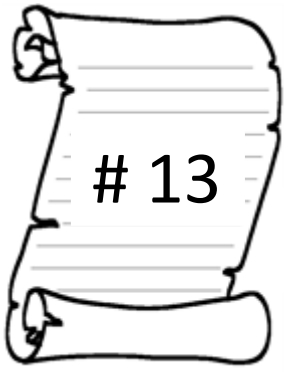


MODERN ENGLISH SCHOOL CAIRO



Primary Weekly Newsletter

30th January 2013

Please note:

- Next week's Golden Rule is "**We Work Hard**". Our 5R focus is to be '**Risk Taker**'.

Foundation Stage One

All the staff in FS1 greatly enjoyed meeting you all at last week's Parents' Evening. It was wonderful to see so many parents come to talk to us. At MES Cairo we consider our partnership with parents key to the academic success and happiness of our young learners. Here are some ideas of how you can further support your child at home.

1. Practice counting toys or other items with your child.
2. Play "I spy" when you are out and about with your child. Particularly focus on objects starting with the sounds **s, a, t, p, i, n, c, k, m, r, d** and **e**.
3. Use a whiteboard and help your child to try to write his/her name, numbers or letters.
4. Enjoy the 'Chicken Licken' animated story <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZNkXQYxfilQ>
5. Sing 'Old Macdonald' together http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hDt_MhIKpLM
6. At school we consider health and hygiene to be very important, so please stress the importance of hand washing using soap after the toilet and before eating. Try also to encourage your child to be as independent as possible in the toilet.

Foundation Stage Two

Last week the children in Foundation Stage Two explored making using different 2D shapes. Ask your child to name some 2D shapes they can see around the house: it could be a door, the lid of a water bottle or a window. Last week we began practicing dances and songs for our upcoming production. We will put the songs onto teacher web for the children to sing with you at home. Our topic is going well and we have been looking at land transport. We have explored different types of land transport, the shape of wheels and we have even been counting wheels! Our focus in Maths now is on number doubles and in English we are writing labels and captions for different parts of vehicles. This week the children enjoyed our transport show and tell and we took it as an opportunity to describe things using descriptive and imaginative language. The children were great at asking each other questions about their toys. During Pirate Maths day we played lots of practical number games like, 'what's the time pirate Pete?' Here is a great shape game for you to play:

http://www.ngfl-cymru.org.uk/vtc/ngfl/maths/maerdy_2d/e_index.html

Year One

There were sparks flying in Year One last week when we took a look at sparklers. The children used some of their senses to think about what sparklers look like when they are lit up and what sounds they hear. This 'sparked' some creative poetry writing in Year One and we used 'Wow' words that we have been collecting to write poems about sparklers. Whilst writing their poems the children were introduced to onomatopoeia and similes. If you would like a poetry challenge at home, use this website with your child to create a poem entitled 'Dark': <http://www.readwritethink.org/files/resources/interactives/acrostic/>. Linking to our theme of light our Science activities revolved around discovering where light comes from and finding out how we get darkness. The excitement continued when our pod discotheque, complete with a disco ball, was officially opened – it is helping us to write 'Super Sentences' about light! The children thoroughly enjoyed the amazing assembly about Prophet Mohammed's Birthday put on by the Arabic teachers. Our spellings this week are words beginning with '**sm**', '**sn**' and '**sp**'. This week remember to ask your child about how much fun they had with Maths during Maths Day. You will hear more about this in our newsletter next week.

Year Two

The Year Two pod has become awash with mathematical wizards this week as we celebrated 'Maths Day' on Monday. The children took part in a range of activities around the school, linked to the recent show 'Clarence and the Knights of MES'. We have been estimating dumplings, counting and classifying creepy crawlies, creating froggy addition sums and making tangrams with 2D shapes. The children have had a wonderful time applying their mathematical knowledge in lots of fun ways. Why not ask your child to show you their 'Maths Day' booklet, and try out some maths at home this weekend?

Learning our times tables and corresponding division facts is still an on-going task. Please have a look at the website below for some exciting games to help practice at home: <http://www.wmnet.org.uk/resources/gordon/Hit%20the%20button%20v9.swf>

We are all looking forward to our trip next week to the 'Indian Restaurant'. In preparation for the visit, why not spend some time this weekend talking about and eating some traditional Egyptian foods! The children will then be able to compare these to all the different dishes we will be tasting on our trip.

Anubis

12946

Horus

15074

Ra

13323

Thoth

13919

Year Three

After the excitement of the mummy coming to visit Year Three, we decided to recreate the mummification process. The children really enjoyed making their own Natron salt and mummifying their tomatoes! A little bit gloopy and gooey to start with, they are now starting to dry out and the children can watch the mummification process taking place (unfortunately, this might take three weeks!).

In Maths, we have been looking at division. Remember division is repeated subtraction and multiplication is repeated addition! This game might help you http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/maths/number/multiplication_division/play/

Remember that the booklet you were given at Parents Evening has all of the Term Two objectives for Maths in Year Three and should be referred to for fun games and activities to complete at home.

The Year Three teachers are very impressed with Zeina Ahmed (3Y), Farida Nazmy (3G) and Marwan Al Kholly (3V) who are working incredibly hard in their phonics sessions. Some super projects have also been arriving into the POD! Enji El-Hoss (3R), Sara Ramadan (3B) and Zein El Bahy (3O) shared what they had learnt incredibly well.

Year Four

With practice for the Year Four production well under way, it is great to see the students saying their lines and singing their songs confidently and clearly. A special well done must go to 'Captain Callous' (Ziad from Violet class). He is doing an excellent job being a mean and cruel pirate! The children are very convincing pirates in their costumes so please make sure that all costume money is sent into school as soon as possible.

Can I remind all Year Four children and parents about the healthy lunch expectations. It has been noted recently that children are bringing into school food like chippy and chocolate which is not appropriate. Can we please all make an effort to eat healthily at break times. Thank you.

In Maths, we have been looking at number operations and the number system. We have been revising fractions and decimals.

Also in Year Four we have planning and writing our story from another culture. The children have been learning about the history and geography of Australia and now have a chance to show off what they know about this continent in their story. We look forward to reading them! Check out this website for more facts about Australia: <http://www2.lhric.org/pocantico/australia/australia.htm>

Year Five

Year Five are delighted with the latest addition to their pod: a large fish tank, to complement our 'Wet and Wild' theme! Thanks to all students for looking so smart for their school photos and to parents for a couple of very productive Parents' Evenings. We are sure parents are now reading the document that gives tips on "How to Help Your Child in Maths Year Five Term Two." The Year Five teachers are also looking forward to seeing the parents of those children who will be cruising the Nile at next Monday's Nile Cruise information meeting.

Last week, Year Five children prepared for the trip by learning more about rivers; in particular, erosion, deposition and how waterfalls and ox-bow lakes are made. They also wrote and recorded their weather forecast podcasts, which we're looking forward to listening to very soon. Maths work included more on decimals and percentages. If you would like to support your child with this area of Maths, you can at <http://www.coolmath.com/prealgebra/02-decimals/index.html>.

Year Six

The children have continued to be super scientists; they have focused on investigating why certain animals are adapted to the rainforest and what part micro-organisms have in the life-cycle of the rainforest.

Can your child explain how a Toucan or cut leaf ant is adapted to the trees of the Amazon Rainforest? Does your child know what part micro-organisms play in the life cycle of the rainforest? These websites will allow you and your child opportunities to further explore these scientific areas: http://www.ecokids.ca/pub/eco_info/topics/climate/adaptations/index.cfm

http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/science/living_things/microorganisms/play/

In Maths this week the children have been diving into the world of decimals: *what decimal lies halfway between 5.1 and 5.21? Increase 0.3 by a thousandth- what answer do you get?*

A special Year Six "Well done to you" goes to Maya El-Tawil (6Y). Miss Mary states "You are an amazing student, who continually works hard no matter what task you are given! Thank you."

Another special Year Six "Well done to you" goes to Alia Khaled (6V). Mr Nichol commented "What a brilliant mathematician you are Alia. You should be proud of your mathematical achievements. Keep being a resilient learner."