

# The British School - Muscat

Founded under Royal Charter, 1973



To: All **Reception Parents**

12<sup>th</sup> September 2009

Dear Parents

## **Every Child Matters: Cultural Diversity: Greeting Banner**

We have many nationalities in our Reception Unit and we like to celebrate our cultural diversity in many ways. We shall be asking for your help with this throughout the year.

It is very important that each child feels that their mother tongue is valued. We ask parents to get involved with this by firstly helping their child make a banner at home. The banner should have a greeting in your native language e.g. 'Good Morning!' or 'Hello!' or 'Welcome!' If English is your native language, don't forget the more colloquial phrases e.g. we have had banners that read 'G' Day Mate!' or 'Hi ya!' or 'How's it going?' etc.

We shall be giving each child a piece of card to bring home so that you can make a banner to share with the year group. The banners will be displayed throughout the Unit and hopefully serve to make all feel welcome! Please be as creative as you wish with the making of the banner. In the past, some people have painted/ crayoned/ made a collage of the greeting. Please help your child's teacher to pronounce your greeting properly by writing a phonetic version of the greeting on the back of the banner.

Would you kindly attach a passport photo of your child to your banner? This will help the children identify different banners.

## **Celebrating Eid**

We shall shortly be having our Eid holiday! As part of our 'Every Child Matters' agenda, we value all cultures and religions represented within our school community. Therefore, we would like to invite a Muslim parent in to each class to explain to the children how they celebrated Eid. If you are able and willing to do this after the Eid holiday, please let your child's teacher know. It would be great if you could show the children some photos of your child celebrating Eid. If you put the photos onto a memory stick, then we can show the children by using the interactive white board.

## **Baby Photos**

After Eid we shall be learning to talk about how we change as we grow. Please send your child's baby photo into school after the Eid holiday. Please put your child's name on the back of the photo! We would like to invite any mother or father with a baby to come and talk to the children about how we look after a baby, demonstrating that our needs change as we grow. Please can we have a volunteer for each class? Please contact your child's teacher.

## **Grandparents Day: Trip to the Post Office, Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> September**

We shall be writing to grandparents in recognition of Grandparents Day, which falls on 13<sup>th</sup> September. If there are any sensitive issues regarding grandparents, please let your child's teacher know. Due to the Eid holiday, we shall not be able to get our letters written and visit the post office until after this date. We are planning to visit the Post Office in MQ to post our letters, permission pending. If you would like to help with this trip, please let us know. Experience tells us that we need approximately ten parents for this trip.

Sincerely,

**Gail Venus**  
**Reception Year Leader**