

# FALCON PRIDE

February 18th, 2021



أكاديمية قطر  
Qatar Academy

عضو في مؤسسة قطر  
Member of Qatar Foundation

## PRIMARY SCHOOL AKHBAR



## Our Guiding Statements

### Vision

Empowering students to achieve high levels of academic growth and personal wellbeing and to be responsible citizens who are locally rooted and globally connected.

### Mission

At Qatar Academy Doha we offer a rigorous academic program with strong Arabic and Islamic Studies. Our school community develops and challenges learners to be active, internationally-minded citizens who demonstrate environmental consciousness.

### Values

At Qatar Academy Doha we are **SAFE, RESPECTFUL** and **RESPONSIBLE** learners.

**Cultivating a Sustainable Mindset**



## Director's Message

رسالة المدير

أولياء الأمور الكرام،

لقد كتبت الأسبوع الماضي عن الإجراءات التي نتبناها في التعامل مع حالات كوفيد الإيجابية في المدرسة، وقد كان من الجيد مشاركتكم بتلك الإجراءات لأنه تم اكتشاف بعض الحالات الإيجابية الإضافية في المدرسة خلال عطلة نهاية الأسبوع، وقد قام كلاً من السيد ستيف طومسون، مدير المدرسة الثانوية والسيدة ماري غرين، مديرة المدرسة الابتدائية بالتواصل مع أولياء الأمور في كلا المدرستين لشرح الوضع الحالي. إننا نحرص على الوضوح والشفافية مع أولياء الأمور بشأن ما يحدث داخل المدرسة بشكل متوازن.

لقد تم نشر مقال مثير للاهتمام في صحيفة قطر بنينسولا هذا الأسبوع نقلاً عن محمد البشري، مستشار وزير التعليم والتعليم العالي، قال فيه إن الإصابات المسجلة أقل من واحد في المائة في المدارس وبالتالي ليست هناك حاجة لإغلاق المدارس. لقد قرأت أيضاً نصيحة مماثلة في المملكة المتحدة تقول إن انتقال العدوى ضئيل للغاية داخل المدارس. وهذا يبدو منطقياً لي. المدارس عبارة عن بيئات منظمة تنظيمياً جيداً حيث يتبع فيها الطلاب والموظفون الإجراءات الاحترازية من خلال ارتداء الكمامات بشكل جيد والمحافظة على التباعد الاجتماعي وغسل الأيدي وتعقيمها بالمطهر بانتظام. إذا حافظنا على هذه البروتوكولات، فسنكون جميعاً بأمان.

ما زلت أشجعكم على إرسال أطفالكم إلى المدرسة للتعلم المدمج، حتى يتمكنوا من التعلم والتفاعل مع المعلم والبيئة الصفية بالإضافة إلى التفاعل مع أقرانهم وهو أمر مهم جداً لرفاهيتهم الشخصية وتنمية المهارات الاجتماعية لديهم.

أمل أن تحافظوا على سلامتكم وأنتم وعائلاتكم وأن تقضوا عطلة نهاية أسبوع سعيدة معاً.

أطيب التمنيات،

ستيفن ميك



## Director's Message

Dear Parents,

I wrote last week about the systems and process which we use whenever we have a positive case within the school. It turned out to be good timing to explain the situation, as over the weekend, we did have some additional positive cases in the school. I know that both the Senior School Principal, Steve Thompson, and the Primary School Principal, Marie Green, wrote to the parents in their sections to explain the current situation. We do not want to bombard parents with Covid-19 notifications, but we do want to be clear and transparent about what is taking place within the school. I hope that we have got the balance right.

There was an interesting article in the Qatar Peninsula newspaper this week quoting Mohammed Al Bashri, Adviser to the Minister of Education and Higher Education, saying that recorded Covid-19 infections are less than one percent in schools and that therefore there is no need for schools to close. I have seen similar advice about schools in the UK saying that there is very little transmission of infection within schools. This makes sense to me. Schools are well-ordered and regulated environments where students and staff follow the rules. In this case, that means students and staff do wear their masks properly, they do maintain social distancing, they do wash their hands regularly and they also use sanitizer regularly. If we maintain these protocols, we will all be safe.

I continue to encourage you to send your children to school for blended learning, so that they can learn with their teacher in person, for at least half of the week. The evidence indicates that students do learn best in that environment and also have the additional benefit of social interaction with their peers, which is so important in term of personal wellbeing and social development.

I hope that you and your family are keeping safe and that you will have a good weekend together.

Best wishes,

Stephen Meek



# Principal's Message

Dear Parents,

What an interesting ten days it has been.

As you are aware we had 4 positive cases of Covid last week and 143 students, plus 9 staff were tested. I am extremely pleased to announce that NONE of the results of the tests have come back positive. Everyone tested negative. I would also like to share that there have been zero transmissions of Covid in the Primary School and that though unfortunate, all cases have been brought into the school from outside. With a student body of 948, this is pretty remarkable. It goes to show how safe, clean and socially responsible, every member of our school is being. I would like to thank all of our parents for being so proactive, caring, understanding and socially responsible. What a great community effort.

## ASAs / Clubs

Thank you for your ongoing support of our 'precautionary pause' for in-person ASAs/Clubs. We are hoping to restart ASAs/Clubs the week of February 28th. Please check SchoolsBuddy for ASAs/Club updates and information. For paid Clubs, the two paused sessions will be added to the end of the term.

## Donations Needed

You will see included in this edition an appeal for pillows and blankets for cats and dogs, from some of our children. Your contribution is greatly appreciated.

## Virtual Book Fairs and Authors.

You will also see attachments for our Virtual Book Fairs happening in the next couple of weeks. We also have visiting Authors presenting virtually. Please scroll down for further information.

In summary: There are 3 Virtual Book Fairs where book selection and payment is all done from home online. Families pay direct to the vendor and the school is not involved in this.

There are 4 Author Presentations and Author Book Sales: 3 presentations are in English and 1 is in Arabic. Families pay for any orders direct to the vendor or payment on delivery to the home.

How will school help with Authors: Author Presentations can be shown in school or at home and classes and students can participate by clicking on the link. Master copies of the order forms will be shown in Library sessions.

How will school help with the Virtual Book Fairs: Library sessions will allow access to the full range of the Book Fair titles virtually and computers will be set up for student perusal.

We have just submitted our final application to become an eco-school by applying for the GREEN FLAG Award. I will keep you posted!

Have a super safe weekend.

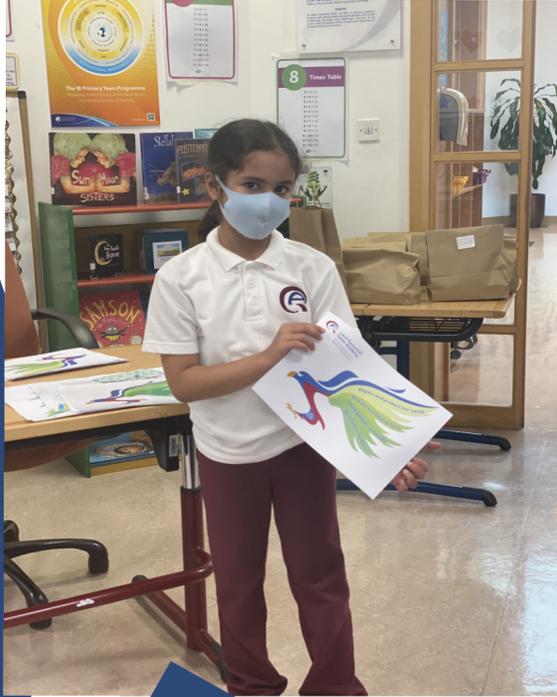
Marie



# Sustainability in Action

QAD Primary continues its mission towards being certified as an 'Eco-school'

We are on a mission to capture the Green Flag Award



Student Leaders have worked hard to develop our new school Eco Code.

Amna 3C, Eco Warrior, shared the Eco Code with her class



Check out our Sustainability Notice Board for updates and information

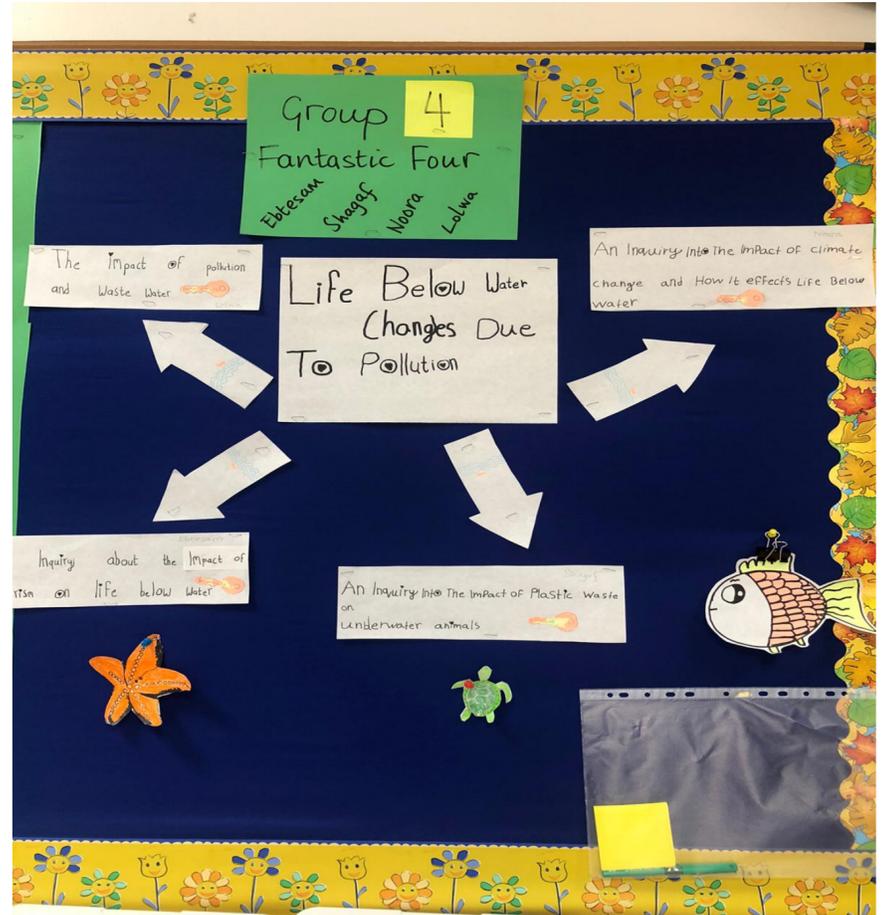
# Sustainability

## 'Cultivating a Sustainable Mindset'

Conceptual Understanding Empowers QAD ChangeMakers!

Grade 5 students are busy linking their exhibition projects to the Sustainable Development Goals. Students have developed their central idea and are currently working hard on their lines of inquiry.

We are all excited to support our Grade 5 students meet this important milestone in their PYP journey.



**Grade 4 students extend their understanding about sustainable practices by making Beeswax reusable wraps 🌱**





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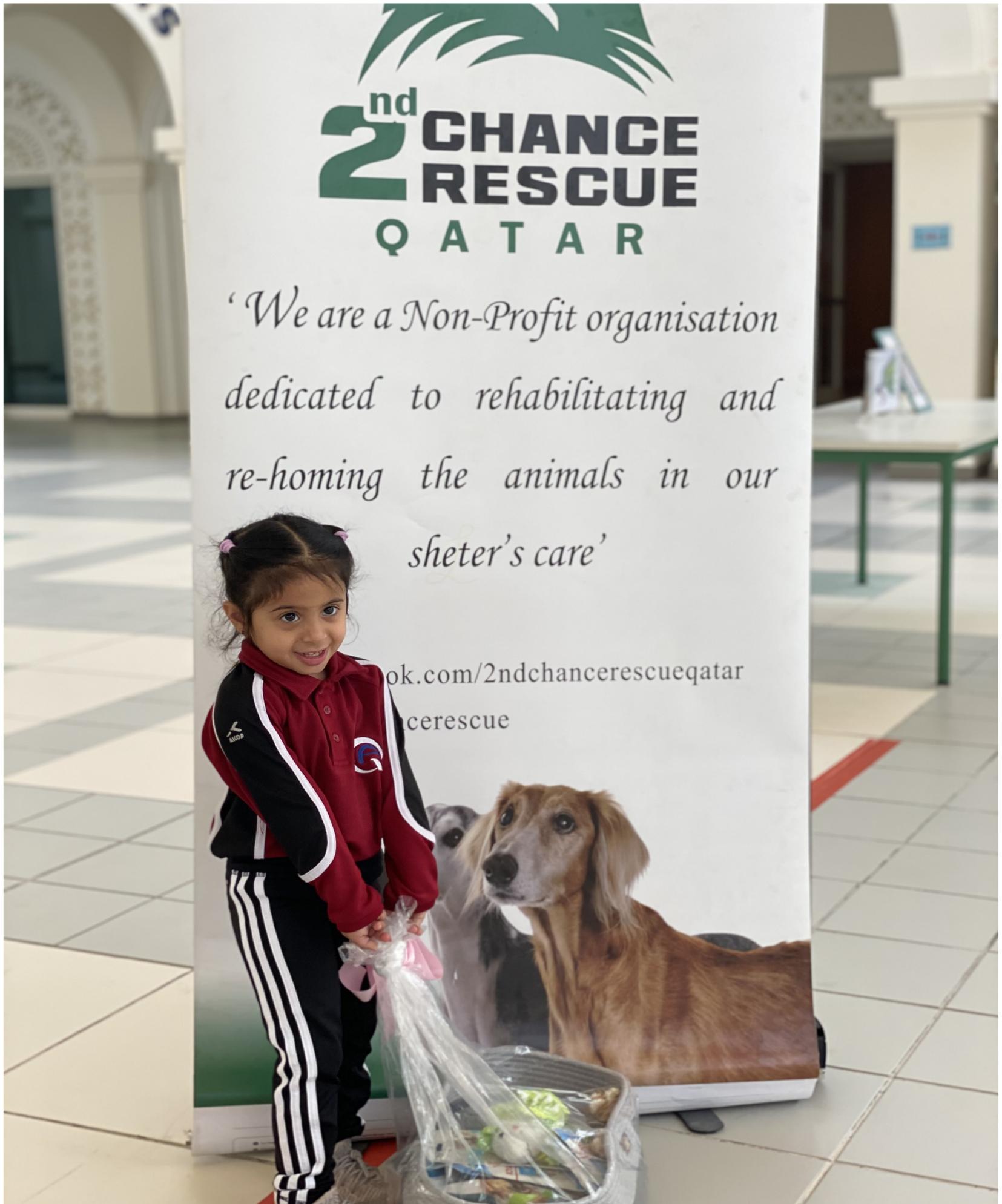
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## Community Action

### Empathy & Community Action

**Dog Food and Blanket Collection Feb 13th - Feb 25th**

**Looking for donations of:  
Blanket, Duvet, Dog beds, Big Cushions,  
Big Pillows, Dog Food and Dog Treats.**





# QAD Book Fair

QAD Book Week: Feb 21 - March 4!

## Virtual Author/Book Fair Schedules

أسبوع الكتاب في أكاديمية قطر الدوحة : 21 فبراير - 4 مارس  
جداول زيارة المؤلف الافتراضية / معرض الكتاب

Students at school will join with their teacher. Students at home, please join using the link next to the grade, time and day of the sessions you prefer.

There will be a Q and A session after each reading. Students must type questions into the chat box.

سينضم الطلاب مع المعلمين في المدرسة لجلسة المؤلف. يرجى من الطلاب المتواجدين في المنزل الإنضمام إلى الجلسة باستخدام الرابط المقابل لرقم الصف، مع اختيار الوقت واليوم .  
في ختام كل ورشة ستكون فقرة سؤال و جواب مع المؤلف/ المؤلفة. يجب على الطلاب كتابة أسئلتهم في صندوق المحادثة.



[Click here for more information](#)



# Important Notices



## Parent and Caregiver Workshop Announcement

The Learning Center and Qatar Academy Schools will be offering a workshop on the following topic:  
**Interventions for Common Early Years Behaviors**

**Date: Tuesday February 23**

**Time: 12:30pm**

**Link: [meet.google.com/khk-xkfw-tgs](https://meet.google.com/khk-xkfw-tgs)**

This workshop is for Parents, Nannies, and Caregivers

This workshop will address the questions that every parent or caregiver has:

**What are normal behaviors for my child's age?**

**Why is my child behaving like this?**

**What can I do to help?**

**I think something may be wrong, what should I do?**

**How can I arrange my home for virtual learning?**

### **Presenter Bio:**

Shariffah Azzaam is a Board Certified Behavior Analyst from Pennsylvania, USA. She holds a Masters in Special Education and a Post Masters Certification in Applied Behavior Analysis. She has been the Behavior Specialist for Qatar Academy Schools for 5 years and has over 20 years experience working in the Education Sector. She is an international speaker who has presented both locally and Internationally at Applied Behavior Analysis International, Global Autism Conference, and EdEx Qatar. She specializes in Behavior Interventions.

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