly to ensure she is completing her work and understands the work assigned. She goes over and above by devoting her time to helping her classmate in and out of class. Well done, Caren!



DESERT CAMPING TRIP ON NOVEMBER 22ND– GRADE 7-9



WEEKLY TOPIC

Parents Must Do Their Part

AMERICA'S SCHOOLS ARE caught in a peculiar vise. We've made it clear that we expect schools to succeed with every child. That wasn't always the norm. Over the past 25 years, though, reformers on the left and right fought to ensure that schools be expected to educate every child. Today, we largely take that mission for granted. That represents a tectonic shift and a tremendous victory. Back in the 1980s and 1990s, American education paid a lot of attention to the quality of parenting and far too little to the quality of teaching and schooling. It wasn't unusual to hear educators declare that certain students were unteachable or that they couldn't be blamed for not teaching kids who weren't there to learn.

In the early 1990s, I was supervising student teachers for Harvard University's Graduate School of Education and I'll always recall one exchange that crystallized the old ethos for me. I was visiting an iconic Boston high school that had seen better days. The bell rang and the social studies class I was observing got started. In a room of 30 or 35 kids, there were maybe a dozen who were taking notes, participating, and paying attention. The rest were passing notes, staring out the window and generally tuning out. My student teacher tried all manner of teaching strategies, but none made much difference. The class finally ended and the students shuffled out. The student teacher, his mentor teacher and I sat down to talk. I asked the mentor, "So, how'd you think the class went?"

He said, "What really impressed me was how engaged the students were."

I wondered if he was kidding. He didn't seem to be. I said, "Here's the thing. To me, it looked like maybe 10 students were really involved. Did I miss something?"

What he said next has always stuck with me: "No, that's about right. But he had all of the students who were here to learn. The others, the knuckleheads, well, you just want to keep them in line."

Ask Better School Reform Questions

Use these questions to make more sense of the debate over education reforms.

Frederick M. Hess and Paige Willey April 11, 2017

Times have changed. Today, that kind of mindset is deemed unacceptable. If educators say such things, they mutter them privately. That shift is a wonderful thing.

It's come at a cost, though. The insistence that parents need to also do their part has been lost along the way. Talk of parental responsibility has come to be seen as little more than a case of blaming the victim. Reformers worry that such talk will let schools and teachers off the hook.

The result is that we just don't talk very much anymore about whether parents are pushing kids to do their homework or respect their teachers. Everyone thinks it's good if parents do these things, but it's an uncomfortable topic to discuss publicly. When parents quarrel with schools about punishment or skip parent-teacher meetings, education advocates are conspicuously mum. If anyone says anything, it's only to lament that parents are overworked and overburdened.

When teachers get frustrated by any of this, reformers just shrug and tell them not to make excuses.

These are obviously complicated, thorny questions. Parents frequently are overworked and overburdened. But school reform has gotten out of whack because it's become much easier to beat up on schools than to speak blunt truths to parents. There's a balance, between families and schools, and we seem to have tipped from one extreme to the other.

Education is always a handshake between families and teachers, between students and schools. Compulsory attendance laws can make children show up, but it's hard to teach someone who doesn't want to learn. Now, part of a teacher's job is finding the way to open a student's heart and mind. By the same token, though, the job of parents and guardians is to send to school children who are responsible, respectful and ready to learn.

Parenting Is Educating

Invest in adult and family learning programs to give parents the tools they need to support children's learning.

Liza McFadden and Doro Bush Koch Sept. 30, 2016

Think about how this works in medicine. When we say someone is a good doctor, we mean that they're competent and responsible; we don't mean that they perform miracles. If a doctor tells you to reduce your cholesterol and you keep eating steak, we don't label the physician a "bad doctor." We expect the doctor to do her job, but we expect patients to do their part, too. This is the handshake between doctor and patient, and saying so isn't seen as "blaming" the patient.

When the patient is a child, parents come to play a crucial role. If a diabetic child ignores the doctor's instructions on monitoring blood sugar, we don't blame the child or say the doctor is failing. We expect parents to learn what's required and make sure it gets done.

When it comes to the handshake between parents and educators, though, things have broken down. After all, teachers can't make students do their homework, turn off their devices or show up at school on time. Parents can.

The point is decidedly not to judge parents. Parenting is brutal work. The point is not to critique, but to be frank about what that handshake between family and school requires, clarify for parents what they should be doing and help them do those things well.

We've come a long way over the past 25 years. Today, we expect educators to be responsible for the success of all their students. Good. How students fare, though, is also a product of what happens at home. Much of that truly is beyond the reach of educators.

When we hesitate to address the role of parents and families, it frustrates responsible educators and gives them the impression that we're more interested in finding scapegoats than improving schools. So, by all means, call schools and educators to account – just be sure to do it for parents, too.



HAPPY
WEEKEND