



Modern English School Cairo

Primary Newsletter

Issue 7

19th November 2017

Swimming Success

Last week brought much success for some of our Year 6 students who competed in the Cairo Swimming Championship. The three-day event saw over 700 swimmers from all over Cairo compete in a variety of races. The following children worked incredibly hard to compete in the Championship: Yasmine Hossam, Alia Sabaa, Yassin Tarek, Mahmoud El Walid, Khadija Abdel Hamid, Hamza Darwish, Abdelkader Mohamed, Adam Hamoda, Ali Fekry, Nour Fekry and Hamza Ali. Yasmine came second in the 50m breaststroke and Alia came fifth in the 50m backstroke. Mahmoud won two gold medals for the 200m backstroke and the 4 x 100m medley, as well silver and bronze for the 50m and 100m backstroke and the 4 x 100m freestyle mix. We are extremely proud of all our dedicated swimmers at MES Cairo.



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In FS1 Red...



...we have been investigating different types of air transport and using these ideas as our inspiration to produce some fantastic pieces of art work. At the start of the week, we made beautiful kites using paper, string, straws, sparkly sequins and tissue paper. We also created superb blow painting pictures; we watered down the paint and used straws to splash the paint onto the paper, which made some very effective patterns. In our innovative construction area of the classroom, we explored our air transport topic further as we used the stickle bricks to make all kinds of amazing planes. Zoooom!!



In FS2 Red...



...we have been working really hard to become independent learners. Our topic for this half term is all about Minibeasts. We have been busy making our own worm puppets using a non-fiction text to help us. We are learning about the lifecycle of a butterfly. We have been painting butterflies with symmetrical wings. We painted one wing, folded the paper over and printed the colours onto the second wing to ensure both wings were symmetrical. In Literacy, we are learning to speak in full sentences and are trying to do this at all times. We have been using our learning in Phonics to plan and write simple sentences. We have also been using our 'Tricky Word Wall' to help us with words that are hard to spell. In Maths, we have been comparing objects and numbers and learning to distinguish between more and less. We have been learning mathematical language to explain the difference, such as: more, less, most, least and fewer.



In Year 1 Red...

... we are continuing to have lots of fun with our 'Super Me!' topic, as we focus on improving our geography skills. We completed an interesting project that helped us to understand how we, and our community, fit into the wider world. First, we gathered different sized, concentric circles. As the circles get bigger, the pictures show bigger geographic areas. On the first and smallest circle we drew a picture of our house. Then on the next circle we drew pictures of the city we live in, Cairo, the following circle showed the country we live in, Egypt, then we drew a picture of our continent on the next biggest circle and finally the last and biggest circle showed Planet Earth. Using the circles that got bigger each time helped us to understand the relationship and difference between our city, country and continent.





In Year 2 Red...



...our magic moment this week was a moment of calm. On Sunday morning, we went into the pod to practise some yoga poses first thing in the morning. You can see in the photo how much we enjoyed a few minutes of peace and quiet! It helped us to focus and get ready for the day ahead. Sometimes, the poses are quite difficult and we have to really concentrate on our breathing techniques to help us stay strong. In real life, this form of exercise can also be used to help us succeed in challenging situations. At the end of our short yoga session, we paused for a few minutes to reflect on our learning goals for the week and how we intended to achieve them.



In Year 3 Red...



...we have been extremely busy. Last week, we enjoyed our trip to Wadi Degla, where we were able to apply our prior knowledge of fossils and rocks to some exciting activities. We made our own fossils, tested soil permeability and learned about minerals and crystals. Back at school, we have been focusing on playscripts and acting them out in front of our peers, using expression and controlling our tone of voice. In Art, we have been doing some cross curricular Topic work based on the theme of Ancient Egyptians. We drew our own pharaoh faces and coloured them in using water paints; when completed we will combine these with our hieroglyphic printing to display in the classroom.



In Year 4 Red...

...we have been studying the Ancient Roman Gods and Goddesses. In Art, we continued to explore this time in history as we learned how to draw a Roman temple using two point perspective. We explored the importance of colour perspective which involves using colour to give a feeling of depth to a picture. If you look closely at the photographs, you can see the mountains in the distance on our pictures have a paler blue shade, much as they would appear in real life. Objects which are closer, like the temple and the trees, are in stronger, bolder colours, which make them appear closer. We are becoming more skilled at using water as part of the painting process to build up the colours we want to create.





In Year 5 Red...

...we had some very special 'guest' teachers; as you can see from the pictures. Our classmates took on Miss Nina's job and stepped into the role of teacher! Four children were picked at random and given an objective for the lesson that they would be required to teach. They then had to go home, plan and prepare a short session and deliver it to some of their peers during our science lesson. This week the 'Lead Learners' taught us all about gravity. They worked hard to prepare Powerpoint presentations, practical demonstrations and quizzes to check our understanding. We are enjoying learning from each other and are starting to become really reflective when discussing what makes a good lesson. Soon we will be giving Miss Nina some teaching tips!





In Year 6 Red...

... we have been busy taking part in our production of 'James and the Giant Peach' which involved all of the children in Year 6, as well as lots of staff, umbrellas and puppets. We were responsible for the first scene of the production, setting the tone for the rest of the story. Our class song was 'Rhino', explaining that the hero of the story's parents (played by Amelia and Hamza) had just been eaten by a rhino. During our scene, we then followed James as he had to move in with his horrible aunts – Sponge and Spiker (played brilliantly by Khadija M. and Habiba), then as he met a mysterious old man (played by Sherif) who changed his future. Ioan (who played the part of James) said his favourite scene was the finale of the production, when the whole year group came back on stage to sing 'New York, New York'. It was a real showstopper. Habiba, along with many others, said she enjoyed Khadija's hilarious portrayal of Aunt Sponge. We feel very proud to have taken part in such an amazing production; it will certainly be one of the highlights of our final year in the Primary Section.





In Music...

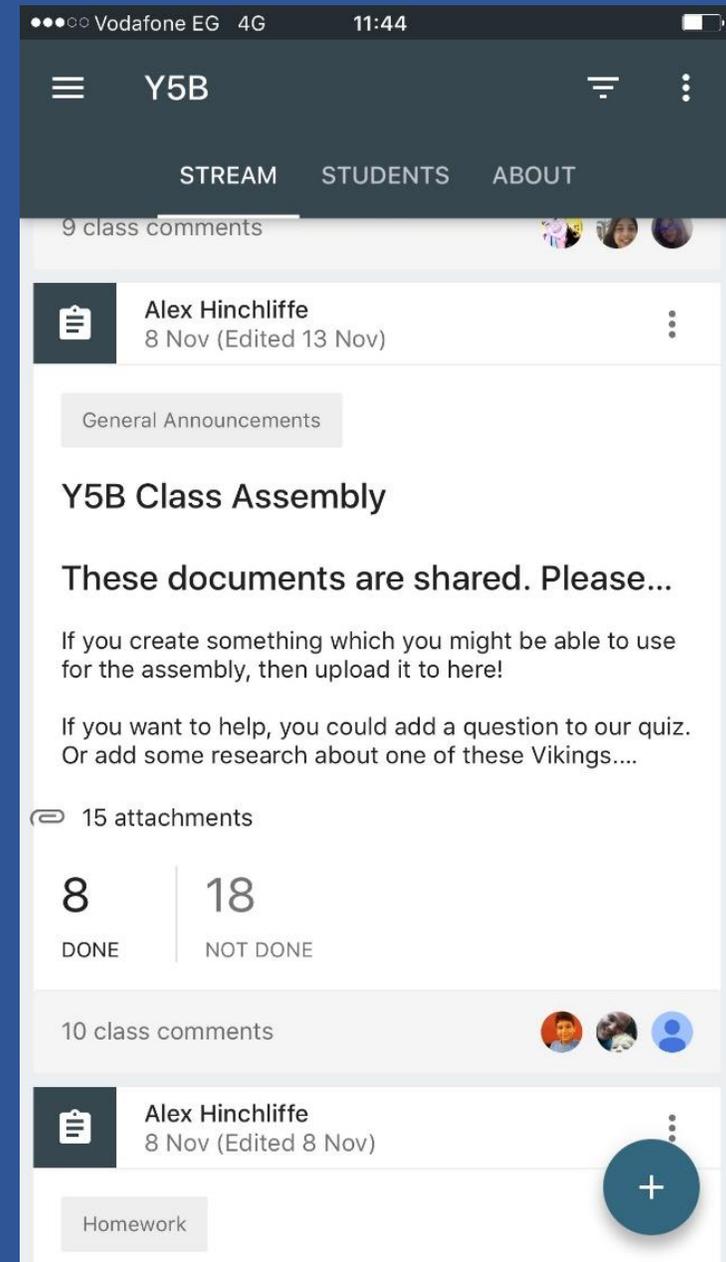


Foundation Stage 2 students have been exploring the use of tuned and untuned percussion instruments. Over recent weeks they have been using glockenspiels to accompany dinosaur songs in relation to what they are studying in topic. Students have really focused on trying to maintain a strong 4/4 rhythmic pattern and utilising dynamics in their performances. Year 6 delivered a fantastic performance of 'James and the Giant Peach'. They have been working very hard over the past couple of months and their hard work paid off! The costumes, props, music, choreography, set design and acting helped deliver a performance that they won't forget! Well done Year 6!



APP of the week...

Year 5 Blue have been exploring a variety of Google Classroom Apps for Education during the past few weeks, to help them collaboratively build resources for their class assembly. Not only were Blue Class able to resourcefully mash-up their digital and English skills using Google Classroom, they were also able to collaboratively build their relationships in a safe online setting, where Mr Alex was readily available to support the learning as it occurred inside, as well as outside the classroom. Blue Class' assembly is sure to be a huge success! How can you use Google Classroom at home to brainstorm activities that could help build family routines? Have you considered using a Family Google Suite, something to keep everyone in touch when anyone in the family may be travelling?





Coming Up Next...

Sunday 26th November – Thursday 7th December

Primary Photos

Thursday 30th November

Prophet Mohamed's Birthday (School closed)

Tuesday 19th December

Seasonal Concert

Wednesday 20th December

Primary Interhouse Sports and Quiz

Last day of Term 1