



# Modern English School Cairo

## Primary Newsletter

**Issue 2**

**11th October 2018**

### **Every Day is a Good Day to Learn Something New**

On Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> October while the students were enjoying an extra day's holiday, teachers and TLAs were in school taking part in a professional development day focused on teaching Maths using a creative approach. All staff were hooked from the very start of the day as they were introduced to some inspiring and engaging teaching methods. It was wonderful to see everyone working together as a team; learning new skills, discussing and sharing ideas, reasoning, explaining theories, collecting and reviewing evidence and getting excited about their learning. A visitor from the UK, Mathemagician, Mr Andrew Jeffrey was fantastic as a facilitator. His subject knowledge and delivery was excellent. He made the whole teaching of Maths come alive with genuine resources, materials and creative ideas. Teachers across the Primary Section are now inspired to try these new ideas with their students in the classroom.



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## In FS1 Orange...



...we have been working very hard to develop our listening skills. We have been using different instruments such as maracas, tambourines and shakers to make different sounds; loud, quiet, long, short, fast and slow. The students have enjoyed playing games where they had to guess the instrument being played when it was hidden behind a screen and also playing an instrument making the same sound or pattern as it was passed around the circle. Their favourite game was when the basket of instruments was in the centre of the circle and when their name was called, they had to find a given instrument and play it as loudly as they could. The classroom was very noisy indeed.





## In FS2 Orange...

...we have been learning about food around the world. We have already focussed on India, Italy and France. When discussing India, we made some pomegranate raita, which is like spicy greek yoghurt. Everyone helped make the dish and almost everyone tried it. However, most said it was too HOT for their liking. We also enjoyed a trip to an Italian restaurant with FS2 Blue and tried our hand at making pizza. We rolled out the dough, put the sauce and cheese on and added toppings like chicken. We waited very patiently while our pizza cooked and when it came out of the oven everyone tasted their culinary masterpieces. Buon appetito.







## In Year 1 Orange...

...we have been developing our art skills using the mediums of pencils, markers and paint. Over the last two lessons, we have sketched, outlined and painted self portraits in the style of Frida Kahlo. We noticed that in Frida's paintings, she uses a lot of nature as a background to the portraits so we sketched some into our own. Mr Alex was really impressed with the concentration on our artwork and Ms Diala let us listen to some inspiring traditional Mexican music while we concentrated on our work.





## In Year 2 Orange...

...we all love learning about Science and finding out about the world around us. We have started learning about animals and the different habitats they live in. In groups, we researched different habitats using ipads. A QR code took us to a website about each of the different habitats we were learning about. As a group, we watched videos, played a matching game and read information. We used this research to create a presentation which we shared with the class. Ms. Sam was so impressed with our demonstration of the 5Rs as we shared our amazing knowledge and understanding of the topic.







## In Year 3 Orange...

...we have had a fantastic start to the academic year and everyone has settled eagerly into their new class. The students have completed some lovely work in all subjects, ranging from learning how to use the column method for addition and subtraction, to exploring the life, culture and beliefs of the Ancient Egyptians. A particular highlight has been in English lessons where we have been exploring how to write our very own thrilling adventure stories. Year 3 Orange have composed some incredible stories based on Howard Carter and his discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb and we are extremely proud of the work that we have produced. In addition to all of this, we also found time to practise for our recent concert.







## In Year 4 Orange...

... we have been looking at how the Roman Army was organised. To understand this in greater depth, we used squared paper, with small squares, to show the soldiers in a Roman Century and then the soldiers in a Cohort. We drew this out visually until we could show an entire Legion. We are going to put all of this together to show the whole Roman Army of 30 legions. Year 4 Orange students have been amazed to see the entire Roman Army assembled together. Initially, we found the numbers involved quite surprising, but it was easier to imagine when we saw it drawn out on the paper.







## In Year 5 Orange...

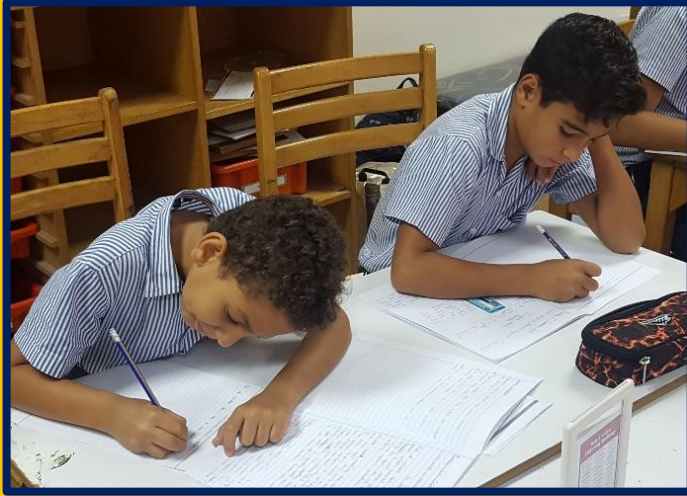


...it has been a great start to our year. This week, we have been Maths wizards and put our risk-taking, resilience and responsibility skills to the test with column multiplication. We all embraced this new area of learning and with fantastic focus and teamwork, we rose to the challenge of developing our understanding. This enabled us to challenge ourselves further and deepen our understanding with reasoning and problem solving of 2-digit multiplication questions which generated great discussion, enthusiasm and collaboration to help us find solutions. We will now be able to use these skills to develop our mathematical skills even further during the rest of the year.





## In Year 6 Orange...



...we have been working really hard to learn our lines and songs ready for the Year 6 production. We have also been tackling some tricky division questions in Maths; we love a challenge. For the past few weeks, we have been learning all about balanced arguments in English; we have been researching on our devices and having a go at writing our own. We also completed our Hot Write, where we were able to choose our own topic. After writing the draft copy, we edited the work before using our devices to word process the final version. We have chosen to set improved handwriting as a whole class target, so many of us chose to show off our handwriting and write our balanced arguments neatly. We proudly displayed the published pieces of writing in the Year 6 pod and in our classroom.





## In Pioneers...

...we have already begun working towards our first badges. The Year 5 Pioneers have made a great start to their Pioneer work as they have been developing their life saving skills in the school pool, learning about sculling and other methods to survive around water. The Year 6 Pioneers have started to work on charity events for the whole of the Primary Section. They have begun designing an advertising campaign and are organising a 'Wake & Shake' dance routine for Pink Day on Thursday 18th October. They have worked incredibly hard on this event and are excited to lead a 'healthy living' focus for Primary.

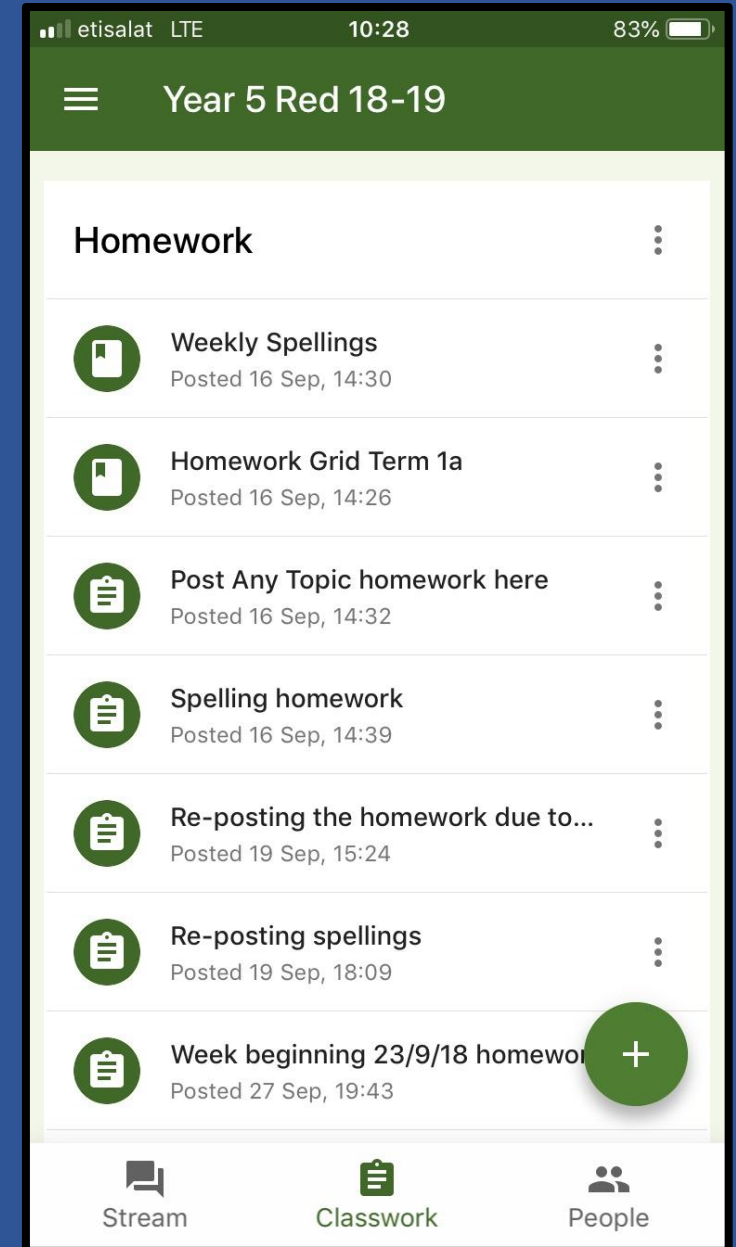






## APP of the week...

...during Topic lessons last week, Year 5 students have been learning about how types of food have changed over time and the use of food continues to vary across different continents. Not only have they used Google Classroom to help share their learning investigations digitally from home, but they have also applied their digital skills using a variety of apps. Yahia in Year 5 Red, investigated how pasta has changed over time and continents, by demonstrating how it is made here in Egypt in the 21st century. He was a risk-taker and took some inspiring selfies using the Camera App, and then also shared his findings and made a conclusion using the Google Docs App. He finally mixed it all up digitally and submitted his project work through the Google Classroom App. Another exciting learning journey from Year 5. How could you resourcefully mix-up your digital skills creatively at home to investigate different kinds of food?







# Coming Up Next...

**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> October**

'Wear it Pink' Day

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> October to Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> October**

Mid-Term 1 Break

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> October to Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> November**

Winter Uniform Changeover