



Modern English School Cairo

Primary Newsletter

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Play Leaders Leading the Way!

The popular initiative Play Leaders has once again come to the Primary Section playground! This year, it features 12 students from Year 6, all of whom applied for the role. Their applications were excellent and the students chosen also demonstrated high levels of responsibility during classes and the ability to become role models for their younger peers. The Play Leaders will be teaching some amazing games and activities to younger students in Yard 4 over the coming weeks and helping them engage in fun, cooperative play. The activities will also give students the chance to make new friends and learn new skills which they can then use during PE lessons, and indeed outside of school. We are also looking forward to introducing the Play Leaders initiative to Key Stage 1 next term, which will see 12 students selected from Year 3 working with students from Years 1 and 2.





In FS1 Green...

... we are enjoying our topic People Who Help Us and this week we are focussing on people who help us in the local community. We were very excited to receive a visit from two police officers and their motorbikes. We learned the importance of wearing a helmet while riding the motorbike and more importantly the number to call if you need to telephone the police which is 122!





In FS2 Green...

...we have been learning about dinosaurs and the theories about why they became extinct. One theory which we were particularly interested in was that the dinosaurs died as a result of the eruption of massive volcanoes. We used the volcano model from the science lab to understand how volcanoes erupt. Next, the children learned about chemical reactions to make a colourful volcanic eruption by using baking soda and red vinegar. It looked brilliant and the children took turns to try it themselves. In Maths, we have been learning how to solve addition problems in practical activities. The children used dominoes to find the sums of numbers and practised using other tools such as counters, abacuses and number lines to find their answers. Finally, they used the caterpillar food from 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' story to create their own addition problems.





In Year 1 Green...

...we have been learning about the artist John Klee and exploring the technique of tinting. This involves adding white paint to change the shade of another colour. We then used this technique to create African sunsets which is linked to our English topic of writing a story set in an African country. Finally, we added animals which we had coloured to create a true African safari image.





In Year 2 Green...

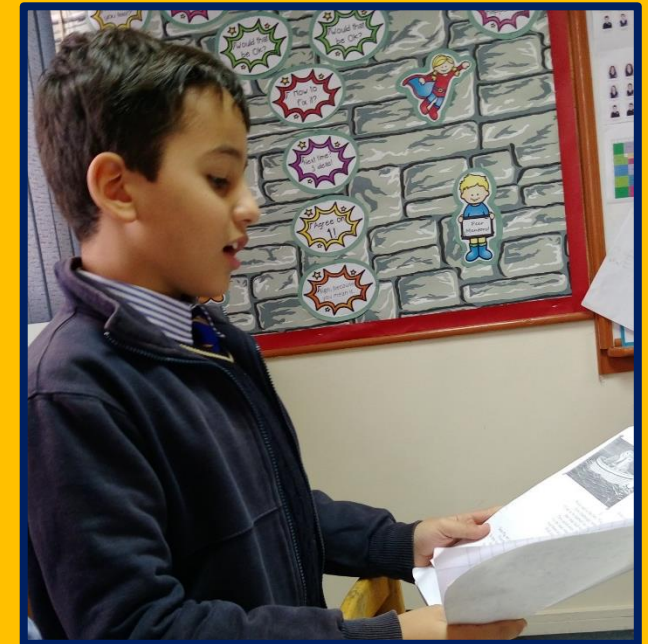
...we had a wonderful day on our adventure to the Wadi Environmental Science Centre (WESC). The purpose of the trip was to extend our learning about animals and the habitats in which they live. All of the Year 2 students made their teachers very proud with impeccable behaviour whilst also learning many new facts on the day. Activities included: visiting a wormery, studying the life cycle of butterflies and tortoises and making a freshly prepared salad dish from fresh vegetables and fruit grown on the farm. Each of the pictures below 'tells a story' about our fantastic educational visit to WESC.





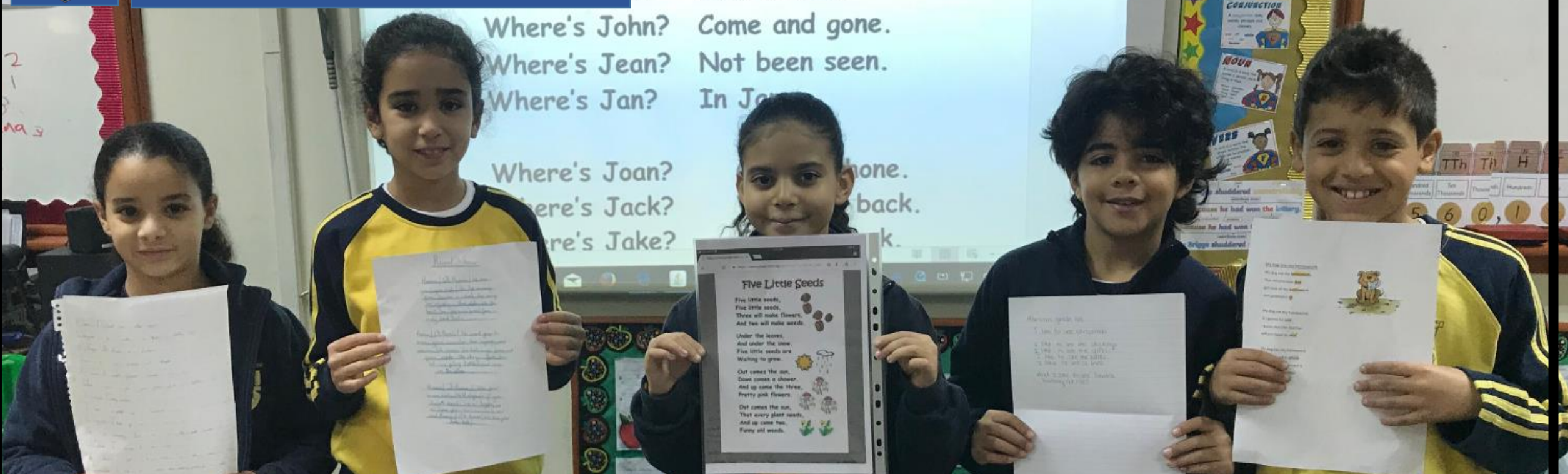
In Year 3 Green...

...we are busy preparing for our Poetry Idol competition. We began our poetry unit by writing some poems ourselves and exploring rhyming words. Then we began to practise the art of poetry recitals. We have been studying 'The Owl and the Pussycat' because of its rich and expressive use of language. It has been great fun hearing the performance skills of individual children developing and growing as they became more familiar with the text and more confident in their abilities. One of the main benefits of studying poetry is the support it gives children with their comprehension skills. The language used is complex and full of symbolism; then, as we rehearse, the students performances reveal the meaning of the poem, in ways that are easier for young children to understand.





In Year 4 Green...



...we have started to learn a new genre based on poetry. We have analysed the main features that poems may contain including, rhyming patterns, repetition, verse, alliteration, similes, metaphors and rhythm. Next, we looked at what features make a poem interesting and good to read aloud. We particularly enjoyed listening to humorous poetry and listened to John Toczec recite his poem 'Cars in Cairo'. He is a famous poet who has visited our school in the past. The part about Tutankhamun and tooting car men is hilarious. Nick has made some very clever word choices. Now, we are preparing to recite various poems and looking forward to sharing them with other classes.



In Year 5 Green...



...we have been carrying out our own scientific experiments based on air resistance. We worked in groups and designed an experiment to test the effects of air resistance on different parachutes. Some of the different variables we tested were: size of parachute; length of the string with the parachute; and changing the parachute materials. We thoroughly enjoyed taking part in this series of lessons and have been encouraged to put our scientific brains to the test. Mr Jake reminded us to focus on displaying the 5Rs as we worked through the different stages of the experiment.



In Year 6 Green...



...we have been looking at stories with a historical setting as part of our learning in English lessons this week. Green class have enjoyed learning about the features of the genre, reading examples of historical stories and learning about how to improve our writing to ensure the stories that we write are fantastic! In the picture we were working hard to practise our expanded noun phrases and building cohesion across paragraphs.



In Pioneers...



...our Year 5 students have been exploring the importance of balance and its impact on a healthy lifestyle. We have had lots of fun learning different relaxed positions with our Yoga teachers. We have relied on our friends to support us on our relaxation journey as well as creating our lavender scented pillows. It has been really useful to discuss different ways to relax in the classroom or at home after a challenging training session. Through controlled breathing, concentration and focus, we have been able to reach new heights some of us did not think possible on our own.



APP of the week

In Year 2, we have been practising our research skills using a QR code reader on the internet. There were five different QR codes hidden around the pod, each with a link to a video or website relating to our topic. Then we used the information to answer a fun quiz. We really loved being independent and doing the research ourselves!





Coming Up Next...

Wednesday 3rd January

First Day Term Two

Sunday 7th January

Coptic Christmas – School closed

Monday 15th and Tuesday 16th January

Primary Parents Meetings

Sunday 21st January

Term 2 ASAs begin