

MODERN ENGLISH SCHOOL CAIRO



Primary Weekly Newsletter

11th February 2015

Please remember that sweets and candy are not allowed as part of children's packed lunches. The sugar candy packets and sticks that children have been bringing recently are having a serious negative effect on the children's behaviour, health and teeth. Please send fruit instead!

Foundation Stage One

What an exciting week in FS1! To help us end our 'Under the Sea' topic, Red and Orange classes visited Sitara Theatre to attend a 'Rainbow Fish Puppet Making' workshop. We really enjoyed watching the story acted out for us and were able to talk about times that we have shared our favourite things. The other classes will be attending in the following weeks and are looking forward to making their puppets also. If you would like to share the story at home, here is a great link <http://www.storylineonline.net/the-rainbow-fish>. As the weather is heating up, a lot of children are taking off their jackets, please help us to return the jackets to them by making sure they are labelled. Have a great weekend.

Foundation Stage Two

In FS2 we are continually working hard on our production and so excited for all the parents to come and see; we just cannot wait! We have all been working hard on phonics. The pupils are really beginning to show some amazing progression. We really appreciate your support of your children by reading with them and reminding them to use their phonic knowledge to help read tricky words. This week Violet Class made a Chinese dragon; Blue Class tried some yummy Chinese noodles with chopsticks and Orange Class made a fiery volcano. In Yellow they made rangoli patterns. The pupils in Green Class made willow plates while in Red Class they have investigated some exotic Indian spices!

Year One

Year One had an exciting and productive week full of colourful and fun activities. We travelled to England to learn about King James, Guy Fawkes and The Gunpowder Plot! The pupils enjoyed hearing the story and engaging in role play re-enacting the story before independently writing a retell of the story. They made beautiful fireworks and rockets for display. In Maths, we were learning how to halve shapes and numbers using different strategies. We put jam on toast and then cut it into halves and quarters. We also shared objects between two groups to help us halve numbers. A really fun activity was a face jigsaw, where we had to find the four quarters of a photo of our face and put them back together to make a whole picture! Check out our photo gallery on Teacher Web for fun pictures of us learning.

Year Two

It has been another busy week for Year Two and especially for Violet class who had their assembly. They told us all about their love of Maths and we thoroughly enjoyed their singing and dancing. The pupils spoke very clearly and confidently too, well done to Ms Alison and Two Violet! In our pod sessions we have been honing our chopstick skills by picking up small objects with them. In addition, the pupils have produced some lovely artwork based on beautiful Indian rangoli patterns. This is not the only lovely artwork Year Two have been doing as they are also in the early stages of producing Chinese style scrolls in their art sessions with Ms Malak. Finally, just a quick reminder for the pupils to come to school with all their equipment, especially pencils, as this helps with the smooth running of the day.

Anubis

573

Horus

891

Ra

569

Thoth

628

Year Three

This week in Year Three, life has returned to normal following the great success of the Year Three production. We are very proud of all the pupils whose singing was fantastic and whose behaviour was impressive. In Maths, the pupils are working hard learning about fractions and using their understanding to solve problems. In Literacy, they are using their knowledge of the features of newspaper reports to develop reports of their own. During Science lessons, the pupils are continuing to learn about rocks and how they were formed. They were excited to discover that an educational visit has been arranged to Wadi Degla where we will meet members of the team from Wadi Degla Environmental Science Centre.

Year Four

The pupils in Year Four Yellow were treated to a very special talk last week. Fatema Kamal's father came in to explain the process of glass making to them. The class listened in amazement as they were taught about what happens to sand once it is collected from the desert. Did you know that the sand in Egypt is perfect for glass making as it does not need to go through certain steps of purification? You will be amazed to find out that broken jars and bottles are collected and recycled. They are then turned into the most beautiful glass creations. Coloured glass panels are extremely popular in Egypt and The Middle East because they let light filter through as well as providing privacy. We also found out about how glass could be treated to make windscreens on vehicles, mirrors and even glasses to help us with our eye sight. Evidence discovered in Pompeii and other Roman settlements has made us aware of the fact that glass jewellery and ornaments were popular and precious items at the time, therefore glass objects are still as appealing today as they have always been.

Year Five

This week the second group of Year Five pupils and staff depart on the Nile Cruise. We hope they will have a fabulous experience, of course learning about Egypt's rich history whilst enjoying themselves. Our extended writing has been completed and we look forward very much to seeing the children's increased progress. A HUGE thank you to all the parents of Year Five Blue from Ms Sheila, for the beautiful flower arrangement and cartouche necklace. She was overwhelmed at your kindness. This week we continue to work on the science unit 'Changing State' with homework associated with water and rivers. You may find it helpful to look at the games and activities on: www.bbc.co.uk/schools for these extensive topics.

Year Six

The Year Six pupils are enjoying our topic 'Jungle Fever', many sharing their new knowledge in the Reflection section of their homework. The Year Six teachers have been impressed with the children's focus as they have written balanced arguments about deforestation. The pupils have demonstrated their knowledge of the subject and of the genre, producing some excellent final pieces of writing. To support their learning in school, it is important that the Year Six children endeavour to complete their homework each week. As they approach Secondary, independent working and meeting deadlines are key skills our pupils will need to develop and handing in homework on time is part of this learning curve. If you ever need support with the homework set, please look at this website:

<http://resources.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/homework/>