At MES Cairo we not only nurture the gifts and talents of our students, but we discover and grow new skills at every opportunity. The Year 6 production was a super example of this as our confident actors found themselves centre-stage alongside students for whom acting was a newly discovered enthusiasm. It was great to see the children perform so fantastically as they demonstrated what they can do when teachers believe in them. The Year 6 team put on a great show and the reviews from the MES Cairo community have been glowing. Developing confidence and self-belief is something that pervades every lesson and activity, and our staff’s belief that every child is capable of making personal progress in all aspects of school life is the key to this. This newsletter is full of tremendous examples of children being inspired and encouraged to try new things and develop in all the academic, personal and social experiences that are provided for them. Enjoy!
In FS1 Red...  
...we have been reading the story ‘We’re Going on a Bear Hunt’. We really enjoyed it and decided to create the obstacles the family went through, such as the long wavy grass, the deep cold river, the thick oozy mud, the whirling swirling snowstorm and the big dark forest using cardboard boxes and various materials. We learnt to work as a team together and after we finished we placed the boxes in our role play area and acted out the story! We also had a great time making 2-D shapes using spaghetti, straws, toothpicks and construction blocks. We also had fun learning all about sinking and floating, and we tested different objects in water to see if they would float or sink.

In FS2 Red...  
...we have had a super busy week with a lot of fun pirate activities to work on in class. We were excited to share our knowledge about pirates. We learnt how to find and read some CVC words that we found in some buried treasure, walk the plank and we had fun playing the ‘Captain's Coming’ instructions game in the yard! We also enjoyed having a go at reading some of our new pirate words and writing them using our class magic board and markers. We were excited to make boats using clay and learn about different parts of the ship. In Maths, we enjoyed working with our partners to measure how tall we are using non-standard units! What a brilliant and exciting week it had been!
In Year 1 Red...

...we were so excited to get involved with our Science topic this week. First, we sorted different types of materials into their properties, such as hard and soft. We then came up with words to describe our materials, such as bendy, squoasy and smooth. We were well on the way to becoming real scientists and were ready to be taken up to the science lab to test absorbent and waterproof materials. This really helped us to design our boats for our topic lesson next week. We can’t wait to see if the materials we chose will float or not!

In Year 2 Red...

...our Topic focus is ‘China’. To appreciate the breadth and diversity of Chinese culture, we are enjoying using a variety of media, including technology, to learn and share ideas, information and facts. This topic is also extending into our English and Art lessons, with a special focus on a text entitled, 'The Magic Paintbrush'. We have been busy re-telling the story, using puppets, and making Chinese dragons to represent the traditions of the Chinese New Year.
In Year 3 Red...

...team work has been the focus of our week. Whether that has been through dissecting a fish, solving mathematical problems or helping each other edit our writing plans, Red Class have been doing it together. Of course a vital part of effective teamwork is making sure that everyone has an important part to play, so in all of the activities we have been tackling there has been a really strong focus on making sure that everyone has a job to do and that we all have to report back our findings to the rest of our group. During our spelling practice, this has taken the form of everyone having to agree to the same answer and check each other’s work. In Science, it has meant everyone taking turns at the dissection but also looking at the work other groups have done and comparing it to our own. In English, it has meant buddy reading to checking each other’s work and making sure that we have achieved all of the success criteria. Whatever form our class work has taken it has always involved having to think more deeply about what we are doing and how to help our friends do it better.

In Year 4 Red...

...we have been extremely busy winning Team of the Week for the third time this term and doing a variety of different things in lessons. We have been researching and learning about the Romans in class and as part of our Topic homework. One of the subject areas we have focused on is the success of the Roman army. We used our interrogation skills to find out facts about the Roman army and we then collaborated in our teams to create posters. These informative posters have been proudly put on display in our class to celebrate our learning. Amongst all the fun and excitement, we have also been getting our heads down and doing a lot of writing. Our focus these past few weeks has been ‘Stories with a Historical Setting’. Some chose to use the Roman Empire and its surroundings as their setting, whilst others preferred to choose Ancient Egypt. Everyone managed to produce some exciting stories which have been a joy to read and all work has been displayed in the Year 4 Pod and in our classroom.
In Year 5 Red...

...we have been teaching and learning together collaboratively. We have worked well as a team to develop our own resilience, particularly when making our 'shuriken' origami stars. With a little peer teaching from our friends in Year 5 Orange, we have been making stars for our Space display. They are looking fantastic! Thank you to our friends in Orange class. When we work together as a team we can truly reach for the stars!

In Year 6 Red...

...alongside the rest of the year group, we have been working extremely hard on our production, 'We’ll Meet Again'. The story is set in World War Two and follows the tale of 5 children who have been evacuated from London to live new lives in the country. The show was a great success with parents, siblings, friends and teachers all praising the amazing talents of the cast and chorus. Special thanks should also go to the staff involved, who did an incredible job in preparing the children for this musical spectacular!
In Art...
...we have finished our incredible ‘Jungle Installation’! All the students in Years 1, 3, and 5 participated and we are all so proud of it! There are monkeys and bugs and birds; it’s like walking into a real jungle! We have focused on skills-based creativity and learning in lessons, with lots of work on drawing, painting, proportion and collage!

App of the Week
Year Four have recently started experimenting with the Stop Motion Studio app. Ultimately, we are aiming to create a short film linked to our current topic ‘There’s no place like Rome’. The Stop Motion Studio app helps you to create terrific stop action movies with a whole host of unique features. This week, we placed an object in front of the iPad, and used the Camera app to snap a photo. We then moved the object a tiny bit and snapped another photo, repeating that step as many times as needed to create enough footage for the project. We found that playing back the sequence of photos in rapid progression, allowed our object to appear to move fluidly across the screen. This app is simple to use, deceptively powerful, and a tremendous amount of fun ... so how could you enhance your studio editing skills at home, creating memorable family footage together?

Coming Up Next...
27th November – 8th December
Primary Assessment Week

Thursday 8th December
Last Day of ASAs

Sunday 18th December
Seasonal Concert

Monday 19th December
Primary Quiz & Sports Day