



Modern English School Cairo

Primary Newsletter

Issue 3

8th October 2017

Learning for the Future!

From learning a new language, to keeping up with homework assignments and research for Topic lessons, using technology can help you get through it all with ease. The great thing about integrating ICT into lessons across the curriculum is that there's so many different ways to do it, and this ensures that students at MES Cairo, come to school excited about the activities taking place in their classrooms each day! This week's newsletter is full of tremendous examples of children being inspired and encouraged to try new things in ICT to support their progress in all the academic, personal and social experiences that are provided for them. Students are particularly excited to share their learning experiences within our new learning platform, Google Classrooms. Have a look online to see what has been happening!



In This Issue

Page 1

Learning for the Future

Pages 2 - 3

Foundation Stage Magic Moments

Pages 4 -5

Key Stage 1 Magic Moments

Pages 6 - 9

Key Stage 2 Magic Moments

Page 10

ICT Magic Moments

Page 11

App of the Week

Page 12

Coming Up Next



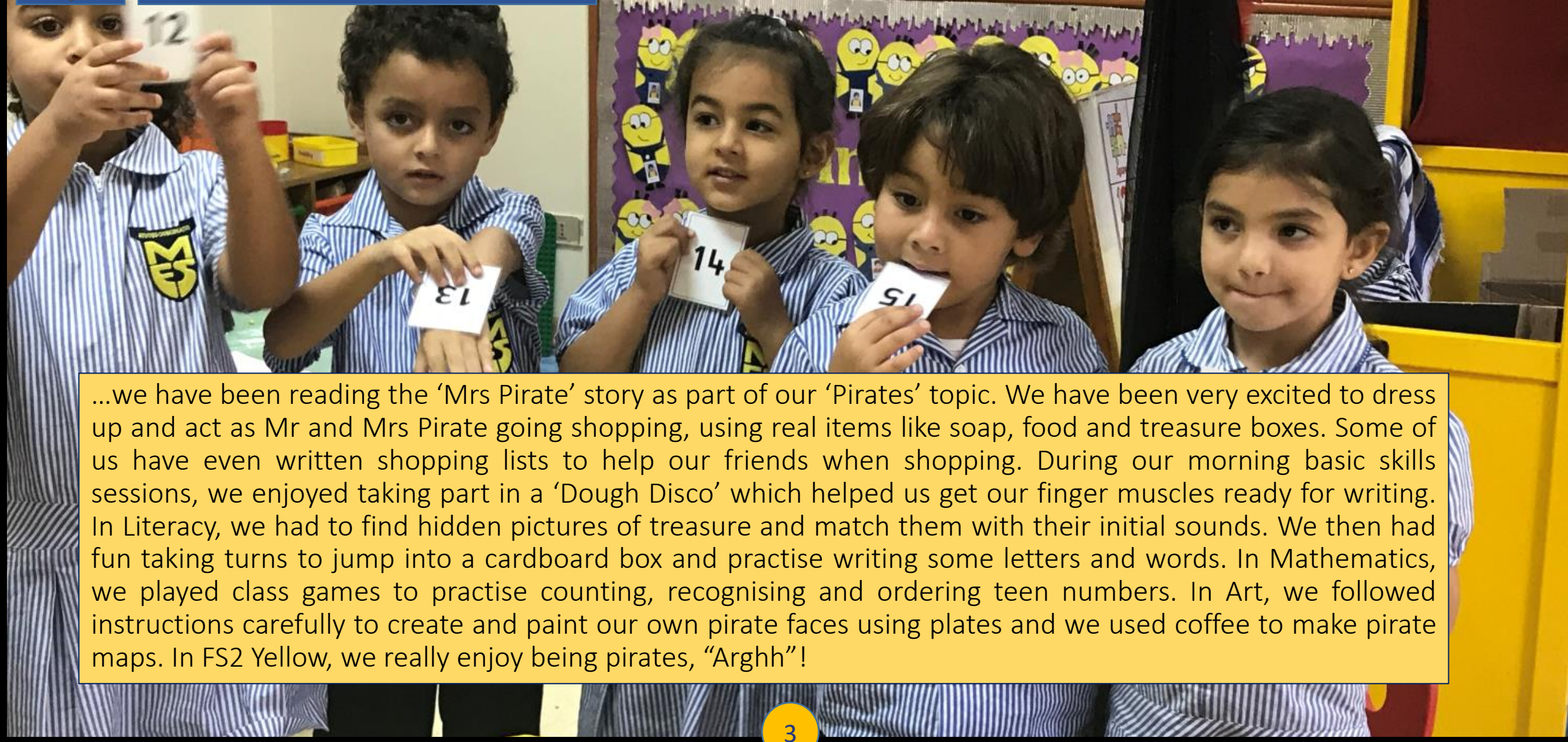
In FS1 Yellow...

...we have been exploring how to use ICT in our learning! Students have been using a Blendspace on the interactive whiteboard to choose songs for music and movement activities in the classroom. In the Pod, they have been exploring games on the 'Busy Things' website and trying to develop their mouse control skills in order to select games to play. The students have also been learning to access prerecorded fairy tales by pressing play on the headphones. Finally, some students discovered talk tins and they started to record messages to each other. Several students even sang a little song for their friend to listen to!





In FS2 Yellow...

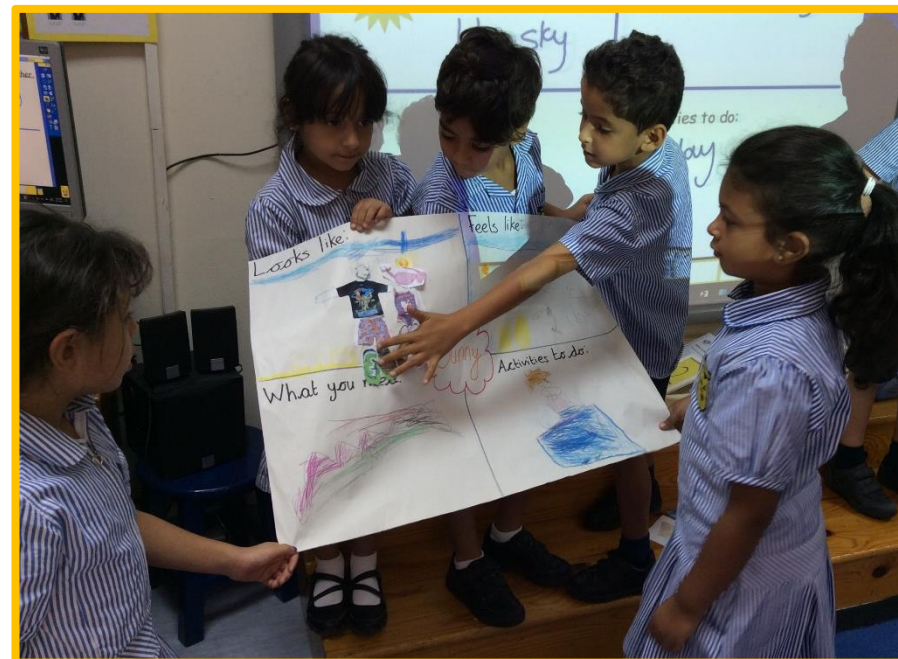


...we have been reading the 'Mrs Pirate' story as part of our 'Pirates' topic. We have been very excited to dress up and act as Mr and Mrs Pirate going shopping, using real items like soap, food and treasure boxes. Some of us have even written shopping lists to help our friends when shopping. During our morning basic skills sessions, we enjoyed taking part in a 'Dough Disco' which helped us get our finger muscles ready for writing. In Literacy, we had to find hidden pictures of treasure and match them with their initial sounds. We then had fun taking turns to jump into a cardboard box and practise writing some letters and words. In Mathematics, we played class games to practise counting, recognising and ordering teen numbers. In Art, we followed instructions carefully to create and paint our own pirate faces using plates and we used coffee to make pirate maps. In FS2 Yellow, we really enjoy being pirates, "Arghh"!



In Year 1 Yellow...

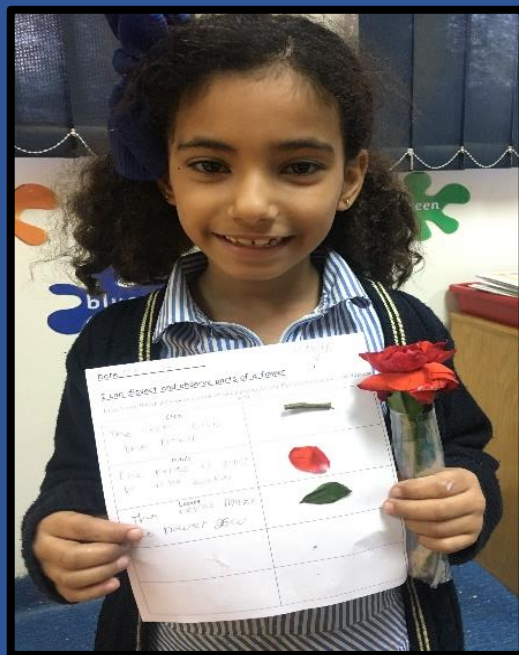
... we have had a wonderful start to the year and an extremely busy week since it was our class assembly this week. We worked hard to put our assembly together using all the 5Rs to support and help us prepare. We were reflective and examined our own behaviour to help decide what we thought would be good rules to follow in school. We were resilient when learning our lines and practising every day to get it right. We had to rely on our relationship skills when working together as a team, and helping each other to remember our cues and lines, and in some cases had to be resourceful to correct mistakes and deal with little problems that arose. And of course we were risk takers, especially since this was the first class assembly of the year, and we were the first to take the stage and perform. It was great fun and we hope that everyone loved the story of 'Clark the Shark' as much as we did. We have also been really busy with our learning: practicing reading and writing numbers to 100, learning about Egypt and its geography, preparing weather forecast videos and working on our 'Super Me' project in English.





In Year 2 Yellow...

...we have been learning about 'living things' as part of our Science topic. We went on a wonderful nature walk around the school grounds to search for insects, their habitats and plants. This week, we dissected our own plants to identify the different parts of a plant and what their functions are. In addition to this, we carried out an experiment to understand what plants need to grow. Mr Fayeze from the Secondary Science Department came to help us with our experiment so that we could investigate what would happen if a plant had no oxygen.





In Year 3 Yellow...

...we enjoy visiting the computer room each week for our ICT lesson. This week, we have been learning how to access the 'Read Theory' and 'Spelling City' programmes so we can work on these at home and in Guided Reading lessons. The Read Theory programme continually assesses us and gives us texts set at our own level which then provide us with an exciting challenge as we always try to do our best and improve upon our previous scores. In Spelling City, there are games, activities and self-assessment opportunities, encouraging and helping us to constantly improve in our writing.



In Year 4 Yellow...

...we have made a fantastic start to the year with our new topic all about The Romans. We first learnt how a toilet roll is a very useful tool when studying History (look at the picture or ask children to explain). Their enthusiasm has been fired by tales of invasion, occupation and a sophisticated lifestyle in the villas of the Roman world. They investigated Roman society and were either pleased to be a Senator, Patrician or Equestrian, or became resigned to the role of slave, where they had to serve their fellow classmates. The students have learnt all about how the Roman army was organised and what soldiers had to do. Some even thought they would have been keen to join up if they had been alive in Roman times. Research skills have also been developed, both at school and at home, resulting in some excellent posters which, as well as containing fascinating facts about famous Romans, are certainly making our classroom very colourful!





In Year 5 Yellow...

...we have been learning about different explorers in our History topic 'The Big, The Bold and The Brave.' This week we investigated the life of Marco Polo (the merchant) and his travels from Venice to China. We explored a range of sources to research factual information. We discovered that historians require a range of sources, however, we also realised that some research we used had conflicting or different information. To experiment with this idea further, we played a game of 'Whispers' to demonstrate how information can become altered with inaccuracies accumulating as the message goes on. We thoroughly enjoyed taking a few minutes to clarify and demonstrate these inaccuracies first hand. It also clarified that not everything we read on the internet is 100% accurate!





In Year 6 Yellow...



...we have settled into the new academic year extremely well. We are eagerly learning all about electricity in our science lessons and are thoroughly enjoying our World War Two topic so far. As part of our Topic work we have explored a time line of key events, learnt all about The Blitz alongside finding out what life was like for evacuees during the war. Here are some pictures of us using our design skills to create some World War Two gas masks!



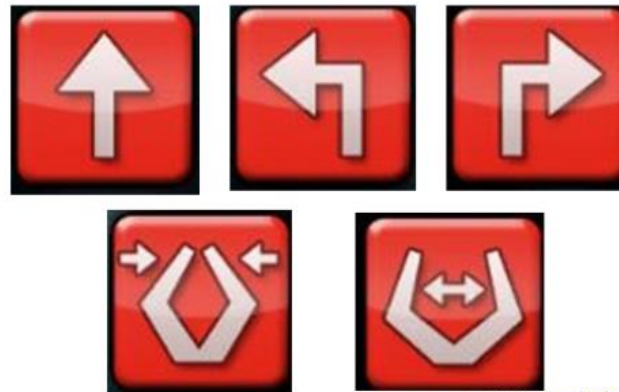


In ICT...

...Year 2 students have been extending their programming skills through Lego's 'Fix the Factory' game. The children had to work together to decide a step by step solution for each tricky level. Then they built a program using the commands shown in red. When they ran the program they looked out for bugs to fix. Well done to all the Year 2 students for their great team work and super programming!



Be the robot!!

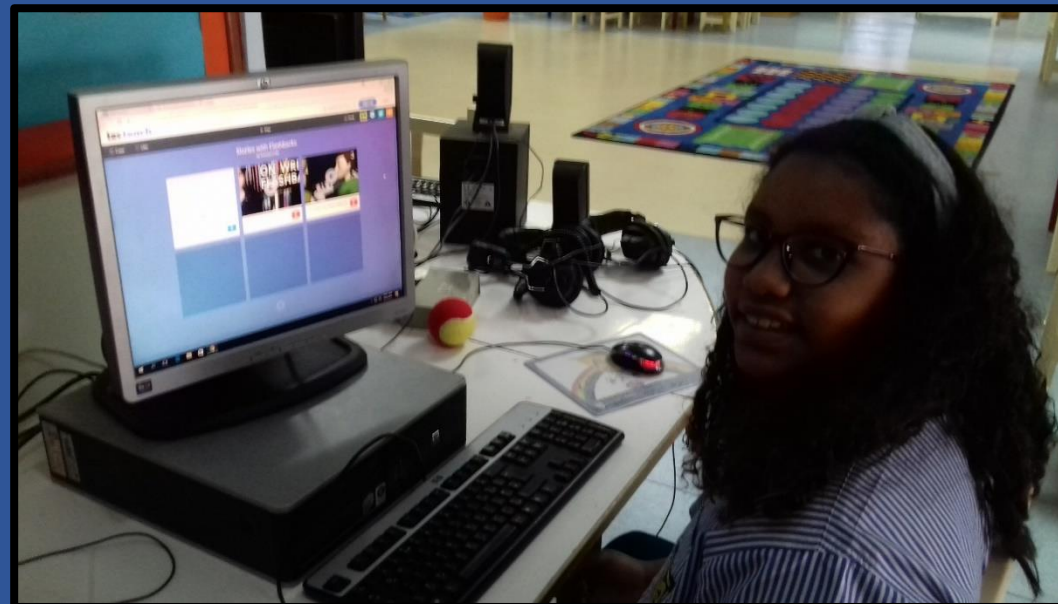


Algorithm
Program
Execute
Debug



APP of the week...

...Blendspace is a free online etool for curating learning resources such as: websites, YouTube videos, Google images, quizzes, PowerPoints and information documents. Blendspace allows for the searching of materials available on the internet as well the uploading of materials then dragging and dropping resources onto a viewing gallery. Blendspace can be used by teachers to present information for any subject; students can access any Blendspace page when provided with the url link by their teacher. With the arrival of Google Classrooms, students can easily access this great learning tool via their class stream. Recently, a group of students in Year 6 Blue used a Blendspace about 'Stories with Flashbacks' in order to research and present to the class about how to use flashbacks effectively in a story, as well as highlighting the reasons for using flashbacks in writing.





Coming Up Next...

Sunday 15th October
Year 5 Concert

Thursday 19th October
PINK Day

Monday 23rd October
Primary Parents' Day

Friday 27th October to Saturday 4th November
Mid Term 1 Break