

MODERN ENGLISH SCHOOL CAIRO



Primary Weekly Newsletter

26th November 2014

Foundation Stage One

It has been an incredibly exciting week in FS1 with lots of visitors and fascinating events. On Sunday, a fire engine visited us and we learnt the names for all of the equipment and saw how the hose worked to put out fires. We all had the opportunity to have our picture taken in front of the fire engine and had a go at wearing their heavy helmets! On Tuesday, the dogs from the Police Academy came to show us how well trained they are. We walked across to our school field and saw the dogs looking very smart and listening to their trainers. On Wednesday, Mr Ahmed came to our playground to show us his police motorbike and his uniform. We listened to him telling us why it is important to follow the rules and how the police help to keep us safe. If you would like to learn more about a fire fighter with your child, this is a good website with lots of pictures: <http://www.cambsfire.gov.uk/interactivezone/1174.php> If you follow this link: <http://teacher.scholastic.com/commclub/officer/index.htm>, you can share a story with your child about the important duties of a police officer.

Foundation Stage Two

In FS2 we have had bird visitors in the Pod, the pupils talked about the colours and noises a bird makes. Some groups went into the atrium to hear sounds that they could hear including birds. They have been labelling parts of an animal and using their phonics knowledge to write simple words like 'leg'. All classes have been learning their first digraphs where two letters make one sound – ask your child about sounds they know – 'll', 'ss', 'ck' and 'ff'. Can they say a word with these sounds in? These sounds all come at the end of a word. The pupils have been watching clips of animals in their different habitats to talk about them, have a look at this Arctic video clip with your child and talk about what animals they know and some information they may have found out about these animals:
<http://video.nationalgeographic.com/video/oceans-narrated-by-sylvia-earle/oceans-arctic>

Year One

Now that we have learnt about 'Safari Animals', we are moving on to learning about 'Polar Animals'. It has been very exciting so far. We are enjoying learning the names of different polar animals. We just cannot believe how cold it is in the North and South poles. We read the story 'Snow Bear'. We focused on what happened in the beginning, middle and end parts of the story and this helped us to write a retell. We all tried so hard to remember lots from the story. It also gave us a chance to show our teachers how we can use capital letters and full stops properly, they were very proud of us!

In Maths, we have been learning our number bonds to 10. We have also been learning how to add two ways. We even try to add the two numbers in our heads instead of using counting objects. Keep practising at home how to write numbers facing the right way.

Year Two

This week Year Two have continued enjoying their 'It's a Bugs Life' topic by delving further into the interesting life of bees. In addition, all the classes are working hard in their English lessons and have really embraced the 'talk4writing' approach. There have been many animated classrooms in Year Two this week! If you ask your child what they have been doing in English I am sure they will be more than happy to share their stories and with the actions too.

In Maths, the pupils are now beginning to learn the 10 times table. Use the link below to help learning them at home:
<http://www.mathsisfun.com/quiz/tentimes.html>

Anubis

962

Horus

1483

Ra

955

Thoth

943

Year Three

It is another busy week in Year Three! The pupils are continuing to learn the skills needed to write information texts and are beginning to use those skills to write their own texts. They really enjoyed learning about the Pyramids and they are now learning about another landmark: The Tower of London. In science, the pupils will carry out an investigation looking at different kinds of soils. They will learn how to record their observations carefully and to use their observations to answer some questions about soil and its importance in our environment. The pupils are having an enjoyable time in Maths learning all about time.

Year Four

BLAST OFF! The Year Four astronaut pupils have finished their intense training and this week they have been going to the Wadi where they have been pretending to land on a new planet. It was a great experience and the pupils looked amazing in their astronaut costumes. Check out the photographs on the Year Four Teacher Web page. In the Wadi, they were faced with a series of challenges and activities to complete similar to the astronauts who went on the Apollo 11 mission to the moon. One activity was astronaut fitness which involved the pupils experiencing what it is like to moon walk and they tried a range of exercises designed to keep astronauts fit in space. Another important skill the pupils developed was analysing rocks and soils through a series of tests to establish their characteristics. All of them enjoyed the drama activities where they acted out a range of role plays based on a meeting with aliens on the new planet. Finally, they finished off their experience with some mapping skills to establish the features of the new location.

Next week is assessment week therefore we will be revising a range of topics in Maths which have been covered throughout the term. You may also use the following website to discover some story writing tips for the writing exam:

<http://www.midlandit.co.uk/education/writingtips.htm>

Year Five

Year Five are almost at the end of their work of their 'Trashion Art', which involved making costumes out of rubbish. The TLAs are busy creating an awesome display in the Pod, building a 3-D catwalk complete with red carpet, original design concepts and photos of pupils hard at work. Stay tuned to Teacher Web for photos of this visual extravaganza!

Ms Cath visited the Year Five Pod and delivered an excellent assembly on behaviour choices. Pupils enjoyed identifying good and poor behaviours, as well as discussing different behaviours within different situations. Please discuss this assembly with your child, especially the notion of choice and making correct decisions. This week, pupils might benefit from visiting the following website: <http://www.math-play.com/decimal-math-games.html>

Year Six

The pupils of Year Six have worked extremely hard this week as we put the final touches to the production 'Shakespeare Rocks!' They have shown great dedication to making it a big success - perfecting dance routines, learning lines and singing songs. The pupils have thoroughly enjoyed watching each other perform, learning the dance routines of other classes and joining in whilst in the auditorium. As we near the end of our 'Shakespeare Rocks!' topic the pupils have been completing their play scripts about the Elizabethan era; writing biographies about Shakespeare himself; and learning about the lives of the poor during this time. The pupils have each been given a log-in for 'Purple Mash', please take some time to have a look at this resource this week to help your child's learning at home.