



# Modern English School Cairo

## Primary Newsletter

**Issue 1**

**24<sup>th</sup> September 2017**

### **Learning together, achieving together!**

Welcome back to the start of a new school year; it has been a very positive start with students showing great motivation and excitement to be in their new classes. We hope you enjoy the new format of our newsletter which will be shared with students in school so they can discover what has been happening throughout the different year groups. At MES Cairo, we strongly believe in educating our students with a fusion of excellence and enjoyment, supporting every child in striving to meet and exceed their personal goals. The articles within our weekly newsletter will give you an insight into the diversity and dynamism of lessons which can be seen in school every day.



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## In FS1 Red...

...we have had a fantastic first few weeks settling into the routines and expectations of being at school. We have already developed a love for reading and many of the children have been investigating the books in the classroom and the library. We have especially enjoyed creating colourful art work based on the books we have read as a class; they include 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' by Eric Carle, 'Night Monkey Day Monkey' by Julia Donaldson and 'Silly Billy' by Anthony Browne. We have also spent time exploring and investigating the different areas of our classroom. Dressing up in the role play area is great fun and the children particularly enjoy dressing up as different animals. In the Maths area we have used peg boards to make numbers and matched numbered cars with their parking places.







## In FS2 Red...



...we have been working really hard this week to learn our new routines. The children have shown great listening skills and maturity in settling into their new learning environment. In Maths we have been learning to count up to 20. We rolled dice and counted how many dots we had. We also practised forming numbers by fishing for different numbers and writing them down. In English, we wrote letters to Captain Spock who wants one of us to join his pirate crew. We are really excited to receive his next letter. We have also been practising our sounds in Phonics and forming letters in sand and salt. In Topic, we used our imagination and became pirates. We even had a pirate ship in the classroom and we took turns to steer the ship. We love being pirates in FS2 Red!



## In Year 1 Red...



... it has been an extremely busy few weeks! We had lots of fun revising our counting skills in Maths and writing about ourselves as part of our 'Super Me!' topic in English. Then something terrible happened... we discovered that Charlie the Camel had gone missing! Poor Miss Courtney was devastated. We don't like our friends to be sad in Year 1 so we set ourselves a mission! We knew that Charlie was in the school somewhere because we received letters saying that he had been spotted in the theatre and at Fino's bakery! We used our observation skills to go on a search of the school looking for Charlie. When we got back to the classroom we made some maps to show the route we took. Our maps helped and very soon Ms. Nicki came to give us a special assembly to let us know that naughty Charlie had been found in the swimming pool! We had great fun looking for Charlie, working in teams and improving our map skills.





## In Year 2 Red...

...we have been learning about all things creepy and crawly! As part of our 'Living Things' topic, we went on a nature walk to investigate what sort of plants and animals live in our school environment. We found a lot of bugs and flowers, but the most exciting discovery we made were some slimy snails hiding under a rock. We collected some specimens and kept them in our classroom for a few days to observe them and Ali took them home over the long weekend to make sure they didn't run out of food and water. Of course, we released them back into their habitat again when we finished making our observations.





## In Year 3 Red...



...it has been a busy but wonderful start to our first year in Key Stage 2. As part of our new topic we have travelled back in time to unlock the secrets and myths surrounding one of the greatest and most powerful civilisations in history – Ancient Egypt. So far, we have used our artistic skills to draw an impression of ourselves as mighty pharaohs. We have also used our reading skills to research and find out new facts about daily life in Ancient Egypt. Year 3 Red are extremely excited to be sharing some of these facts in their class assembly very soon!

## In Year 4 Red...

...we have some budding artists who have made a colourful start to the school year. Our classroom has been buzzing with creativity and energy. This week we have been exploring aspects of the Year 4 history topic on Ancient Romans. Mr Williams demonstrated how to use a printing technique in order to create intricate mosaic paintings. This activity requires students to be resilient and good at relationships as they work together to produce some wonderful designs. We are looking forward to many more opportunities to develop our artistic talents and showcasing our work throughout the school as the year continues.







## In Year 5 Red...

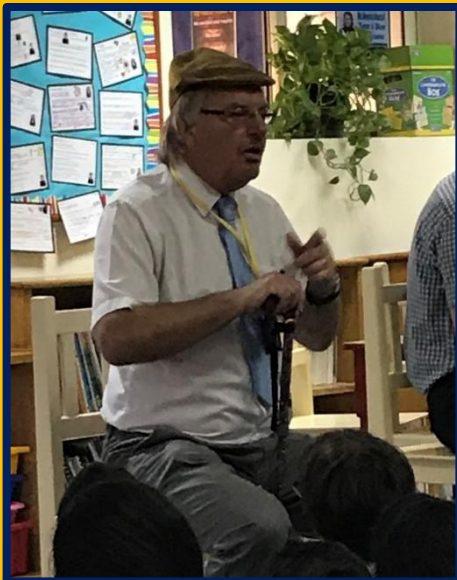


...we have had a great start to the new school year and have been fully engaged in a range of exciting lessons. This week we were looking at the relative size of the Earth, Sun and Moon. Lots of discussion took place about which one we thought was the biggest and why. Everyone was shocked and there were lots of gasps of surprise when we realised exactly how big the Sun is compared to both the Earth and the Moon. We watched a fascinating video showing each of the spherical bodies scaled down and then Miss Nina used a pair of compasses to draw each of them scaled down even further. Our next step will be to have a go at drawing scale diagrams of the planets on our own!





## In Year 6 Red...



...we have been settling into a new year, our last year in the Primary Section. As part of this process, we have been completing some getting to know you activities as well as establishing our expectations for the year. Everyone has thought about what they would like to achieve before the end of the year, ensuring we are all aiming high in our learning. We have started our topic on World War 2 and we were really excited last week to have an evacuee called Barry come and talk to us about his experiences of what it was like during the war, especially when he had to leave his family and move to the countryside away from the bombing. This has helped with our understanding of evacuation and provided ideas to plan for our assembly which is coming up very soon at the beginning of October. We are certainly looking forward to all of the wonderful opportunities and experiences that Year 6 has to offer.





## In Music...

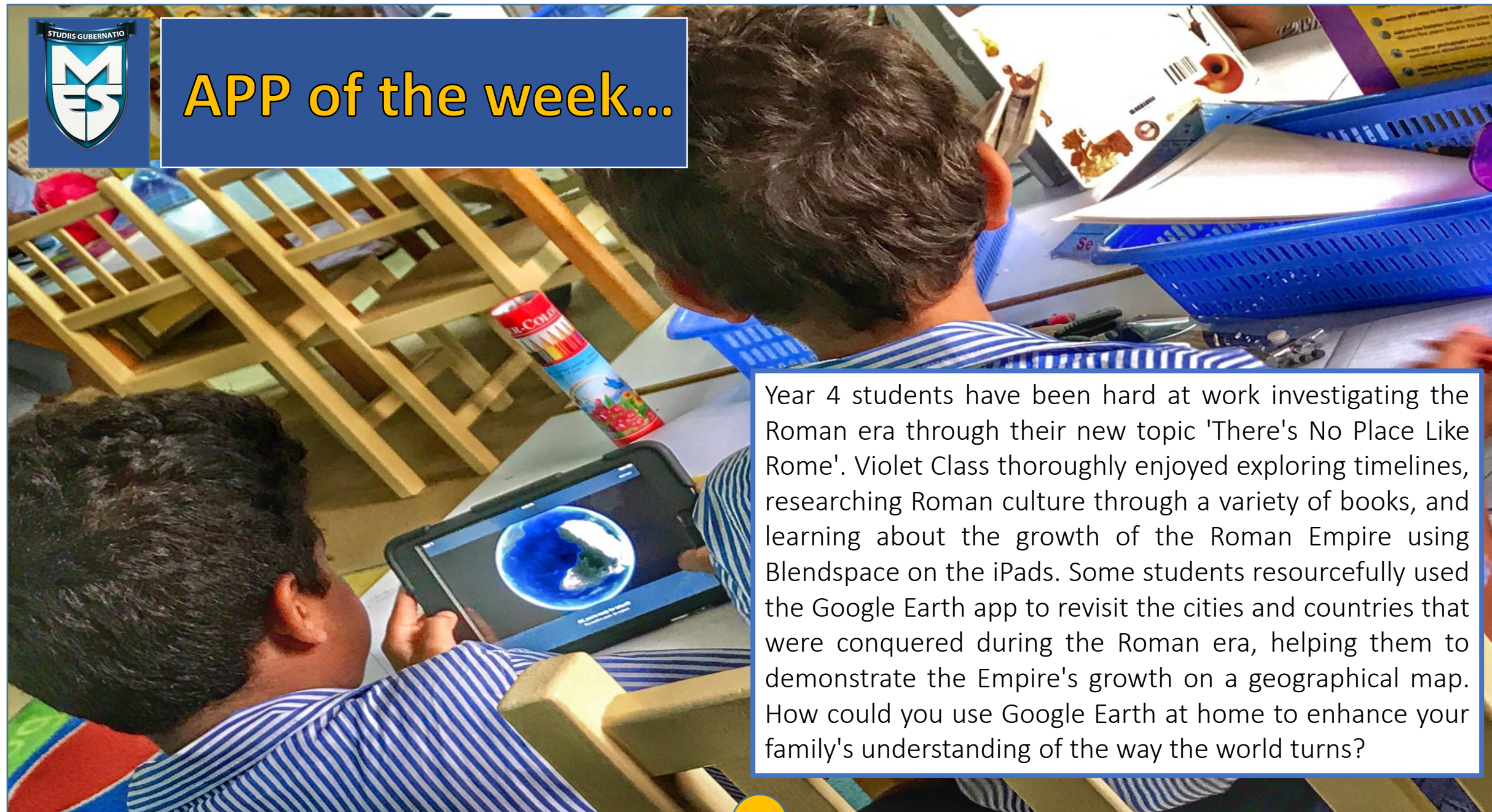
All Year 3 students have begun their introduction to playing the recorder. They have successfully managed to find their first two notes and will now begin working towards their first 'karate' belt. Karate belts are awarded for successful performances of differentiated pieces of music. With each piece performed to the expected level, they receive a yellow, orange, green or black belt. So, a 'note' of advice to all Year 3 students, "Practise, practise practise!"







## APP of the week...



Year 4 students have been hard at work investigating the Roman era through their new topic 'There's No Place Like Rome'. Violet Class thoroughly enjoyed exploring timelines, researching Roman culture through a variety of books, and learning about the growth of the Roman Empire using Blendspace on the iPads. Some students resourcefully used the Google Earth app to revisit the cities and countries that were conquered during the Roman era, helping them to demonstrate the Empire's growth on a geographical map. How could you use Google Earth at home to enhance your family's understanding of the way the world turns?



# Coming Up Next...

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October**

Staff In-service days (School closed to students)

**Monday October 9<sup>th</sup> to Thursday October 12<sup>th</sup>**

Primary Science Week

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> October**

Year 5 Concert

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> October**

Primary Parents' Day