



Modern English School Cairo

Primary Newsletter

Care, Challenge, Inspire

Issue 11

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COBIS Art Challenge

During last term, a number of our Primary School students submitted artwork for the Council of British International Schools (COBIS) Art Competition. The aim of the competition was to celebrate student artistic accomplishments and to convey who they are through a piece of art. This week, at our very successful Art Exhibition, we were absolutely delighted to announce that Tia Samer El Hamalaway, in FS2 Yellow had gained first place, winning the EYFS category. Furthermore, Tia's artwork will feature on the programme for the upcoming COBIS Annual Conference; another opportunity to showcase the talent we have at MES Cairo. This is a huge achievement as COBIS received 646 entries from over 100 schools in total. The representative from COBIS said the standard this year was extremely high and the judges thoroughly enjoyed viewing the artwork.





In FS1 Violet...

...we are learning about shapes in the environment. To apply our knowledge about 2D shapes to real life objects, we went on a shape hunt around the school. In groups, we were able to point out and identify shapes as we explored different areas of the school. We used our iPad's to take pictures of all the different kinds of shapes we found. After the shape hunt, we went back to the class and made a tally of how many shapes we found. Interestingly, the square was the most common shape we found around school.





In FS2 Violet...

...we had the most wonderful time celebrating our hard work and learning during our 'Let's Pretend' Storybook Picnic. In our lessons, we have been focusing on sequencing and re-telling stories in order to achieve our writing targets. To celebrate all of our learning, we enjoyed a picnic lunch and re-told our favourite stories to our friends. We loved sharing food, cuddling and showing our favourite soft toys and running around and playing on the grass in the open air. We demonstrated excellent social responsibility by ensuring that our picnic area was cleaned up and all of our rubbish was placed in the rubbish bins at the end of the celebrations.





In Year 1 Violet...



...we have been learning about famous people in history. After researching the explorer Robert Falcon Scott, we were particularly interested in discussing the foods that would be essential on an exploration. With this in mind, we ventured to the school kitchen, with the fantastic support of some keen Year 6 students, to create our very own delicious energy biscuits. When we finished baking the biscuits, we all enjoyed tasting the final products and reviewing if they would be the best food to take on an exploration.



In Year 2 Violet...



...we are busy preparing for our next big event in Term 3 which is the Year 2 Production. Even though this event takes place in June, there are lots of things to plan in advance; scripts, songs, costumes and dancing, just to mention a few. In Year 2 Violet, we have made a start on learning the script this week and practised using our 'acting voices' as part of our reading activities to develop these important skills ready for the big performance.



In Year 3 Violet...

...we recently went on a fun filled trip to the Citadel, in connection with our learning on Modern Egypt. We discovered lots of information about Salah El Din and also Muhammad Ali Pasha and the Alabaster Mosque. It was a great day out and we were bursting with newly acquired knowledge that we made into posters once back at school. As a class, we have also been developing our understanding of poetry, specifically looking at the variety of language features commonly used. We decided to use a piece of artwork as inspiration to write our own poems, focusing on Dutch artist Tjaalf Sparnaay and New Zealand artist Joel Penkman, both of whom love to paint realistic food items. We were very enthusiastic about recreating some of their most famous examples of work.





In Year 4 Violet...



...we had an exceptionally brilliant time demonstrating responsibility and developing a variety of outdoors learning skills as part of a team at the Year 4 Ain Sokhna Residential with our peers in Green Class. Not only did we learn to be resilient during this first adventure without our parents, we built some memorable lifelong bonds with our friends as well. Swimming, building kites, and participating in relay games were some of our favourite beach time activities from this amazing residential trip.

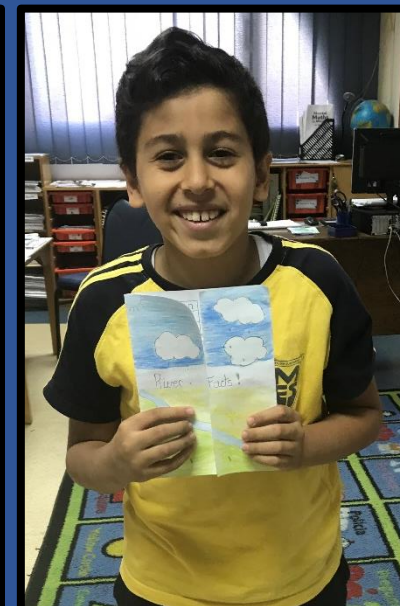




In Year 5 Violet...

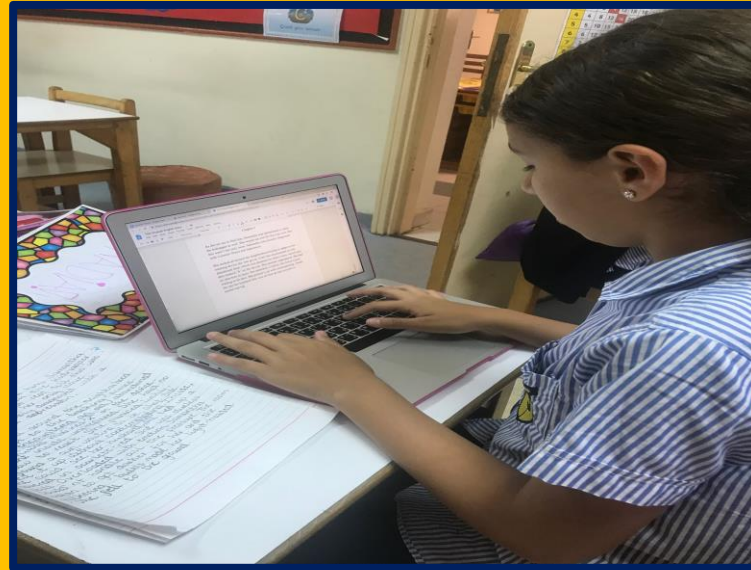
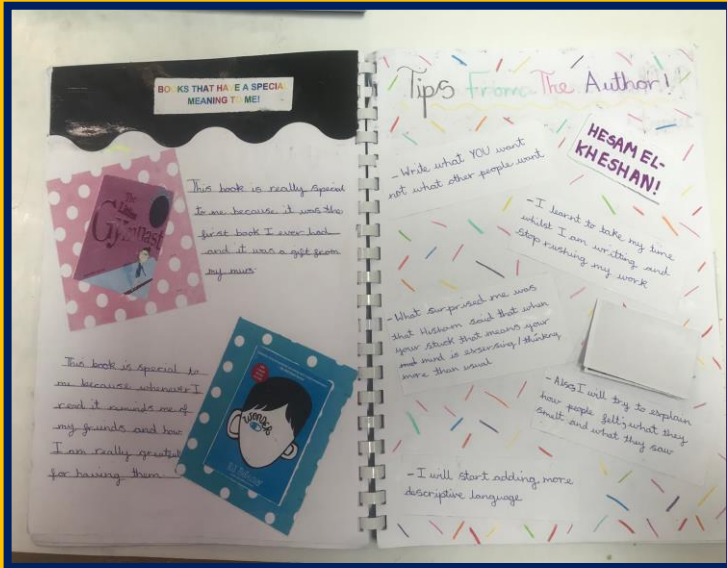


...we have been working conscientiously to produce wonderful non-chronological reports about rivers, incorporating all the information we have been learning about. We have used technical vocabulary such as erosion, deposition and transportation and presented our work beautifully as you can see from the photographs. We have also focused on river poetry producing fabulous results and writing personification poems about the River Nile. We are so proud of our efforts and the progress we have already made this term.





In Year 6 Violet...



...we have been really creative, writing our own extended narratives. We have created scrapbooks to compile all of our ideas together. We started by looking at books that we have enjoyed or that mean something to us; we had a visit from an author to share some top tips; we met with our audience to figure out what they would want from a book and finally, we spent a lot of time planning and building up characters and settings. This week, we have spent some focused time writing our stories and they are shaping up to be best sellers. The final step for our budding Year 6 authors, will be publishing the final drafts.



In ASAs...

...all activities continued to be popular with our Year 2 to Year 6 students throughout Term 2. We offered a diverse range of 23 different activities which included a mix of arts, academics and sports. We were particularly thrilled that we were able to continue the golf and tennis ASAs from Term 1 which took place at the JW Marriott Hotel and were led by professional coaches. We also added two completely new ASAs to our programme. Firstly, the Journalist Club for gifted and talented students to develop and encourage their communication skills. The second new activity was the Public Speaking and Advertising Club by Ms Pearl. The children in the Public Speaking ASA have held debates and discussions based around issues related to the History of Egypt. The topics were carefully selected in order to provoke discussion and gain opinion, for example, Tutankhamun's tomb - treasure trove or tomb of tranquility? (Should his treasures be displayed or should they be buried with him and left alone?) Ms Pearl was impressed by the confidence demonstrated by the group as they were not afraid to let their feelings be known.





APP of the week...

...our Year 6 students have been hard at work, refining their reading skills, working towards mastery of their understanding of texts. Using the 'Get Epic' app, they have been able to reignite their inspiration and motivation for reading, an app that gives them access to hundreds of books available for reading and building understanding and comprehension skills. Not only did they enjoy reading digitally in, and outside, of school, they are enjoying collaborating sharing their love of books and reading with their classmates. How could you use the 'Get Epic' to build your love of reading at home with your family?





Coming Up Next...

Sunday 19th May

Jeans Fundraising Day

Monday 20th May

FS1 Grandparents Day – 11.45am -12.45pm

Wednesday 22nd May

FS1 Concert – 11am

Thursday 23rd May

Support Staff Community Iftar – 5.30pm – 8pm
(involving Y5 and Y6 Student Council members)

Sunday 2nd – Monday 3rd June

Primary Science Days

Tuesday 4th – Saturday 8th June

Eid Al Fitr Holiday – school closed