

21 February,
2021

Celebrating International Mother
Language Day !

Chief editor Sara Diab

Bridges

جسور

International Mother Language Day

Today is International Mother Language Day. This day aims to promote awareness of linguistic and cultural diversity and to promote multilingualism. It also promotes the preservation and protection of all languages

Qatar Finland School hosts 59 different nationalities and isn't stopping. QFI School also hosts different languages, such as Mandarin, Portuguese, French, and even Kurdish. QFI School has created an environment where all differences are respected and appreciated.

This edition of bridges will be showcasing students' and parents' thoughts and articles on the Mother language.

Diversity is key in today's world

Embrace all the aspects that make you special



有时只需要呼吸就可以了。不要让生活的混乱阻碍你，因为你比这种混乱还要强大。不断尝试并开心，因为幸福会使您成长为一个更好的积极人。知道你并不孤单。

PRESERVING THE MOTHER LANGUAGE

Substantial theoretical and empirical literature documents the importance of a child's mother tongue in ensuring meaningful and effective learning during the early years of education (Khan, 2018). It has been argued that second or foreign language instruction limits the cognitive development of primary school students (Cummins, 2001), resulting in teacher-centered approaches (Brock-Utne, 2005), safe language practices (Martin, 2005), and poor educational outcomes (Rao, 2013). Although there is overwhelming evidence that children learn best in and through their mother tongue(s), in many situations, mother tongue-based education cannot be sufficiently provided. One of these situations can be found in international schools.

It has been noted that the medium of instruction in the vast majority of international schools worldwide is English (Hayden & Thompson, 2015). Moreover, research shows that the prospect of an English-medium education is one of the major factors influencing parents (both native English speakers and speakers of other languages) to choose an international school education for their child (MacKenzie, 2003). The most central characteristic shared by English-medium international schools, beside their high tuition fees, is that a large number of their students are not fluent and literate in English as the main language of instruction. These ESL students are not only learning English but also learning through English and need to do it quickly. This has been considered as the main challenge faced by English-medium international schools, alongside other issues, such as culture shock experienced by new students and teachers as well as the lack of initial training and continuing professional development for teachers supporting students to maintain their mother tongues (Mertin, 2018).

Carder (2018) argues that students in English-medium international schools live in a bubble of internationalism where English is the language of the school for academic and social purposes but not for the wider environment. Mertin (2018) argues that the international schools may fail the ideals of a truly international school if "students are expected to leave at the school gates not only their language but their culture and required to speak only English throughout the day, and mother tongue is banned" (p. 7).

This is a call for international schools' management, parents, and teachers to promote and maintain students' mother tongue(s) through curricular and extracurricular programs.

Hadeel Alkhateeb, PhD
Language Policy and Language Planning
Qatar University



La vie est belle

- French

A Look Back - Poetry from a Small European Country

„Тоз, който падне

В бой за свобода,

Той не умира:

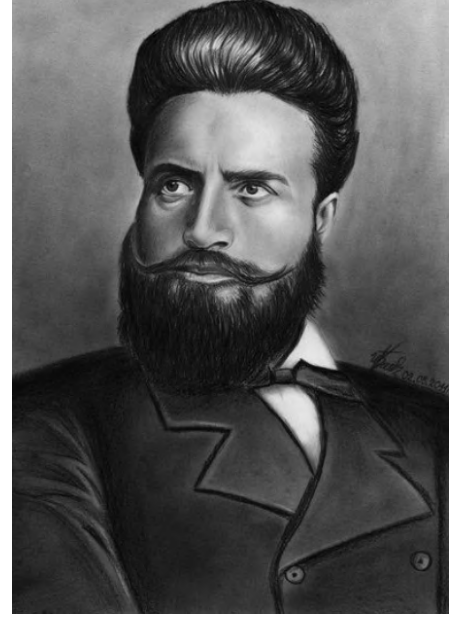
Него желаят земя и небе,

Звяр и природа,

И певци песни

За него пеят.”

This is a quote by a very famous Bulgarian poet, author, and revolutionary fighter with the name Hristo Botev. It refers back to the time when the country was still fighting for independence in the 1800s and portrays some wise ideas. The literal translation is “He, who falls in the fight for freedom, does not die: he is wanted by the land and the sky, by the villain and nature, and singers sing songs about him.” The meaning is that if you withstand challenges and fight for the sake of people's freedom, you become immortal in a way. You are remembered by many as an ethical and respected individual.



Kristina Dimitrova

أهمية لغة الأم في التعليم

هيا دياب
Haya Diab

مع تزايد الهجرة والشعبية المتزايدة للمدارس الدولية، يتزايد عدد الأطفال الذين يتعلمون بلغة أخرى غير لغتهم الأم بسرعة. تشير الأبحاث إلى أن وجود أساس قوي للغة الأم يؤدي إلى فهم أفضل للمناهج الدراسية بالإضافة إلى موقف أكثر إيجابية تجاه المدرسة، لذلك من الضروري أن يحافظ الأطفال على لغتهم الأولى عندما يبدأ الدراسة بلغة مختلفة غالبًا ما يشار إلى معنى لغة الأم على أنها لغتك الأولى أو لغتك الأم. إنها اللغة التي تتحدثها بشكل شائع. ومع ذلك، يشير معنى لغة الأم دائمًا إلى اللغة التي استخدمها الطفل منذ ولادته لأوقات مهمة ومؤثرة في حياة الطفل. معنى لغة الأم للتطفل ينطوي على أكثر من مجرد لغة ويتضمن هوية الطفل الشخصية والاجتماعية والثقافية أهمية لغة الأم

تتم دراسة أهمية اللغة الأم لأنه عندما يطور الأطفال لغتهم الأم، فإنهم في نفس الوقت يوزون مجموعة كاملة من المهارات الأساسية الأخرى، مثل التفكير النقدي ومهارات القراءة والكتابة لماذا لغة الأم مهمة جدًا؟

تمت دراسة أهمية اللغة الأم من قبل البروفيسور جيم كومينز من جامعة تورنتو في كندا يكشف بحثه عن الصلة بين نمو الطفل ولغته الأم. وجد أن الأطفال الذين يطورون مهارات في لغتين أو أكثر، ثلاث لغات، يكون لديهم فهم أعمق لكيفية تكوين الجمل والتعبيرات؛ مما يجعل استخدام اللغة ككل أسهل كثيرًا.

في الختام، لأن هذا الشهر شهر لغة الأم، أشجع الأهالي على القراءة والكتابة مع أطفالهم بلغتهم الأم.



General News

Ministry of public health in Qatar encourages citizens to take the coronavirus vaccine. As of right now, vaccinations are being prioritized for elders and citizens with urgency. However, there are centers that provide the vaccine for everyone, let's end this Virus once and for all, take your vaccinations.



Cases in Qatar have been increasing over the past weeks, however, this increase is controllable. Kindly take covid precautions seriously like wearing a mask and maintaining social distancing.

Study Tip Cornner

When you are studying, get everything you need ready and remove any possible sources of interference.

Find a quiet space and inform your family members to not interrupt.

Don't study with a hungry stomach.

Have water beside you at all times.

Turn off notifications on social media or delete them.

Before you start, take a deep breath and relax.

Write down goals you want to achieve while studying.

Remember to reward yourself after done studying.

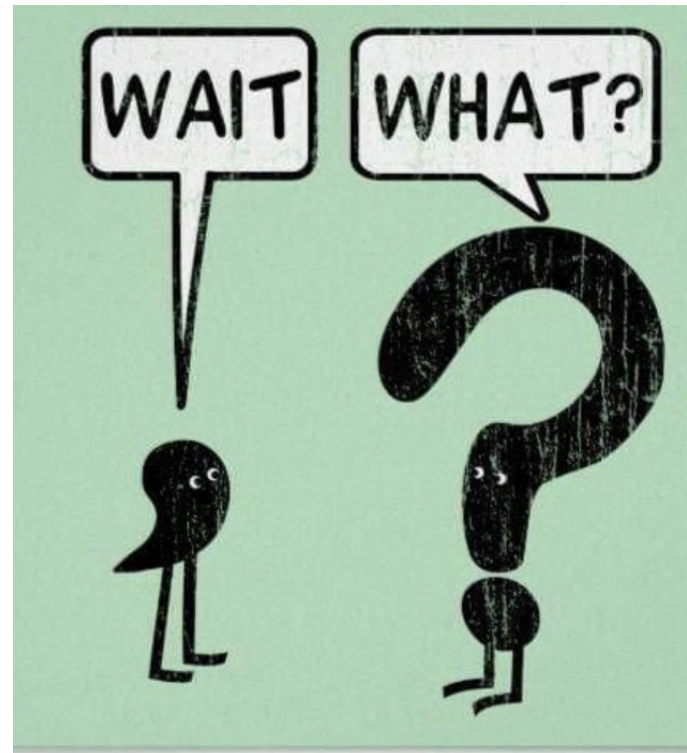
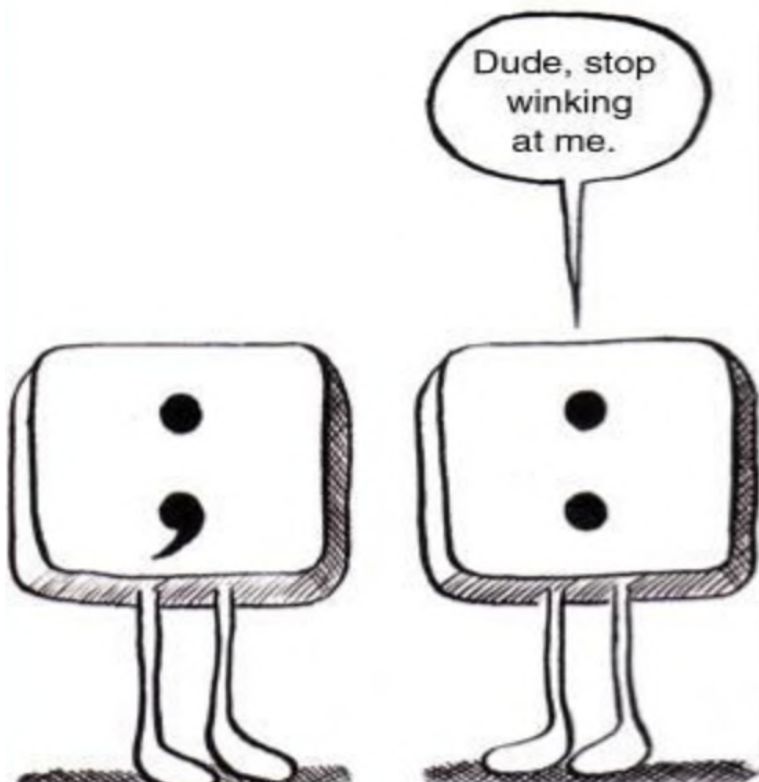
Look for other alternatives if these methods don't work for you

If you have any questions about studying, please send a letter to our email: bridgesqfi@gmail.com we will answer them in our next edition or privately.

Zengru Zheng (Kiki)

HAVE A LAUGH BREAK

You know a sentence is coming to an end when you see this:



Events in Qatar

Sign up



VIRTUAL FAMILY TOURS BY QATAR MUSEUMS

Date: 16 February to 28 February 2021.

Location: Your home!

Qatar Museum's virtual field trips are targeting a new audience, this time they bring NMoQ to your homes. Over the weekend families can explore Qatar's history through the lens of the museum guides. Falta and Durrah will join the tour and bring fun interactive challenges. Let's see how many points you and your family will collect!



Qumra

Doha Film Institute presents Qumra, an initiative that seeks to provide mentorship, nurturing, and hands-on development for filmmakers from Qatar and around the world.

Over the past six years, Qumra has been a one-of-a-kind professional incubator crucial to the success of filmmakers from the Arab world and beyond. Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, with an awareness of responsibility towards the health and safety of valued guests and partners, the 2021 edition of Qumra will be fully celebrated online.

Qumra 2021 Online

Now Accessible
to Global Audiences

Save The Date
12-17 March

Qumra.film

