



QIFA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Qifa Bulletin

May 2023

A Note from the Principal

Dear Parents/Guardians,

As we come to the half-way mark of the academic year, the teachers and I are taking stock of the theme we had set out at the Honours Day, INSPIRE & ENLIGHTEN, taken from the characters – QI FA.



Each of us are asking ourselves, in what way we have inspired our students to not only do their best, but also to be their best, at school and at home. Our yardstick or benchmark for this is our Student Outcomes, affectionately called the Qifa Bees. Let me share these with you...

Active Learner

Primary 1 to 3

- I like to ask and answer questions.
- I share ideas with others.
- I submit my best work.

Primary 4 to 6

- I participate and contribute actively in my learning.
- I am responsible for my own learning and progress, e.g. ask questions, set goals, etc.
- I take pride in the completion of my work.

Critical Thinker

Primary 1 to 3

- I listen to different ideas.
- I explain my ideas and thoughts clearly.

Primary 4 to 6

- I accept different views and solutions.
- I verify information with trusted sources.
- I break down issues into parts, ask questions to clarify and use evidence to explain my reasoning and decisions.

Highlights:

A Note from the Principal

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Key Updates

Positive and Proactive Approach to Discipline

International Friendship Day 2023

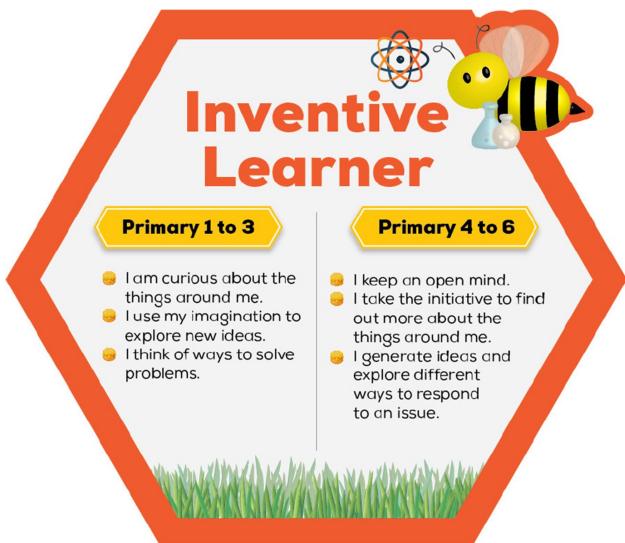
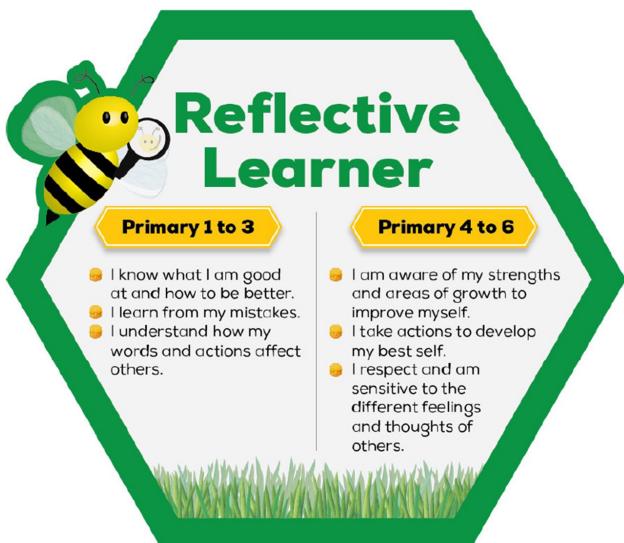
Qifa's Earth Week Celebrations 2023

Primary 3 Learning Journey to the Singapore Mobility Gallery

Hari Raya Celebration 2023

CL Book Recommendations for May 2023

A Note from the Principal (cont'd)



The descriptors for each of these Qifa Bees are self-explanatory. I hope that by sharing these, you can think about how you, as parents, can also partner the school, in seizing opportunities, whenever they present themselves, to transform them into teachable moments, to encourage and develop in your children, these requisite attributes.

Aligned to the 21st century competencies, the teachers have been embarking on a series of learning opportunities - the Future of Work and the 21st Century Classrooms, since November 2022 which will culminate in a Staff Learning Symposium in June. I am happy to share that we have invited some parents, who have graciously agreed to share their work experiences in various industries and economic sectors. We hope these engagements will enlighten our staff and inspire them to create 21st century classrooms which will prepare the students well into the future.

This being the last issue of this semester, let me wish all of you, a wonderful time of rest and recreation during this June holidays.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Catherine Chiang
Principal

Admin Matters

1. Parents Gateway

Developed by the Ministry of Education and GovTech, Parents Gateway (PG) is a one-stop portal that strengthens school-home partnership to support our children in their education journey. Since its inception, PG has gone through numerous rounds of upgrading and improvement. For example, parents can now effortlessly give consent for their child's school activities anytime, anywhere via the app. This has significantly reduced the administrative workload of our teachers so that they can focus on their teaching.

The school has recently reviewed the use of PG to better support both parents and teachers:

1. All consent forms will be followed by the system's daily reminders to parents who did not respond.
2. Our staff will no longer be giving personalized reminders via calls or email.

We seek parents' understanding and cooperation so that our teachers can better focus their energy on the holistic development of our students.



Mr Gabriel Wong
Vice-Principal

Admin Matters

2. Official Qifa Instagram Account

We are very pleased to share that the school has set up its official IG account – https://www.instagram.com/qifa_ps/. Parents/Guardians are invited to follow us on instagram and view photos and/or videos of school activities and learning experiences that students undergo in the school.

3. Fire Drill

As part of Emergency Preparedness (EP), schools are required to conduct regular EP exercises to ensure both staff and students are familiar with evacuation routes and procedures. On 4 April, we conducted our first fire drill evacuation exercise for the year. All students displayed the right attitude towards the exercise and evacuated the school buildings in an orderly and quiet manner.

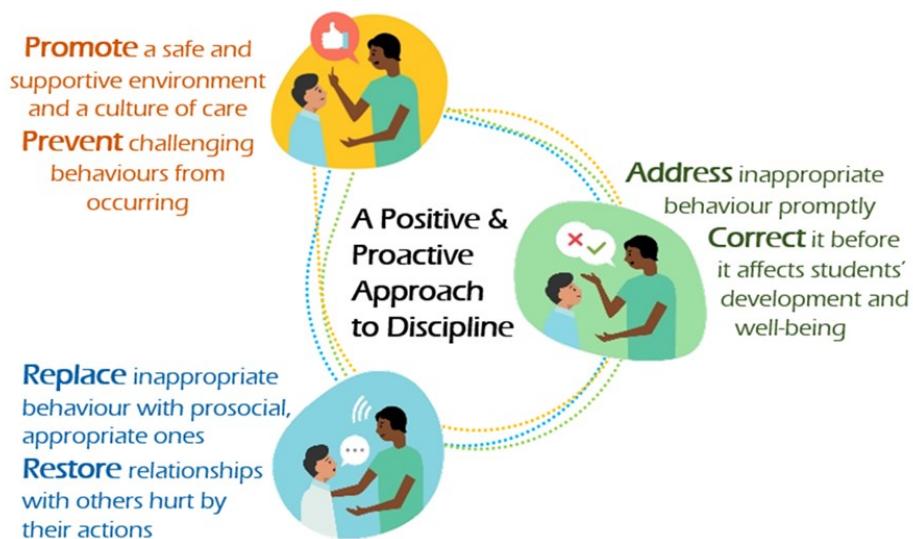


Mrs Diana Kang
Vice-Principal

Key Updates

1. Positive and Proactive Approach to Discipline

At Qifa, we firmly believe that a safe and supportive environment is essential for our students to learn effectively. Below is the approach that we take to develop and sustain positive discipline in the school:



Approach to Offences:

The list of minor and major offences, and steps taken to help students address their inappropriate behaviour can be found on Page 20 in the 2023 Student Handbook.

Students are to reflect on the possible impact of their actions/behaviour on self and/or others and assume responsibility for the consequences. As Qifa practises Positive Discipline, we also emphasise the importance for our students to observe the iCAR³E values strictly. These two are not mutually exclusive but complement each other.

Discipline is not about meting out punitive consequences. It is about equipping students with essential skills that will enable them to self-manage and self-regulate their emotions and behaviour. Such approach also emphasises the importance of prevention and early intervention.

Key Updates — Positive and Proactive Approach to Discipline (cont'd)

Every case of misbehaviour is unique. The kind of disciplinary action to be taken will depend on a variety of factors, including the nature of the offence, specific circumstances surrounding the incident, and other possible mitigating factors that may be present. While there is a list of possible consequences related to minor/major offences, the final consequences meted out might differ. Notification including letters of offence is sent out to keep parents informed of school's expectations of students' behaviours and seek their support for the school's efforts to maintain good discipline.

A Gentle Reminder – Reiterating the importance of Punctuality

Being punctual is one of the school rules that all students must follow. Arriving on time for school and lessons is a way of showing care and respect for others and such good habit should always start from young, cultivated and supported by family and school.

School starts at **7.30 am**. To start the day right, we encourage all students to be in school earlier so that they can begin the day, calm and collected. On rainy days, students may encounter traffic or transportation delays. In such situations, school may extend a 10-min grace period for all students who should still make good effort to arrive on time.

A good partnership between the school and parents is crucial for the betterment of our students. Let's continue to work alongside each other to help them become good leaders of character.

A little note from the Discipline Team.

Mrs Bernice Yap
Subject Head / Discipline (Int.)

Ms Camy Ong
Year Head / Middle Primary Levels

Key Updates

2. International Friendship Day 2023

The school commemorated International Friendship Day (IFD) on 6 April 2023. Students were involved in different activities to deepen their cross-cultural skills in our multi-cultural society and inculcate in them the values of friendship and empathy.

The IFD assembly programme featured a digital show titled '*We are the Same after all*', showcasing how a group of students and their new classmate of another nationality learnt to work out their differences and forge new friendships. The show also highlighted the spirit of friendship and the interconnectedness between Singapore and countries in the global world. Using Circle of Viewpoints, Form Teachers facilitated a class discussion on the feelings of the characters in the show. Students explored multiple perspectives and learn to empathise, respect and embrace cultural differences.



Artefacts from Indonesia were featured in our Heritage Gallery as she heads the ASEAN chairmanship this year. During the recess breaks, students explored the artefacts and videos to learn more about Indonesian culture. These artefacts included the '*wayang kulit*' (traditional puppet-shadow play), *angklung* and *gamelan* (musical instruments) and *batik* material.

The students also learnt about the interesting aspects of Indonesian culture, such as the common greetings using Indonesia's official language, various types of Indonesian cuisines and places of interest in Indonesia.



Our friendly National Education (NE) Ambassadors, who were docents at the gallery, assisted to facilitate students' experiential learning through guiding them to understand more about the artefacts, pictures and information posters. Applying what they have learnt, students then participated in tasks and puzzles that were customised according to different levels.

Key Updates — International Friendship Day 2023 (cont'd)

It is very heartening to see how engaged our students were during the gallery experience. Through such platform and with our ongoing character and citizenship programmes, we hope Qifa students will continue to foster and deepen their appreciation of friendship and collaboration among different countries.



Miss Mumtaz Maideen
HOD / Character & Citizenship Education (CCE)

Key Updates

3. Qifa's Earth Week Celebrations 2023

Qifa celebrated Earth Week from 12 — 14 April. The theme for this year is “**Protecting the Earth Starts with Me!**” Throughout the 3-day celebration, students were engaged in various activities which highlighted the importance of caring for the environment through their daily actions.



Interactive booths were set up at the canteen during recess periods. The prefects guided their schoolmates in watching a video on ‘Singapore’s Water Story’ to learn more about water sources in Singapore.

Students also viewed an exhibition by National Environment Agency (NEA) on ‘Our National Heritage’ and demonstrated their understanding by attempting e-quizzes.



Students also enjoyed creating their own ‘Water Wally and Water Sally’ origami where they wrote a personal pledge of how they will treasure every drop of water. The origami Water Wallys and Water Sallys were displayed for all to view, encouraging everyone to do their part towards water conservation.



Partnering NEA for its [Bloobox initiative](#), students also learnt about different recyclables. Utilising the ‘Recycling Right’ tips at the booth, they had hands-on practice to sort items for recycling. To encourage and reinforce the habit of recycling, a Bloobox is placed in every classroom.

Key Updates — *Qifa's Earth Week Celebrations 2023 (cont'd)*

It was heartening to see many students participating actively at the recess booths and deepening their knowledge on ways in which they can protect the environment. By making informed decisions and practising good conservation habits in our daily actions, and through a collective and consistent effort by the Qifa family, we can do our part to protect our beautiful planet which we call HOME.



Mr Mohd Faisal Jamain

HOD / Leadership, Engagement, Advocacy & Partnerships (LEAP)

Key Updates

4. Primary 3 Learning Journey to the Singapore Mobility Gallery

In April, the Primary 3 students had their long-awaited Learning Journey to the Singapore Mobility Gallery. It is part of the Social Studies Curriculum which allows our students to contextualise their learning in an authentic real-world setting. Such experiential learning experience enables our students to engender the joy of learning as they continue to explore, construct new knowledge, and make connections to their learning in the classroom.

Our teachers facilitated student learning by bringing them around the different zones in the Gallery where they learnt how the Land Transport Authority (LTA) plans, designs and builds our land transport system while balancing efficiency, livability and inclusivity as it leverages technology for a smarter urban mobility. There are seven zones and each exposes students to different aspects of transportation such as occupations and operations as well as possible different uses of technology that could help to enhance the travelling experience for commuters.

To support the sustainability agenda, there was a special exhibition to showcase how Singapore's land transport system is going green and highlight the measures taken by LTA to reduce carbon footprint. Our students discovered how small changes in transport habits can make a huge difference in the fight against climate change. To round up their learning, they made a pledge to do their part for a sustainable land transport future.



Ms Shabeena Begum
Teacher-in-charge

Key Updates — P3 LJ to the Singapore Mobility Gallery (cont'd)



Discovering the different modes of transportation in Singapore.



Students learning about the unsung heroes in the transportation industry.



Our students exploring how technology helps the elderly commuters to cross the roads easily and safely.



*Step In, Step Out
How experience leads to Empathy*



Our students comparing carbon footprints of different modes of transportation.



Our students have great fun learning together.

Key Updates

5. Hari Raya Celebration 2023

On the 27th of April, Qifa Primary School celebrated Hari Raya Puasa, which marks the end of the fasting month, Ramadan. It is a time for relatives and friends to strengthen bonds with each other. Muslim students and teachers donned traditional Malay costumes, making the celebration more vibrant!

During the Hari Raya concert, there was a line-up of performances specially for our Qifa teachers and friends. The *silat* performance included some impressive moves, while the video montage shared how Muslim teachers celebrated the festive day with their loved ones. Qifa's own Malay Dance entertained us with their colourful costumes and graceful moves too. On top of that, the educational segment on the 'Past and Present', which was presented by *Nur Nadhynn Nayra* from 4C, *Muhammad Ammar* from 4E and *Sofia Aqilah* from 4E, gave great insights into the significance of Hari Raya. Last but not least, our Qifa students and teachers came together to give a stunning performance as the finale. We hope everyone enjoyed the concert!



To enliven the celebration, recess activities were also conducted at our Qifa Heritage Gallery. Selected Primary 4 to Primary 6 pupils were stationed at the various booths. During the respective recesses, students were given the opportunity to taste some of our traditional Malay goodies, namely *kuih tat*, *kuih bangkit*, *kuih mama carrie*, and *kek lapis*.

Key Updates — Hari Raya Celebration 2023 (cont'd)



The students truly enjoyed tasting the different types of traditional goodies! Students were also engaged in activities related to Hari Raya Aidilfitri, such as quizzes, learning how to weave a paper 'ketupat', and writing Hari Raya cards for their friends. Not to forget, we are really thankful for the help of our parent volunteers.

On behalf of our school, we would like to wish all Muslims a joyful and blessed Eid al-Fitr. Selamat Hari Raya Aidilfitri! May this festive occasion bring you and your loved ones peace, happiness, and prosperity.



Ms Nurul Sakina
Teacher-in-charge

Mdm Nafisah
Subject Head / Malay Language (Int.)

Key Updates

6. Chinese Language Book Recommendations for May 2023

“假期阅读乐” 推荐书单

The Committee to Promote Chinese Language Learning (CPCLL) and National Library Board (NLB) recommend some e-books and physical books to cultivate reading habits and promote interest in reading Chinese books among our students. We hope that these recommendations will help our students to explore different genres of books and read widely.

The book recommendations for the month of May include family stories, popular science stories, local picture books and poetry. Your child/ward can select any title of his/her interest and borrow the e-books. Alternatively, he/she can scan the QR code and explore the Libby website to look for more book recommendations. Enclosed below are the physical and e-books recommendations for reading.



Mr Kenny Ng
HOD / Mother tongue Languages (MTL)

Key Updates — CL Book Recommendations for May 2023 (cont'd)

**母亲节
儿童阅读推荐**

小学低年级

<http://tiny.cc/meyarw2>

<http://tiny.cc/meyarw2>

<http://tiny.cc/meyarw2>

小学高年级

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