



# Modern English School Cairo

## Primary Newsletter

**Issue 12**

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### Dear Future Me

As we commence the beginning of another exciting term at Modern English School Cairo, the Primary Student Council are thrilled to launch their first ever letter writing competition in collaboration with BSME. The theme for the event is 'Dear Future Me - Wishes for Our World' which will hopefully inspire and challenge students to embrace their creative side through the art of letter writing. Children who enter the competition will write a letter to their future self; set a goal; make a prediction about the world and share their hopes and dreams. The response from schools across the Middle East has already been very positive and we are excited about the different aspects of the competition which our students will experience such as judging the entries and preparing their own examples of work to be entered into the competition. We will keep you posted on the exciting events which are planned later in the term!





## In FS1 Violet...

...we are learning about animals. We talked about how we should be kind and gentle towards animals. Together we decided to create a veterinary clinic where we would be able to use our imagination to take care of the animals. We gathered all the resources and put them together. In the clinic, we wrote medical report cards for the animals and gave them medicine to make them feel better. We also included our toy kitchen as a medicine bench which had pretend pet food for the animals and all the medical equipment we needed. We enjoyed creating this role play area and coming up with our own ideas. We are looking forward to our next project!







## In FS2 Violet...

...we have had a busy week as we started our new topic Food Around the World. The first country on our learning journey was Italy so we have been exploring interesting facts about the country and discovering Italian food. We enjoyed making cut out pizzas with our favourite toppings. We also created our own art work inspired by the Mona Lisa which was originally painted by the famous Italian Renaissance artist, Leonardo da Vinci. We talked about what the girl in the original painting may have been feeling and we agreed that she seemed to be smiling. Every day we do Funky Fingers activities to develop our fine motor skills. We always listen to energising music when we are doing our Funky Fingers activities which makes them lots of fun!





## In Year 1 Violet...

...we have been learning about measuring using standard units and non-standard units. To start the week off we began to measure things around the classroom using non-standard units. We used counters, pegs and cubes to measure lots of different things, including ourselves, it was such great fun. Then we learned about using centimetres to measure and began to measure things using rulers to help us count how many centimetres long things were. We measured everything from stationary to water bottles! Finally we had a go at measuring volume in millilitres by putting some water into measuring jugs and reading carefully how much water was inside according to which line the water came up to.







## In Year 2 Violet...



...we had a very exciting week making life rafts as part of our Inventors and Inventions topic and then putting our creations to the test. The children collected a wide range of materials to make the life rafts and we used a paddling pool filled with water to test them. We tested them on whether they floated or not and also how much weight they could carry before they sank. We had a lot of fun doing this. We also learnt about estimation, both physical and on a number line in Maths lessons. In English, we started to learn about how to write a letter and by the end of the unit everyone in the class will have written a letter to someone who lives in China. We are really looking forward to the replies to find out what life is like in a different country. Science saw us learning about materials and we completed a learning walk around school manipulating different objects and recording the evidence.





## In Year 3 Violet...



...we have begun our writing unit based on instructions and the lessons have been filled with lots of fun learning experiences so far. We have discovered all about imperative verbs and how to use them accurately in our writing as well as the importance of time connectives in giving instructions. Last week, we had to write informative instructions on how to make a sandwich but in order to understand the process thoroughly, we decided to make our own sandwiches beforehand. Everyone agreed that the sandwiches tasted delicious!





## In Year 4 Violet...



...we have started investigating our new Maths topic, measuring mass, length, and capacity. We visited the KS2 Science Room this week to use a variety of resources and tools to help us estimate and measure capacity. We resourcefully selected different beakers and jugs to pour water into, and reflectively guessed and documented our measurement estimations in our Maths workbooks. To be resilient and challenge our skills in using measures, we then had to convert our millilitre measurements into litres. This was another superb example of our class displaying their collaborative skills to rotate resources, discuss challenging questions and peer assess each other's work.



## In Year 5 Violet...

...we have been really busy creating a sculpture based on the work of a famous Taiwanese artist called Ju Ming. The sculpture is called 'Men with Umbrellas' and it is situated amidst an open space in Ju Ming's museum which is located just outside Taiwan's capital city Taipei. Miss Pearl has actually visited the museum and she told us about how the piece of art work also serves as a shelter from the rain as well as a beautiful picnic space on sunny days. Many of the children expressed that they would like to visit Taiwan one day. Working in groups, we created one of the figures, planning our own designs and resourcing all the materials required. This was another great example of wonderful teamwork!







## In Year 6 Violet...



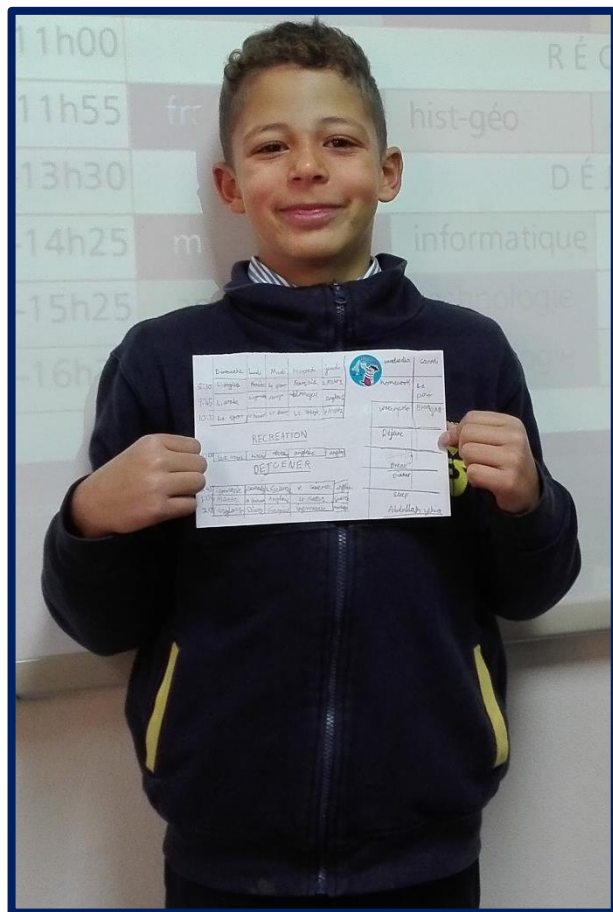
...a new term has brought about a brand new topic to study - Ancient Greece. Our art sessions this week have provided Year 6 Violet with a much-needed opportunity to switch off from the Ministry exams, for which they have worked their socks off! Taking inspiration from Ancient Greek vessels, we sketched scenes of popular modern-day pastimes in our sketchbooks. We then transferred these images by 'engraving' them onto painted sheets. Finally, we added geometric patterns to our Greek-influenced pots. It is amazing to see our students coping so well with the demands of the week, whilst still producing excellent artwork. Well done Year 6 Violet!





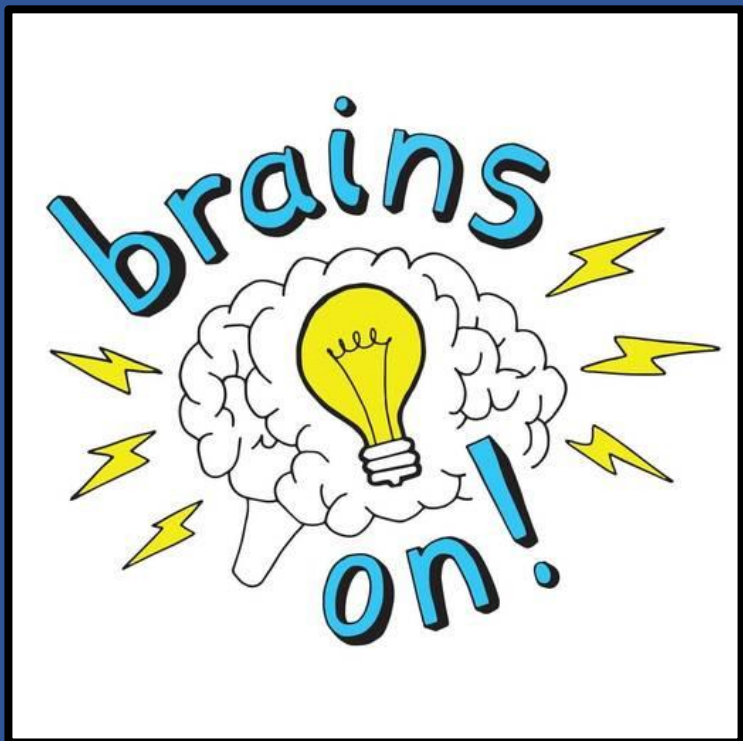
## In French...

...this week Year 4 students have been revising the days of the week and learning school subjects. We also created our class timetable in French. The most colourful and inspirational of these timetables will be displayed in the French classroom. Students undertook this activity with enthusiasm and helped each other translate the subjects. They followed an example on the interactive whiteboard but were creative in their work. They also learned the words for break, lunch and the times in French. They were able to compare their own timetables with those of typical French students. It was observed that some of the subjects are the same but that there are many differences between the French and British school systems. We can see that our lives are quite similar in some ways to students living in Paris or Lyon!





# App of the Week



Brains On! is a popular science podcast for curious kids and adults who like to spend time unravelling the mysteries of science. It is supported by the National Science Foundation and receives very positive reviews from students across the globe. The podcast is co-hosted each week by student scientists and reporters from public radio. They ask questions ranging from the science behind sneezing to how to translate the purr of cats, and go wherever the answers may take them. The podcast can be bought as an app or accessed using the following website - <https://www.brainson.org/>





# Coming Up Next...

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> January**

Term 2 ASAs begin

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> January**

Police Forces Day – School closed

**Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January**

FS2 Production

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February**

Primary Peri Showcase