

AMAB swimmers in Schools Olympic Program Finals!

Congratulations to two Al Maha Boys for making it to the swimming finals of the Schools Olympic Program (SOP), a major sports event in which 200 schools across Qatar are pitted against each other in 11 sports events.

Mohammed Fahad (9B) and his brother Khaled Fahad (6D) each finished first place in their respective swimming categories. The event was held at Qatar Sports Club, which hosts SOP.

The brothers look forward to swimming their way, hopefully, to another victory in April, 2018. Mr Sameh Gamal Ahmed, PE teacher who is training the athlete brothers, is proud of this feat.



In this old photo, Mohammed Fahad (r) and his brother Khaled Fahad (l), with another student proudly pose with Mr Sameh Gamal, coach, after they won in swimming competitions.

"I feel they are going to deliver in the finals!" says coach Sameh of the swimmers.

Spearheaded by Qatar School Sports Federation (QSSF) in collaboration with Ministry of Education and Higher Education, SOP gathers 400 students across Qatar. This major gathering aims to spread a culture of sports throughout Qatar's schools and to engage the entire community in active and healthy lifestyles while retaining local values and traditions.

Hundreds take part in year-round reading campaign

Developing a love of reading in students is an ambitious undertaking. And AMAB has accepted the challenge!

The school wide reading campaign in English and Arabic, which the library launched in October last year, seeks to stir more interest in the written word.

In this campaign, readers are to complete reading 30 books and come up with a book report each time they have finished one.

Names of those who read the most will be recognised in April 2018. This is determined by the number of book reports they have written.

There are 256 book readers who have jumped in.

Below show the numbers of students participating in the competition under each category:

- English-only (55)
- Arabic-only (93)
- English-and-Arabic (108)

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Principal's Corner

Welcome back, everyone! I hope you all had a fun and relaxing break, and you are ready for the second half of our adventures in learning.

With Semester 1 just passed, let us congratulate ourselves for the growth we now have! To parents and teachers, good job!



On this note, we will be celebrating students who reached farther for their hard work and tenacity. We will see Primary School students receive achievement and attendance awards on the 7th of February. Additionally, the 28th is a major event to give honours to those who have demonstrated academic excellence, and also those who brought added prestige to our school.

Your performance has been recorded, and you will see it on your report cards on the 22nd of February. As you march onwards in the second half, expect loads of excitement and fun. Through all the classroom activities you will engage in, continue to grow in learning.

Those of you who could have done more – you are absolutely right. The second term is a chance for you to prove that you can do much better – so challenge yourselves.



Please join me in welcoming new staff who joined our academy recently.



Congratulations to swimmers Mohammed and Khaled (featured on page 1)—who are brothers! Their stunning wins have qualified them in Qatar School Olympic Finals to be held in April. Not to be outdone is the Secondary football team for their triumph in the QUESS League! You do us proud!



Congratulations to Mr. Belal Afify, Microsoft® global educator visionary.

Al Maha is in the process of international accreditation as we strive to give you high-quality education. Let us increase our efforts. Your success will be our proof of high standards, and international accreditation will seal it.

Forward we march! All the best to us!

IMPORTANT DATES (Feb. 2018)

DATE	DESCRIPTION
Jan 28 – Feb 1	Semester Break
4	Semester 2 begins
After-School Activities (1:45 – 2:35 P.M.)	Sundays – Art Class (KS1) Mondays – Calligraphy (KS2) Tuesday – Calligraphy (KS1) Wednesdays – Engineering & Construction(KS2)
6 (7:30 – 8:30 a.m.)	Primary Coffee Morning
7	Semester 1 Awards (behaviour, attendance, and Tarbeya)
11	KS1 Sports Day
12	Student Council Field Trip to recycling plant (Group 2)
13	National Sports Day Holiday
14	KS2 Sports Day (Al-Ahli Sports Club)
15	Secondary Sports Day (Al-Ahli Sports Club)
15	Maths Fair (Years 5 & 6)
19	Yr 2 Field Trip to Baladna Park
22 (4:00 – 5:00 P.M.)	Report Card Day “Loving Your Children” Workshop for Parents
22	Model United Nations (Georgetown Univ.-Qatar)
28	Semester 1 Academic Awards Ceremony (top 3 class achievers, Head Teacher Award, extra-curricular award)
EARLY YEARS	PRIMARY
SECONDARY	WHOLE SCHOOL

AMAB sets sights on international accreditation



Our school has been working towards getting accredited internationally. Achieving this will attest to the quality of AMAB brand of education.

We are seeking affiliation with WASC, an association comprising 4,600 schools and colleges which continually works towards student achievement and school improvement. The whole school is determined to overcome all hurdles in the screening cycle which could last 6 years.

AMAB shares the three-fold goals of WASC: providing education of international calibre, continuous improvement in learning, and use of external evaluation alongside internal evaluation to measure set goals.



Mr David Furey holds a meeting with the WASC committee he heads.



Mr. Peter Bird, Head of Secondary, is the WASC Co-ordinator in our school. In this capacity, he liaises with our academic and support groups tasked with examining thoroughly our curriculum and instruction practices. As this process moves forward, action plans are crafted, updated, and implemented to meet international standards particularly those set by WASC.

WASC stands for Western Association of Schools and Colleges. It is a major accrediting group recognised by the U.S. Department of Education. It reviews education institutions in western United States and international schools worldwide.

Another Microsoft® global educator

Microsoft® has recently recognised Mr. Belal Afify as a global educator visionary using technology to pave the way for better learning and student outcomes.

Mr Belal is the sixth addition to AMAB's growing number of educators in the Microsoft Innovative Educator Expert (MIE Expert) Program for 2017-2018!

As a school librarian, he collaborates with teachers in developing student literacy through supplementary instruction in the library. Each group of students has a weekly library visit. In Key Stage 2 alone, there are 20 classes who, during their scheduled library hour, use Microsoft Forms® and Microsoft Sway® in research and report writing projects. In addition, he creates online registration for reading competitions, and survey feedback forms that parents use.

According to Microsoft® [page](#), MIE Experts help shape the future. "They work hand-in-hand with Microsoft to lead innovation in education, advocate for the effective use of technology in the classroom, share ideas with a global network of peers, and become thought leaders in the edtech space."

Well done, Mr Belal!





Top 3 Students in Achievement (December 2017)

(Islamic values, leadership qualities and cognitive-enabling values)

Hats off to achievers for the month of December 2017.

How is achievement awarded to students?

The teacher records all instances of academic performance, behaviour, and leadership qualities. [Please see the table on the right for identified behaviours.]

How does a student gain a point?

Once a student shows noteworthy behaviour, the class teacher awards him points such as evidence of being well organised, or polite and considerate, etc. This is recorded in the school database.

The lists that follow are December's top 3 performers from each Year—Primary and Secondary.

ACHIEVEMENT CRITERIA

CATEGORY	INDICATORS
Academic Performance	Academic excellence
	Independent learner
	Creative thinker
Islamic Values	Polite/considerate
	Responsible/confident
	Leadership qualities
Leadership	Well organised
	Adhering to the 5 Pillars of Islam



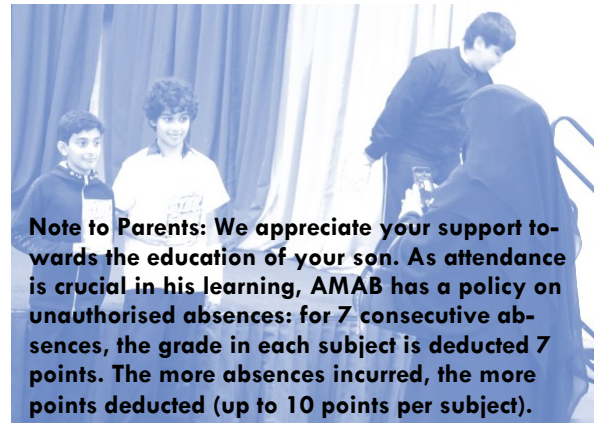
RANKING	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
TOP 1	Fahad Al-Marri (1E)	Nawaf Al-Emadi (2F)	Yousef Mustafa Al-Hashimi (3A)	Rashid Khalil (4G)	Turki Talfat (5C)	Khalaf Al-Kuwari (6E)
TOP 2	Hanzala Azam (1E)	Malik Waleed Aboelnaga (2F)	Abdulaziz Al-Eidan (3B)	Mohab Abdalhamed (4G)	Jassim Al-Salem (5F)	Khalifa Al-Naimi (6F)
TOP 3	Hamed Alhababi (1E)	Ahmad Alemadi (2F)	Mohammed Khowar (3B)	Ahmad Abdo (4F)	Abdulla Al-Ansari (5F)	Hamad Kaldari (6D)

RANKING	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12
TOP 1	Abdulaziz Al-Bikri (7C)	Nasser Alansari (8B)	Ali Al-Sulaiti (9D)	Ali Al-Adba (10B)	Hassan Al-Derhim (11B)	Abdulrahman Al-Boloushi (12B)
TOP 2	Abdulla Al-Ja'abari (7F)	Turki Al-Turki (8B)	Ahmed Al-Emadi (9E)	Fahad Al-Khayarin (10C)	Fahed Al-Haj (11B)	Ali Al-Jaber (12A)
TOP 3	Ali Alemadi (7D)	Saoud Naqadan (8A)	Mohammed Fakhroo (9E)	Ali Al-Thani (10A)	Rashid Al-Hajri (11C)	Saoud Al-Hajeri (12B)
	Zayed Johar (7E)					Abdulrahman Al-Thani (12B)



Academics - Grade Distribution

	PRIMARY	SECONDARY	GRADE	RANGE
Exam Grades 10% Mid-Semester grade; 40% Semester Final Exam grade)	50%	50%	A*	95 – 100
Projects/Practical Exam	30%	20%	A	86
Class Work	10%	20%	B	77
Participation	5%	5%	C	68
Homework	5%	5%	D	59
TOTAL	100%	100%	E	50
			F	0 - 49



Note to Parents: We appreciate your support towards the education of your son. As attendance is crucial in his learning, AMAB has a policy on unauthorised absences: for 7 consecutive absences, the grade in each subject is deducted 7 points. The more absences incurred, the more points deducted (up to 10 points per subject).

Visiting good friends: books Doha International Book Fair 2017



Year 4 and Year 5 students headed down to the 28th International Book Fair held at Doha Exhibition and Convention Center. The trips were organised by the library to foster the value of reading.

The week-long event from November 29 until December 05, 2017 was organised by Qatar Book House, which manages public libraries and heritage, under the Ministry of Culture and Sport.

Arriving in large numbers, students from schools all over Qatar, were in awe of the sheer number of print materials under one roof. Each one of the visitors had more than enough to browse in one day. They also enjoyed the activities held at the fair.

Books on exhibit were published in over 30 countries around the world.

Many of the boys left with books which were good value for money. Fiction in English was the most popular buy according to Mr Belal, school librarian.

The annual book fair is one of the thrusts that give a face to Qatar National Vision 2030: transitioning from carbon-based economy to knowledge-based economy. This event is held each year and the crowd it attracts – particularly young students – is staggering.



Photo Credit: Mr Belal.
(TOP): Students, carrying their shopping bags, walk in line on their way out. (LEFT): Mr Matthew Wilson checks the group before heading back to school. (RIGHT): Boys watch a movie one of the popular stories was turned into.





Qatar National Sports Day 2018, action-packed

By: Mr Mohammed Saddiq, PE Head

Reprising the success of Sports Day 2017 on campus, this year PE Department is presenting a sports fest on a larger scale! This highlights AMAB's vibrant response to Qatar's initiative of promoting the benefits of an active healthy lifestyle.

A wide range of sports to take place concurrently promise a surge of adrenaline rush! Players go for the win and root for their own groups. The fields will be a witness to fierce fights, and this is the time that players can put their sportsmanship to test.

To make way for more fun and to provide more space, sports events are being spread over three days and are taking place in two different venues, as below:



AMAB 2018 NATIONAL SPORTS DAY DETAILS

Grouping	Key Stage 1	Key Stage 2	Secondary
Date	Sunday, 11 th February	Wednesday, 14 th February	Thursday, 15 th February
Venue	on campus	Al-Ahli Sports Club	Al-Ahli Sports Club

The graphics that follow present Day 1 activities for Year 1 to Year 3. (Graphics: Mr Izrar Khan)

Lower Primary

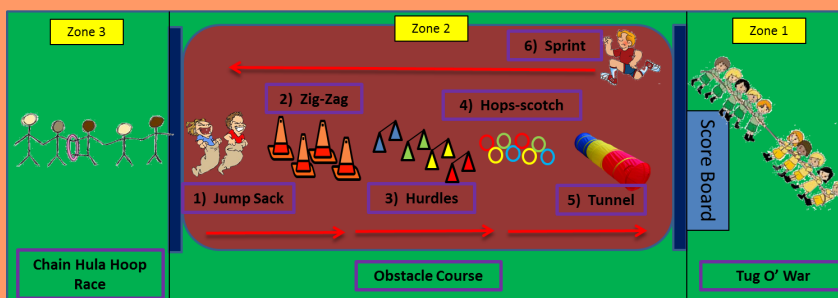
Grade 1, 2 & 3

Game Set 1



Grade 1,2 & 3

Game Set 2





QNSD '18 bibs, student designed

By: Mr Mohammed Saddiq, PE Head

A T-shirt competition has been added in which all Primary and Secondary Art students designed a T-Shirt front and back. The sports day committee decided to use bibs, since they provide comfort and flexibility for all.

The best designs, chosen by teachers acting as judges, are by:

- Hassan Ben Saddiq 2A
- Sultan Mohammad Hussain 1C
- Abdullah Hamdan Al Marri 4C
- Sultan Khalid Al Khawari 4C



Everyone will be wearing a T-shirt from these designs by students at the sports fest.

The graphics that follow present Day 2 (Year 4 to Year 6) and Day 3 (Secondary School) activities:

Al-Ahli Sports Club Activities

Total Games: 3
Game set 2

Game Duration: 15 minutes

Football Ground

Teams:
Red, Yellow, Green & Blue
Each Team sub divided into 3 groups per zone.

Game Set 1
Total Games: 3

Game Duration: 15 minutes

Gymnasium

Teams:
Red, Yellow, Green & Blue
Each Team sub divided into 3 groups per zone.

Total Games: 3
Game set 3

Game Duration: 15 minutes

Courts Ground

Teams:
Red, Yellow, Green & Blue
Each Team sub divided into 3 groups per zone.

SUCCESS IS NO ACCIDENT.
It is hard work, perseverance,
learning, studying, sacrifice
and most of all, **love** of what you are doing.
- Pele



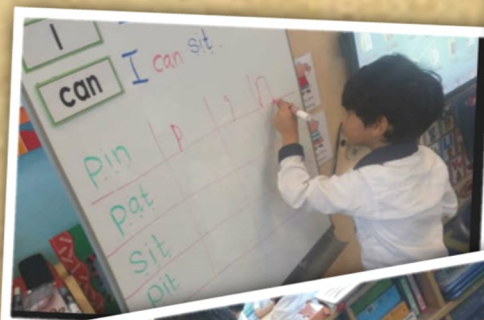
Early Years

- Development and learning embedded in the principles of Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)



NUMERACY

KG children have started exploring outdoors, and what a lovely venue it is to enhance their Math skills!

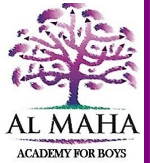


LITERACY

Children have started to blend sounds to read words. Various Literacy resources aid in their learning.

Early Years

- Development and learning embedded in the principles of Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)



Tarbeya



KG children are learning the value of **RESPONSIBILITY** for oneself, others, the environment, work and homeland. They have illustrated the value in their own drawings. They also watched stories that teach the value of responsibility.

On 11th January 2018, KG had an enjoyable painting experience. Brushes in their hands, they created colorful patterns in the style popularised by the Spanish painter, Pablo Picasso.



I am Picasso!



Art teachers from 7th Heaven Arts company guided the young artists, who donned in their colourful painting aprons. They dabbled with their brushes and took pride in their own masterpieces that Maestro Pablo himself would approve!

Early Years

- Development and learning embedded in the principles of Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)



Kindergartners enjoy

the activities, which develop their gross motor skills.

They make use of colourful

and age appropriate equipment.

AMAB New Teachers and Staff

We welcome the new members of the AMAB family!

L-R: Caroline Harding (Secondary English Teacher);
Kashaf Ali (Teacher);
Mahjabeen Ramzan (Teacher Assistant);
Marwa Mohammad Abu Ertame (Arabic Teacher);
Mohamed Chamseddine Souissi (IT Tech. Support)



L-R: Qamar Patel (PE Assistant);
Shima Mahgoub Mustafa (Teacher Assistant);
Somayya Naseer Akhtar (Teacher Assistant);
Tousief Syed (Teacher);
Tertius Amor Nel (Teacher)



Primary School

Key Stages 1 & 2
(Years 1 to 6)



SC-Primary Visits Recycling Plant

The Student Council, Primary School got a chance to literally follow a paper trail at a recycling plant. They toured Qatar's only paper recycling plant, Elite Paper Recycling, on 13th December, 2017.

The student leaders, wearing safety vests and masks, looked like adults as they toured the plant.

Our student leaders watched the latter stages of paper recycling. This is the stage after the sorted waste paper had been shredded into a pulp and soaked in liquid.



The students walked alongside the tour guide as he explained the process that they saw it taking place at the engine that was towering over them. For him to be heard, his powerful voice competed with the roar of the mighty plant engine. Our student leaders moved along, looking amazed as they observed wet pulp journeying on the moving mammoth conveyor belt. The pulp was pressed, dried and ended up as rolled paper twice or three times their height!

The second half of students will be making their own tour on the 19th of February.

KidzMondo Day

For one full morning Year 4 to Year 6 students set aside their school uniforms, figuratively speaking, and put on adult work clothes.

On the 27th of November (Monday), Year 4 children rode the buses to KidzMondo.



The exciting world of work.

Photo credits for this article:

Their excitement could barely be contained, for the fun awaiting them (and the lessons they would glean from the experience).

The thrill felt by Year 5 students on the 28th, Tuesday, was no different from what gripped Year 4 the day before. Wednesday was the turn of Year 6.



To withdraw money from a bank, to attend a university lecture, and to hear a case in court gave them a glimpse of the life of their parents. To get their judgment counted for something, to fly a plane, to cook pizza, to drill petroleum – these are just some of the many adult roles they had the chance to play that day.

Ms Eishtar Muneza Mohamed, 4D Teacher. **ABOVE** (Left): Students get hands-on experience in emergency medicine; (Middle): Boys show off their trophies as car-racing drivers; (Right): Students go noble as responders in a medical emergency.

Primary School

Key Stages 1 & 2
(Years 1 to 6)



Fun at Jungle Zone awaits

On 12th December, Year 1 children set out to have fun at Jungle Zone. And what fun they had!

Laughter and smiles were in abundance. Their energy did not seem to ebb. Each ride seemed to recharge them, and hopped they went from one to the next!

The trip these young boys took reinforced social skills. For example, they had to behave in a public area, line



File photo: Boys tucked safely wait for the hair-raising launch. This ride induces shouts of glee and screams from a mix of shock and thrill.



up to get a ride, wait for their turn, and follow rules. In addition, the experience made them understand that basic health and safety procedures exist for a reason: to protect all of them so that they could continue having fun safely.

Gifted & Talented Group: Museum Trip and Picnic

On Monday morning of 11th December, 2017, the sun was up and the skies were clear.

It was a lovely time to be out, and so Gifted and Talented Group in Primary School went on a field trip to Al-Riwaq MIA Park Gallery, located on the Museum of Islamic Art grounds.

The exhibit, titled *Driven by German Design*, traced the evolution of important inventions of home appliances and other common machines we use today. The famed Porsche cars that were on display gave students an idea of how design changed over the years. Modern cars look very different from the designs in the 1950s.



Gifted and Talented group with Mr Ghannam pose on the museum grounds. The scenic backdrop of the iconic Museum of Islamic Art and Doha skyline lends a meaningful context to the cultural theme of the trip. BELOW (Left): This vintage Porsche was a centerpiece at the exhibit. Right: The group had a picnic around this foliage.

There were Volkswagen cars at the exhibit as well.



Other items they saw were radios, televisions and an old computer when they first came out more than 50 years ago.

After the indoor activity, it was time for a picnic, for which their faces lit up! The group sat on the sprawling grass. They enjoyed the breeze and cool weather. They also marvelled at the view of Doha's skyscrapers along the Arabian Gulf with dhows docked on the shore: a happy blend of modern and traditional.





Secondary Footballers shine in QUESS League

By: Mr. Mohamed Saddiq, PE Head

We caught the QUESS League champion trophy! Our team "slugged it out" with Doha College in the Under 16 Boys Football League, and the result was a clear win, 4-2!

This victory is 'historic'. It is especially impressive because this is the first time our school participated in the league. The joy the team played was only matched by the pride the coaches Mr. Mondhers, Mr. Dean and Mr Saddiq, felt. Hard work from after-school training certainly paid off.

AMAB played every team and dealt each one a blow. Their strong standing swept the team to the finals which was played in Doha College.

QUESS League Under 16 Football Category was composed of



AMAB,
Compass International School,
Doha College B,
GEMS American Academy,
Gulf English School,
Newton International School (Barwa),
and Nord Anglia International School (Al-Khor).



ABOVE: Secondary football team reigns supreme in their league. BELOW (Left): Our players prepare for a tough game. Right: This game delivered a clear win for AMAB.



Al Jazeera interview on 2017 IGCSE Physics success

By: Mr Mutaz Omar, Physics Head (Secondary)

Success is celebrated – and it is a bonus when it draws broader recognition.

The 90% success rate in IGCSE Physics that Secondary obtained last year piqued the attention of Al-Jazeera Channel. They came down to the campus to speak about this accomplishment with Mr Mutaz Omar, Head of Physics (Secondary School).

In the interview, Mr. Mutaz Omar attributed this remarkable performance to an integrated approach to learning science. He also discussed the challenges that students face in studying physics.

"Modern teaching strategies in physics teaching are



Mr. Omar Mutaz with his Physics class talks to Al-Jazeera Arabic about Al Maha Boys remarkable achievement in Physics IGCSE last year. The class also relates to the reporter the strategies being used in learning concepts.



showing tangible results in Al Maha Boys," Mr Omar said. He mentioned a couple of these strategies: experimentation and linking physical laws with the surrounding natural phenomena.

Congratulations, Boys! On to meaningful learning!

The interview was conducted on Tuesday 28th of November, 2017. To watch it, click on the [YouTube® link](#).



Year 12 students go kayaking in Al-Thakira

Abdulrahman Al-Thani, Year 12

Our Travel and Tourism AS class under Mr Umar Bux engaged in ecotourism, an alternative type of tourism which educates visitors about care of natural environment. We visited the mangroves in Al-Thakira, a protected area north of Al-Khor. It was a perfect location to explore and navigating by kayaking added to the thrill.

Far away from all the hustle and bustle of city life, this large area of vegetation attracting varied bird life, including flamingos and herons, provides a refreshing contrast to the vast expanse of the desert where Al Thakira begins..

Once we arrived in Al Thakira, the activity leader gave us a brief introduction on the area and the conservation efforts. Then we changed into our gear and strapped up in a life jacket, after which we listened to safety talk and obviously the technique of kayaking.

Year 12 Travel & Tourism Al Thakira Coastal study



AMAB Seniors strike a pose before stepping on varied-colour narrow watercraft to try their hands at the sport. Kayaks were originally hunting boats constructed by Alaskan natives for fishing on inland lakes and rivers. They were also used for transport. The students realised it was tougher than it looked, but they enjoyed the experience. They gained a better perspective on biodiversity and an appreciation of nature. of Al-Thakira protected mangroves was a welcome and refreshing change to the city environment.



Everyone thought this would be easy but we soon realised otherwise. In pairs we started to kayak our way through the water. The strong winds tested us and the added challenge to be in sync with our partners was tough. Our stamina and physical and mental strength were put to a real test. Of course some students were doing very well and some not so, but this made the activity very enjoyable and amusing!



It's a movie date!

To reward them for hard work in the mid-term exams, select Year 9 and 10 went to the movies! They saw *Justice League*, a movie about a team of popular Hollywood movie heroes banding to fight a formidable enemy out to destroy humanity.

10A student, Abdullah Al-Obeidly, one of the top performers, had this to say, "Our trip to the cinema was a new experience in Secondary, and the choice of the movie was good."

"We enjoyed every second of it. Also, the trip was affordable," Abdullah added.

Another student, Hamad Adel Shamaa of 10C, thought the trip to 01 Mall was fun.

"*Justice League* was a great choice," according to Hamad. To him the movie was age-appropriate.

Hamad also noted, "The trip was well-organised. Going to the mall went smoothly, and so did coming back."

"And we had food!" noted Hamad.

The group enjoyed the movie date. All of them were thankful that an activity like this was organised. They hope that there would be more trips throughout the year

