

MODERN ENGLISH SCHOOL CAIRO



Primary Weekly Newsletter

29th October 2014

Foundation Stage One

This week in FS1, Violet class have been learning about our five senses. The pupils tasted a range of foods, from salty to sweet and they were encouraged to say what they thought about them. Blue class have been learning about their bodies and they have learnt many new words for different body parts. It was a lot of fun using chalk to draw on black paper and making x-ray pictures of our hands, this learning was extended in the Pod where the pupils were able to dress up as doctors and nurses in the clinic. Orange class have been discovering their talents and exploring why they are unique and special through lots of circle time, this is a lovely conversation to have with your child, ask them what they think they are good at and why they are special. If you would like some inspiration for activities, please look at this website: <http://www.childcarelounge.com/general-themes/i-am-special.php>.

Foundation Stage Two

There were lots more purposeful pirates last week in FS2 with the pupils making and reading pirate maps, not forgetting 'X marks the spot'. They love role playing on our fantastic pirate ship in the Pod as well as using the language of pirates in the class and in games – "Captain Pirate Says" – instead of "Simon Says". iPads are being used in the classrooms with pupils showing skill in finding apps of their choice as well as navigating their way around the iPads. There is a Lego app that children love, so go to the app store and download it to your home apps. In Outdoor Learning, the pupils are using percussion instruments, building dens and pirate ships including flags and planks, showing skill with stretching fabric and clipping with pegs. They have been building obstacle courses and drawing sharks on the floor with chalk to find their way across shark infested waters. Just a reminder to ensure that all cardigans and jackets that come into school are LABELLED with the child's FULL NAME and CLASS. Thank you for your support.

Year One

We began our new topic last week. It is called 'You're going to hear us ROAR!' We are going to be learning about safari animals and places. Last week we read 'The Lion who wanted to Love'. We talked about the rhyme in the story and even changed some of the lines. We learnt about different animals and wrote sentences describing safari animals. We tried hard to use 'wow' words and to remember capital letters and full stops in our writing. Use the following website to share the story at home: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rqtrKAJN_5U
In Maths, we were ordering numbers and finding numbers that were greater or less than given numbers. We are trying very hard to make sure that our numbers are always facing the correct way.

Year Two

The pupils have been continuing their exciting bug topic this week by looking at the life cycle of a caterpillar. They have been learning how the caterpillar starts off as an egg and the journey it goes through until it becomes a beautiful butterfly.

In addition, there have been some very practical Maths activities going on with the pupils looking at measuring. They have had the opportunity to measure lengths and widths of different objects using rulers, measuring tape and metre rulers. Use this website to perfect your measuring skills:

<http://resources.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/maths/measures/measure.html#Measure>

730

819

819

587

Year Three

This week Year Three have been continuing their study of weather and have enjoyed listening to weather forecasts. They are preparing a presentation of their own weather forecast acting as presenters, camera men and directors. In Maths, we have been revising multiplication facts and looking at different ways of working out new multiplication facts from known facts. In science, we have been continuing the study of plants, learning about the plant life cycle, photosynthesis and its importance to the lives of animals and humans. The pupils are also developing their understanding of mystery adventure stories, investigating story settings and character study.

Year Four

The *MESSA* astronaut pupils are hard at work in Year Four. This week, the pupils were shocked to find out that the engineers who were responsible for creating rockets at *MESSA* had gone on holiday without finishing the latest rocket design. To solve this problem the pupils decided to generate their own ideas to design and make space rockets that would take them and their fellow astronauts into space safely. They used good relationship skills to work in teams as they modelled the space rocket from junk and presented the space rocket to the rest of the class. The teachers were pleased that the pupils were able to speak clearly and persuasively about their rocket designs. In Maths, the pupils have enjoyed practical activities to consolidate their knowledge and understanding of translations and co-ordinates. Some of the classes enjoyed plotting star constellations such as Orion, Cassiopeia and The Plough using co-ordinates which linked in with the *MESSA* topic. You can play traditional games like Battleships to help your child with co-ordinates at home or have a look at the following website for an online version of the game which is set in space:

<http://www.learn4good.com/games/board/spacebattleships.htm>

Year Five

Huge congratulations to all of Year Five for their amazing concert last week! Smiles and songs were evident as the 'Open Book' concert was a smashing success. And a huge 'Thank you' to all the teachers for their hard work, as well as the parents for their exuberant support.

Year Five are now well into their new topic of 'What a Load of Rubbish!' This week, pupils are learning about the 'Zaballeen' people and what life is like in Mokattam. The entrance to the Year Five Pod has some very interesting examples of objects and musical instruments made from recycled waste, adorning the walkway.

Year Five also need your help in acquiring around 150 (1.5) litre water bottles (these should be clean and washed where necessary, but the labels need not be removed). We also require the cardboard boxes these bottles are stored in, so please do not throw these away!

Have a look at the following link to see the sort of thing we will be making from the aforementioned water bottles and cardboard boxes:

<http://earthwiseharmony.com/KIDS/EH-Fun-With-Recycling-Make-a-Milk-Bottle-Igloo.html>

Year Six

This week the pupils of Year Six have been immersing themselves in one of Shakespeare's most famous plays, 'Macbeth'. They have been learning about the characters, their motivations and have been challenged with writing their own ending. The pupils came up with creative ideas about how their version of 'Macbeth' would end, we may have a few playwrights in our midst! They have also been learning more about William Shakespeare himself; his childhood, his family and the inspiration for his most famous works. The pupils are approaching the 'Shakespeare Rocks' topic with enthusiasm and dedication and this can be seen in the work they produce in class and at home. We have also been impressed with the pupils' enthusiasm for the fast approaching Year Six production. They are eager to learn and sing the catchy songs and this is inspiring as we edge closer to production and are beginning to plan in whole year group rehearsals. This week the pupils need to think about biographies since this is task they will be facing in class. Use this website to help:

<http://www.keystage2literacy.co.uk/michael-morpurgo.html>