



Modern English School Cairo

Primary Newsletter



Issue 5

22nd October 2017

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Pink for a Day!

Last week, the whole school community was united in raising awareness of vital Breast Cancer research, prevention and support as part of Pink Day on Thursday 19th October. Students and staff had the opportunity to purchase T-shirts, pink ribbons and cupcakes, with all profits going towards the Breast Cancer Foundation of Egypt (BCFE). As well as the fundraising activities, students in the Primary Section engaged in a range of fun activities during break times, which had a focus on health, fitness and well-being. One aspect of our whole school mission statement is to 'care' and through the meaningful support and commitment our students have shown to this important cause, it is clear to see how their enthusiasm always contributes to making our school a great place to be!





In FS1 Blue...



...we have been exploring 2D shapes and having fun learning all about their properties and names through play. We made shapes using coloured sticks, straws and cotton buds. We also used shapes to create simple representations of everyday objects such as houses, kites, planets and boats. Not only did we enjoy all of these challenging maths activities in class we went on a shape hunt in different parts of the school and we discovered that shapes are around us everywhere!



In FS2 Blue...



...we have been very excited to start our computing lessons in the ICT suite. All of the children enjoy this lesson and are trying really hard to improve their mouse control. We have played different painting games on the 'Busy Things' website to help strengthen these skills. For example, we have coloured dinosaur pictures, made funny faces and painted pictures of pirates. It has also been wonderful to see the children help each other during lessons by sharing ideas and explaining how to complete a task. Every week, we focus on new computer related vocabulary such as mouse, keyboard, projector, space bar and cursor. As the children's safety is our number one priority we have talked about how to stay safe online. We read a story called 'Smartie the Penguin' which covered topics such as online advertising, cyber bullying and inappropriate websites.



In Year 1 Blue...



...we have been learning all about countries and maps. They will soon be diving deeper into cultures and traditions as well. Luckily, they got the chance to learn about Ancient Egypt on a trip to the Pharaonic village. The students were extremely excited and eager to find out how our Egyptian ancestors used to live thousands of years ago; with no video games, telephones, books, and definitely no internet. On their trip they got to enjoy an educational boat ride that helped them understand how Pharaohs used to plant, fish, paint and build houses, boats and statues out of minimal resources. The students then explored three different museums to further expand their knowledge on this ancient civilisation. They spent time understanding how people of different social statuses used to live in harmony, and also got the chance to wander around a king's house. Shortly after, the students learned about the processes of mummification, building boats and building the pyramids. After a long, fun and educational day, the students came back to school with the feeling of fulfillment from both acquiring new knowledge as well as having a fun time.



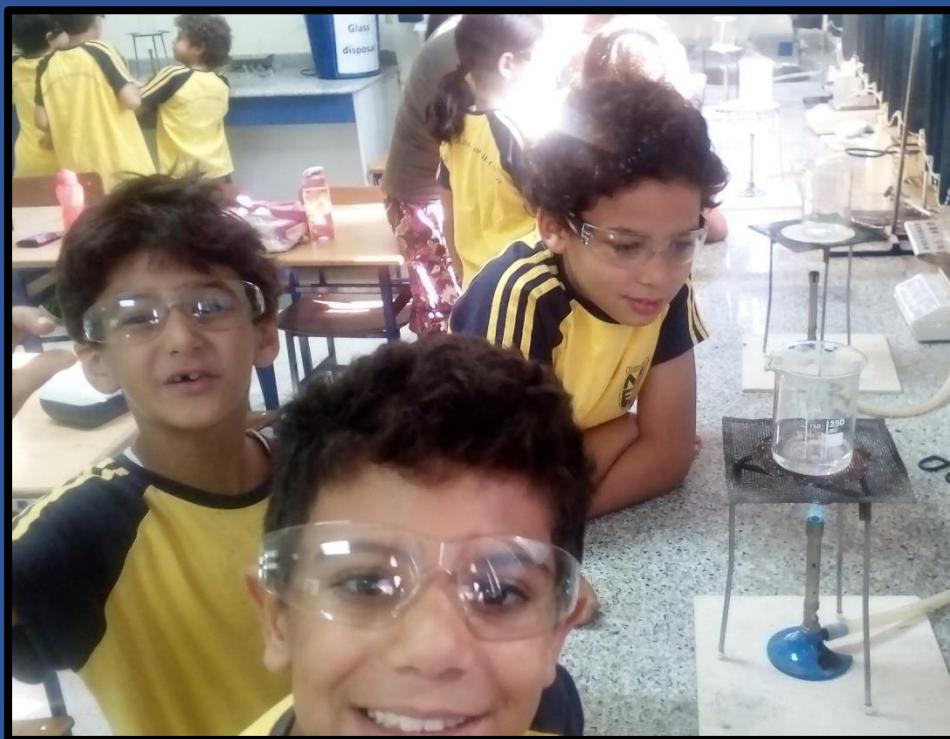
In Year 2 Blue...

...we have been busy creating pom pom spiders! Spiders both fascinate and frighten people so to help us understand more about them we have been learning about their habitats and the things they need to survive. We were surprised to discover that spiders are not insects – they actually belong to a group of animals called arachnids. When we completed our pom pom spiders, we went on a learning walk around the school to see if we could find places for our spiders to live. We noticed that there are lots of high places which spiders might consider to be an ideal habitat. The spiders also had space to create their webs so that they can catch their tasty dinners as tiny insects fly past!

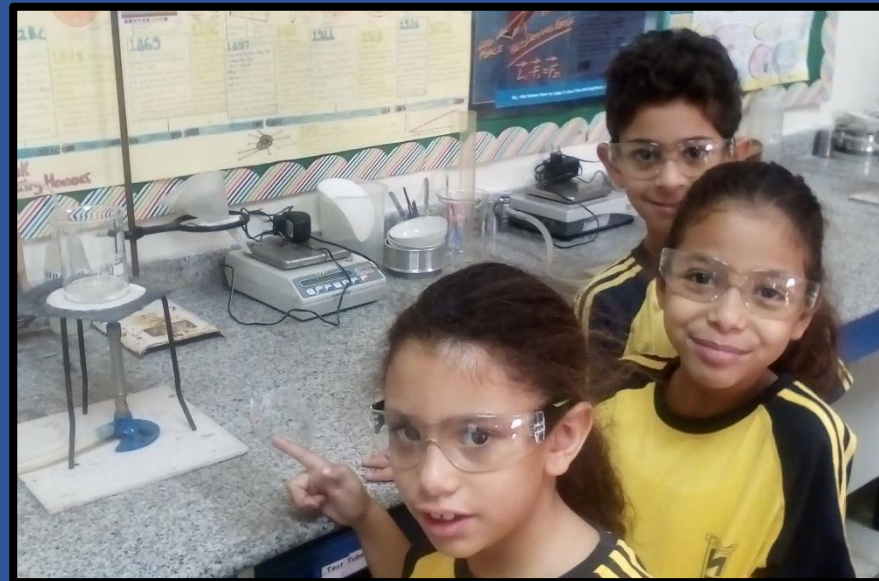




In Year 3 Blue...



... the students continue to be inspired by their science week project all about water pollution and how we can keep our rivers and oceans clean. One of the most important aspects of this topic, is the fact that everybody should have access to clean drinking water. In support of this idea, we made water purifiers out of recycled bottles, sand and rocks. We experimented with this idea even further when we visited Secondary and used one of their science laboratories. We were very excited because we got to use Bunsen burners to melt ice into water and then into steam. We learnt all about the different states of matter, and we were even able to condense the steam back into water again. Many thanks to the Secondary Science Department for inviting us to visit.





In Year 4 Blue...



... we have been identifying the features of news reports as part of our lessons in English. We have linked this learning to our current topic and the news report we will write independently will be about the exciting discovery of a Roman artefact. Some of the students pretended to be news readers and practised using fronted adverbials such as, 'just before sunbreak' and the other students were eye witnesses who composed quotes ready to be included in their own newspaper article next week. The photographs which were taken will be added to the report with captions. Ms Samantha was particularly impressed with how well the students in Year 4 Blue used the 5Rs in their work and collaborated as a team.





In Year 5 Blue...

...we have had a very busy week starting with the amazing Year 5 Concert. The fun didn't end there as we cooked delicious vegetable dumplings in the kitchen and enjoyed an entertaining visit to the Sitara Theatre Company for a workshop called, 'Lost In Space'. We had a wonderful time watching the show and we even learnt a new acrostic to help us order the planets; 'My Very Evil Monkey Just Sent Us Nowhere'. This was the most diverse and exciting week of learning so far this year in Year 5 Blue and we are looking forward to the next set of adventures and learning opportunities ahead!





In Year 6 Blue...

...we have been enjoying life with BYOD! Students have been maximising the capabilities of their own devices by bringing them to class everyday and using them almost every lesson. Via Google Classroom, students have accessed instructional videos, Blendspaces, online games and educational blogs. Students have had quick access to Google Classroom etools within the classroom setting and therefore the class does not need to move to a computing suite to get connected. It's hard to imagine what life was like in Year 6 Blue before BYOD. This is what some of our students had to say about it:

'It's a great opportunity to save paper.' Gamila

'We have more fun using our devices.' Hamza





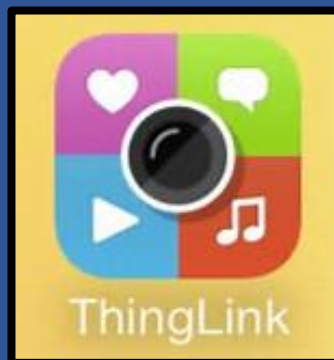
In ASAs...



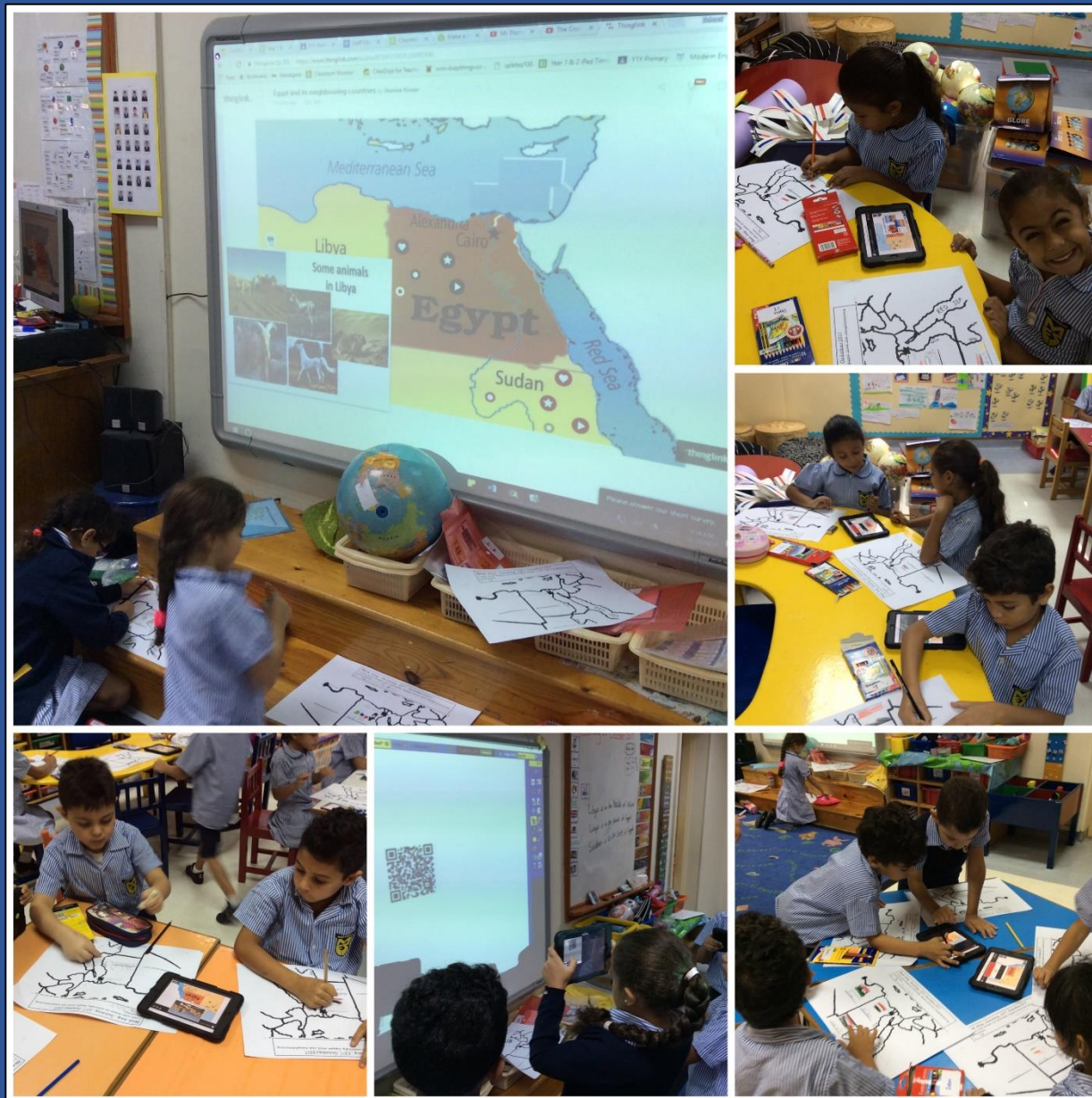
...we got off to a terrific start and ASAs will continue to run until 22nd November 2017. At Modern English School Cairo, we offer a wide range of activities including sports, academics, arts and music for age groups ranging from Year 2 to Year 6 students. With over 550 students attending ASAs this term, we have even been able to include additional classes of the same ASA! Our Year 2 students in Cooking Club are making very tasty dishes and desserts. We appreciate the great work of the Photography Club students who took pictures of the other After School Activities for the newsletter and the display outside the Sports Hall. The students in Mr Phil's Chess Club are not only developing their strategic chess skills, they are also improving their IT skills, using the computers to enhance their experience. In Ms William's Story Time Club our Primary students are offered the opportunity to listen to our Secondary students reading exciting stories to them in the library. In our Team Sports: Football, Tennis, Yoga and Country Dance After School Activities, our students find time to get fit, improving their fitness skills. We would also like to use this opportunity to say, 'THANK YOU' to the Secondary School mentors who have been doing an outstanding job supporting our Primary students and teachers in their After School Activities.



APP of the week



In Year 1, we are always coming up with innovative ways to teach ICT. Last week, we used the QR app on the iPads to scan a QR code which then took us automatically to the 'Thinglink' program. Our learning activity was to use the 'Thinglink' links to carry out research on Egypt and its neighbouring countries, Libya and Sudan. We found out lots of different facts including their capital cities and what their flags look like. At the end of the lesson, we made posters to display our findings.





Coming Up Next...

Friday 27th October to Saturday 4th November

Mid Term 1 Break

Sunday 5th – Thursday 9th November

Winter Uniform Changeover

Sunday 12th November

Remembrance Day Event

Thursday 16th November

Year 6 Production

Thursday 23rd November

Thanksgiving (School closed)