



**Dedicated to delivering
AMAZING LEARNING**

Weekly Update
Term 2.1, Wk 1 9th January 2020

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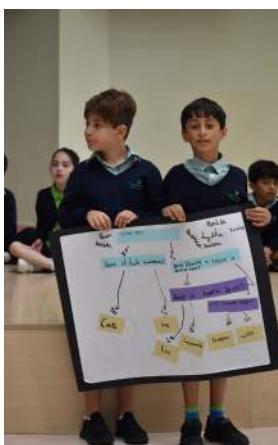
Dear families,

Happy New Year! Welcome back to a new term at Aspen Heights, and welcome to new families and children. We are very happy that you have chosen to join our school community, and we look forward to working closely with you in the coming weeks and months.



New year resolutions

The theme of our moral education assembly this week was ‘being the best you can be’ and always trying to learn and improve. That is something we are committed to doing at Aspen Heights- both professionally with our teaching, and personally. I shared my new year resolutions in the hope that sharing them may encourage me to maintain them! Amongst other things I am trying to put technology in its place, by keeping my telephone charging in my home rather than having it with me all the time when I am out of work. So far so good! I am enjoying being free of my telephone! Mrs Stevens shared that she is learning hip hop dancing! We look forward to seeing her progress. In the moral education circle time sessions after assembly we asked the children to answer 2 questions:
 What do you currently do that you would like to improve?
 What new skill would you like to learn?



Ask them at home! We are looking forward to seeing their development in the coming term.

Year 4 Houbara and Year 4 Falcons assembly

We were very impressed with the confidence and enjoyment shown by the year 4 children as they presented their learning in assembly this morning.



There were so many aspects we enjoyed, but we loved it for these reasons:

- The theme of their assembly was wonderful preparation for our sustainability week next week.
- The learning was linked to so many different curriculum areas.
- The Talk4writing innovation was impressive!

Thank you all, and for families who attended.

Family Fun Facts!

All families are welcome to attend our family community event on Wednesday at 2.30pm.

Tickets for every attendee are 20 aed which includes the fun facts game, fruit, juice and pizza.

There are prizes for the winning team! We hope many of you will be able to attend- please note: If your child is attending and usually gets the bus you will need to arrange transport on this day and please inform Mrs. Diana-Bus supervisor (0506633174).

All children must be accompanied by an adult.

There are limited tickets available- please purchase from finance before Wednesday to guarantee a place!

حقائق نشاطات المهرجان العائلي

جميع الأهالي مدعوين لحضور النشاط العائلي والمصادف يوم الأربعاء في تمام الساعة 2:30 ظهراً. يبلغ ثمن التذكرة للشخص الواحد 20 درهم وتشمل المشاركة في النشاط، فواكه، عصير وبيتزا. هناك جوائز للفريق الفائز! نتمنى حضور الجميع - يرجى ملاحظة ما يلي: اذا كان ابنك/ابنتك يستخدم المواصلات المدرسية، يجب عليك توفير وسيلة النقل لذلك اليوم ، الرجاء إعلام السيدة ديانا- مسؤولة الباصات (0506633174).

يجب على كل طالب أن يكون برفقة الوالدين.

يوجد عدد محدود من التذاكر - يرجى شراءها من مكتب المالية قبل يوم الأربعاء لضمان الحصول على المقاعد و قبل نفاذ الكمية .

Sustainability family workshop

We hope many families will be able to attend our family workshop on Thursday 16th after assembly. The sustainability team will be sharing tips and suggestions about changes you can make to be more environmentally friendly, and you will be able to take part in an art activity using reclaimed materials.

Aspen Toddlers

We are delighted that our Aspen toddler group will be starting again next week. If you have a pre-school child, and would like to have the opportunity to meet other families and carers, and give your child the opportunity to play with other pre-school children, please come along at 1pm on Monday. You are welcome to bring a friend too!

Friends of Aspen Meeting- International day

Our next whole school community learning event is International day, scheduled for Thursday 20th February. Friends of Aspen would like many of you to be involved; you are all invited to an initial meeting/coffee morning on Thursday 23rd January after assembly.



Have a wonderful, restful weekend with your families and we look forward to seeing you all for another week of learning and fun at Aspen on Sunday at 7.45am.

Mrs Emma Shanahan, Principal

Primary Update

What a fantastic week back after our long winter break. The children have really enjoyed being back in school learning, seeing their teachers and playing with their friends. I have seen some great learning this week of the new topics across all year groups, here are some of the things I saw on my learning walks... Year 5 have been finding out all about Tanka poetry and have been creating sporting games in PE. FS2 have been finding out all about monsters and what kind of sounds they may make as well as enjoying their first swimming sessions! FS1 have shown me how they are learning about the life cycle of a butterfly and can even sequence it! Year 2 have been appreciating and studying artwork and artists from around the world and have had some very interesting discussions. Year 4 did an amazing job in their assembly and they are clearly Talk 4 Writing experts.

You will receive your year group topic overview today so you can become familiar with the learning that is happening this half term. I look forward to our sustainability week next week as well as our Family Fun Facts event on Wednesday - see you there!

Well done to everybody who has been in school every day and on time, remember you may win an attendance award this term! Remember to visit our uniform shop for school jumpers, bags and hats. I have seen a lot of smart black school shoes too, well done. Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Laura Stevens
Head of Primary



Class	Attendance%	% Late
Oasis	83.02%	7.55%
FS1 Butterflies	88.36%	2.65%
FS1 Geckoes	81.52%	3.26%
FS1 Hedgehogs	93.12%	3.70%
FS1 Mice	81.82%	3.64%
FS2 Bulbuls	86.22%	4.59%
FS2 Doves	81.16%	2.90%
FS2 Ducks	83.57%	4.35%
FS2 Pipits	86.60%	1.55%
FS2 Sparrows	89.37%	3.86%
Y1 Foxes	84.34%	4.55%
Y1 Hares	84.62%	1.18%
Y1 Jerboa	91.44%	2.14%
Y1 Sandcast	72.33%	2.91%
Y2 Camels	81.82%	3.54%
Y2 Leopards	81.48%	3.17%
Y2 Oryx	89.44%	4.44%
Y3 Flamingos	83.63%	4.09%
Y3 Kingfishers	85.19%	5.82%
Y3 Ostrich	85.28%	3.68%
Y4 Falcons	89.38%	5.00%
Y4 Houbara	71.24%	3.27%
Y5 Hawksbills	88.30%	4.67%
Y5 Parrotfish	91.36%	2.47%
Y6 Dolphin	91.45%	3.42%
Y6 Seahorses	82.05%	2.56%
Y7 Mariyah	79.17%	6.94%
Y7 Saadiyat	82.76%	3.45%
Y8 Fatai	94.44%	1.85%
Y8 Yas	85.71%	3.30%

Attendance

Well done to FS1 Hedgehogs, Year 1 Jerboa, Year 6 Dolphin, and Year 8 Fatai who had the best class attendance in their key stage for this week.

Children that come to school every day, and on-time every day learn more and make better progress, and we at Aspen want to support our families with this, aiming for 96% and above for attendance. Hopefully we will see a big improvement next week!

Please see the attendance and punctuality table above.



Head of Secondary

Welcome back to school to all of our children and families. We have had new children join us this week in secondary and I am very pleased to say that our community have welcomed everyone wholeheartedly and they have settled in extremely well.



We have spent the week remembering our routines, reflecting on our winter break and embracing the learning challenges of the new term. I have seen some amazing learning this week linked to the weather and climate, which involved some great discussions.

As we look ahead to the rest of the term we will be starting some exciting new ECAs, some of which are invite only, so please watch out for these. Please encourage your child to participate in our ECA programme as these help to further enhance learning outside of the classroom.

We have many trips for secondary pupils this term, so please ensure that you have signed up!

Finally, I am happy to say that we have introduced Hydroponics in to our Golden time activities so that our children have the option to visit the greenhouse and watch the development of their plants each week. See what we've produced so far in our table top sale next Wednesday afternoon.

Dr. Kate Plumb
Head of Secondary



NUMBER DAY

THURSDAY 23RD JANUARY 2020

**COME AS YOUR
FAVOURITE NUMBER,
SHAPE OR
MATHEMATICAL
SYMBOL!**



Nursery



Welcome back to school everyone! FS1 have had a super start to the second term. The children have all come back ready for more amazing learning and have quickly settled back into their school daily routines!

Let's all start 2020 with a big health drive and continue to talk with the children about the importance of eating healthy foods and going to bed early to reach the recommended amount of 10-11 hours of sleep per night for under 5s! This really helps them for a busy day of learning.



This week we have all been busy looking at the different healthy foods "The Very Hungry Caterpillar" eats throughout the book. The children have had fun experimenting with apple printing and also had a turn tasting apples! We've had group discussions about where apples come from and how long it can take for an apple to grow (6-10 years!). In mathematics, we have been focusing on counting different fruits for the caterpillar to eat.

The weather has been lovely this week and the children have been enjoying the outdoor learning environment. They have been involved in dressing up and taking part in fun dances in our amazing stage area!



FS2

NOT NOW! Come back later monster, we are having too much fun at school! Welcome back everyone, we are so happy that all the learners in FS2 have come back safely after the holidays. We are even happier that we have added some learners to our FS2 family. We would like to welcome you all.



Our new Talk for Writing book this term is 'Not Now, Bernard.' This links to the children and 'Their Identity', who they are as individuals and their thoughts and feelings. We will be delving into what emotions and feelings we experience, and how to deal with them. Our number for this week is 12 and for phonics we are revising all our sounds. We are getting back into our routines and settling back into school life. We hope this is a wonderful term for everyone!



Year 1



Welcome back! It has been lovely seeing all of the children and hearing about their adventures during the Winter holidays.

We have had a busy first week back at school. Our new topic is 'We are Gardeners' and we have started this by planting our own seeds. We are looking forward to watching our sunflowers grow and develop and will be writing a daily diary to track their growth. We have also been learning all about instructions and have started to look at using bullet points, time conjunctions and imperative verbs.



In mathematics, we have been working hard to find 10 more and 10 less than a given number. We have been challenging ourselves by finding out our answers using the 100 square and even mentally!

We have been getting creative in our Art lessons and have been having a go at mixing colours. We have learnt all about primary colours and have been mixing paint to make a secondary colour. We have had lots of fun experimenting!

Year 2

It has been a fun and productive first week back at school for year 2. In our English lessons this week we learnt a new poem called 'The Sound Collector'. We went on a sound walk around school and listened carefully to everything we could hear. We then used what we had heard to help us write our own 'Sound Collector' poem all about the sounds we could collect around school. Our poems were fantastic!

We have been learning all about division by sharing in mathematics using both practical objects and pictorial representations. We have been writing our own division number sentences and using clear steps to help us to find the answer.

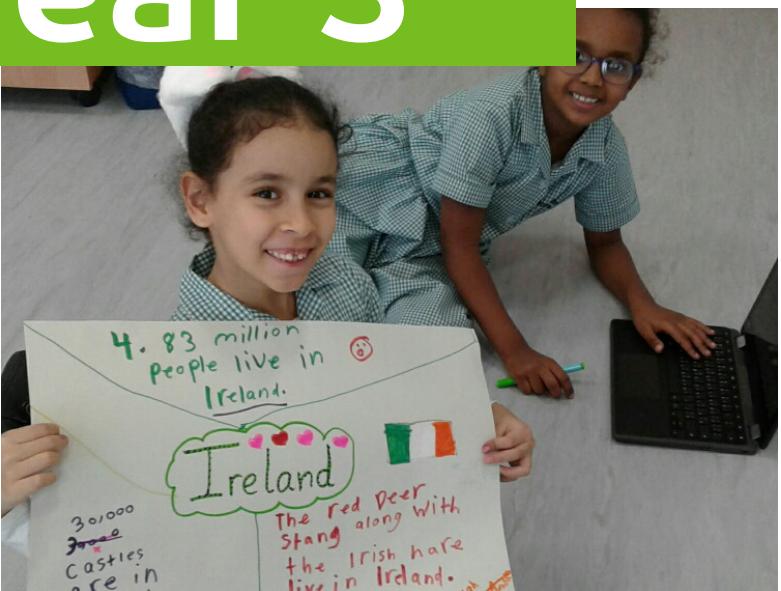


We have started our new topic in science 'Plants'. This week we have been thinking about key questions such as 'Can plants grow without soil?' and sharing our thoughts and opinions to find an answer. After finding out that plants can grow without soil we were all very excited to visit the hydroponics greenhouse and learn about how we can plant seeds and grow plants, fruits and vegetables in a different way. We spent time looking around and observing the plants that were growing already, we couldn't believe how big some of the leaves were! We have started to plan our own planting investigation for next week and we can't wait to plant our chosen seeds!

During our topic lessons this week, we have been learning about famous artists from around the world such as Vincent Van Gogh, Picasso, Kandinsky and Kahlo. It has been really fun looking at their amazing work and thinking about how they created it, what they used to make it and what the painting is showing. It was really interesting to research the artists and find out all about them and their work.



Year 3



This week in English we have moved onto a new non-fiction unit learning how to write a postcard, we also read a book called "Meerkat Mail" by Emily Gravett which showed examples of postcards. We focused on using the past tense and contractions in our writing.

In mathematics this week, we revisited place value and addition and subtraction along with understanding the value of each digit in a number. We used practical activities to help us to understand this and games on the Chromebooks, which we really enjoyed.



We have enjoyed learning about Ireland in our topic work. With a partner we came up with a list of questions we'd like to research, used the Chromebooks to find the answers and created posters displaying our learning.



Year 4

This week in English we have begun learning a descriptive text about Grandma from 'George's Marvellous Medicine' by Roald Dahl. We story mapped the text and added our own actions. We have also collected a bank of adjectives and begun using them in expanded noun phrases.

In mathematics this week, we have revisited place value. Miss Mahony's group began looking at 3 and even 4 digit numbers and being able to represent them in several ways, including using base 10 and in expanded form. We also looked at taking away the hundreds, tens or ones. In Miss Radford's group we were introduced to Roman Numerals, they looked at their history and interpreted a range of numbers written in this format.



In science this week, we began studying our new topic focused on states of matter. We enjoyed trying out some mini experiments; especially watching the liquids race down the ramp. We have also worked hard this week practising and preparing our year group assembly. We hope you enjoyed the experience as much as we did.

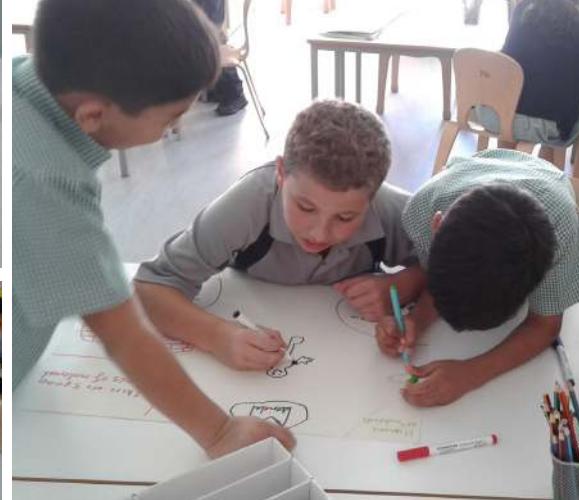


Year 5



This week in English we have explored tanka poems and have learnt about figurative language. We have enjoyed analysing the poem: finding things we like and dislike and things we have questions about. We have enjoyed learning about syllables and rhythm in poetry and creating our own similes to write our own poems.

In mathematics this week, we have revisited calculation strategies and have used more challenging methods to add, subtract, multiply and divide. We have also used the chromebooks to help us find patterns in numbers and help us develop our mental maths skills.



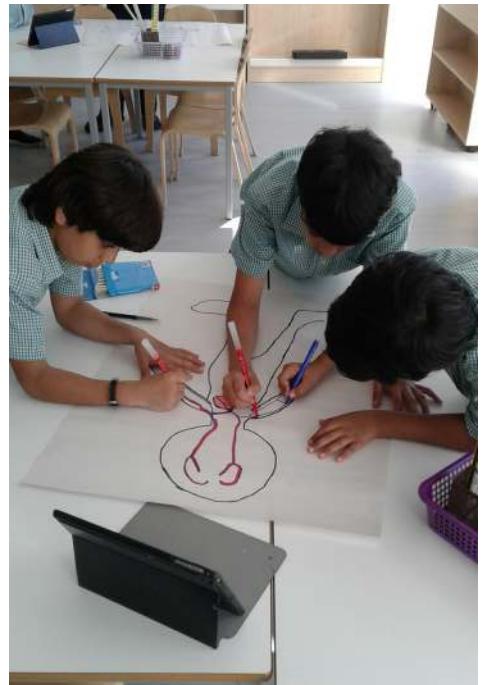
We have enjoyed learning about different materials in science and have learnt that some materials are not as heavy as we think! We have explored E-Safety in computing and created our own posters to help other people keep safe when online. In art this week, we have explored the work of Abdul Qader Al Rais and will continue through this term. We are also busy preparing for our F1 exhibition for Thursday 30th January 2020 so please put this date in your diaries.



Year 6

In English, we have started our new topic with a theme of suspense. To help us start to get into a 'scary mood' we have read and rehearsed a scary poem about the dark during bedtime. We explored how vocabulary and expression help to build tension before performing the poem to each other creating an avatar using the app Chatterpix.

In mathematics this week, we have revisited calculation strategies and have used more challenging methods to add, subtract, multiply and divide. We have also used the chromebooks to help us find patterns in numbers and help us develop our mental maths skills.



This week we have started a physical education workshop in P.E run by external providers, Manchester City Football Club (UK)! We are really excited about all the skills we will learn and games we will play.



Oasis Class

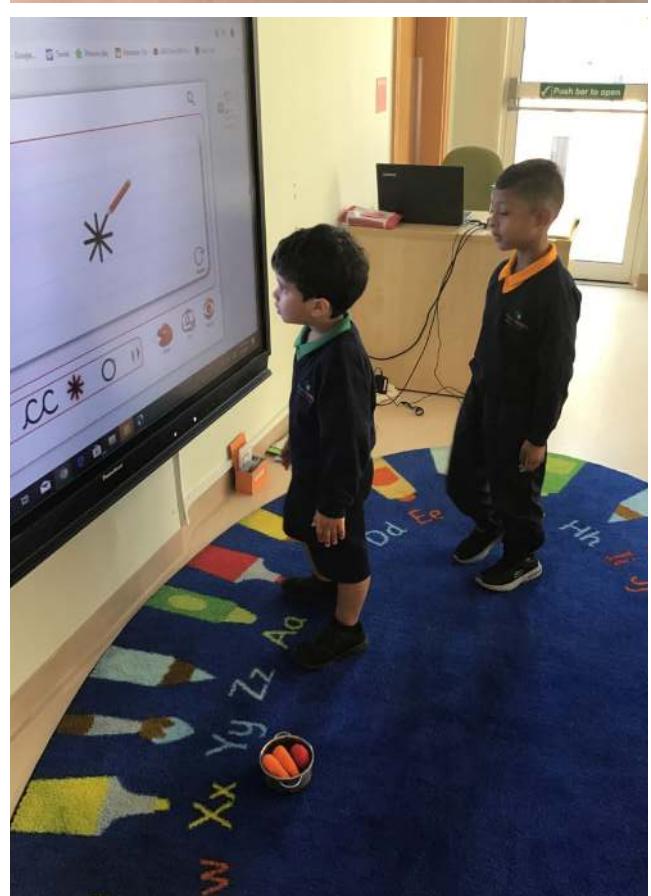


Welcome back! It was lovely to see all the children after the Winter Break and to welcome a new member to our class, Obaid.

This week we have enjoyed re-establishing our friendships and building new ones and demonstrating to our new friend the routines of the class.

This week we have been focusing on number recognition and counting accurately to 10 and also developing our pencil control, making sure we are holding our pencil correctly and following the lines and patterns correctly with support.

Next week we will begin our topic about food and learning the story of the Very Hungry Caterpillar. Also we look forward to seeing pictures of how the children help to recycle or reuse at home as part of our Sustainability and ECO next week.

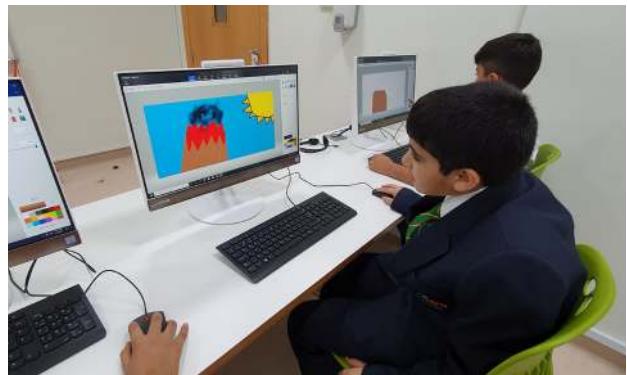


Year 7



In Science this week, we have been studying hazards and risks. We have looked at what hazards are and how to reduce and manage risks in the Science laboratory. One of the greatest challenges in education is finding ways to keep students engaged in the classroom. Therefore, in computing we have been looking at Paint 3. This lets young people exercise their creativity while helping educators convey information more effectively.

This week in English, we have been learning to ‘hold our horses’ and ‘to not put the cart before the horse’. In preparation for our literature study ‘Black Beauty’ we have been deducing mean and predicting outcomes. We meet Black Beauty when he is a colt. He learns valuable lessons from Duchess, his mother. In Mathematics, we revised operations on decimals. Then our main focus was on the perimeter and area of rectangles and shapes build up from the rectangles.



قام طلاب الصف السابع بمراجعة المهارات النحوية التي تمت دراستها في الفصل الدراسي الأول مرتكزين على أنواع التراكيب و الأساليب و معايير كتابة النص السردي الوصفي.

We have started a new topic in Art this week; the Self Portrait in the style of the famous movie director Tim Burton. Our focus will be learning about the proportions of the face as well as the importance of value to create a three dimensional drawing on a two dimensional surface.

This week in French, we have been learning the basic vocabulary for members of our family. We noticed that some words have a lot of similarities to English words. We also took note of definite and indefinite articles. In Humanities, we are back to studying Geography. This term we are studying Weather and Climate and are now making use of our Weather Station situated at the front of the school. We will be collecting data over the coming weeks as well as learning how to record and present the data. This week we have been looking at the instruments used to measure the weather.



Year 8

In Science this week, we have been looking at the differences between elements and compounds and studying chemical reactions on an atomic level.

In Mathematics, we revised on expanding brackets and factorising expressions. Our main focus was to use inverse function to solve one and two step equations.

In Computing, one of the greatest challenges in education is finding ways to keep students engaged in the classroom. Paint 3D lets young people exercise their creativity while helping educators convey information more effectively.

There is a wealth of information on a book cover! To make sure you order a specific book, it is best to use the book's ISBN number - do you know where to find it and why an ISBN number is important? We have been introduced to Mary Lennox, who is a young girl whose parents die of cholera in India, she is sent to live with her uncle in England... What happens next?

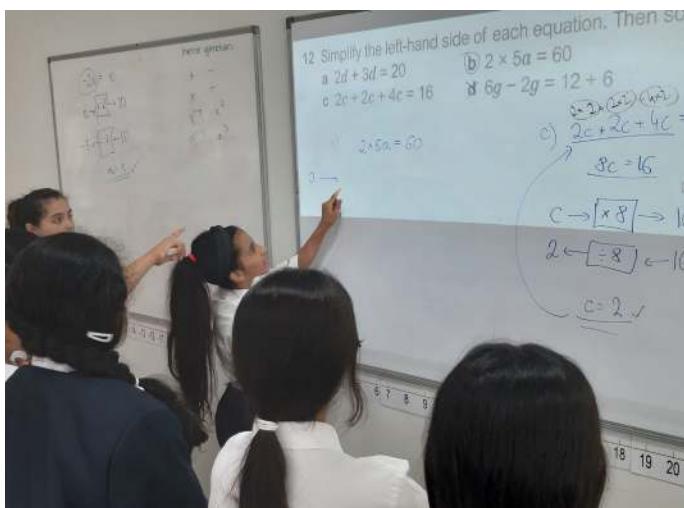


قام طلاب الصف الثامن بمراجعة المهارات التحوية التي تمّت دراستها في الفصل الدراسي الأول مرتكّبين على التمييز بين الاسم المعرّب والاسم المبنيّ وعلامات الإعراب الأصلية والفرعية ومعايير كتابة النص السردي الوصفيّ.

In Art this week, we have started a new topic based on the Self Portrait and Symbolism. We will be examining and analysing artists such as Frida Kahlo and Pablo Picasso as reference in regard to their use of colour and the use of symbolism in their work.

This week in our French lesson, we studied 'la famille' (the family) and we practised saying how many brothers/sisters we have. We also worked on our comprehension skills for homework.

As part of our curriculum, we have to complete at least two country studies. We have decided to study China and will concentrate on the physical and cultural landscapes. We will also study the One-Child Policy and evaluating the successes and failures of this. This week we have been looking at the location of China and an overview of the physical and human features of the country.



PE

PE

This week we have started our games unit in PE. Nursery and FS2 and Key Stage 1 have been busy learning how to throw, catch and bounce a ball with the key focus being on accuracy and co-ordination. This is the start of developing and improving fine motor skills.

Key Stages 2 and 3 have been using their creative skills and designing their own games using a set criteria. Their games had to have a name, rules of play. They had to use equipment of their choice for their games. Once again students demonstrated just how creative they are and worked well in teams to show some amazing learning.

Swimming

As always students were happy to be back in the pool this week. Alongside some assessment to ensure students are grouped accurately, the focus has been recapping on what we learnt last term in front crawl. During assessment we took more than 30 students out of swimming aids and moved them up into the next ability group. Again, a fantastic example of amazing learning.

This week also saw us welcome FS2 to the swimming pool for the first time and we are thrilled to say it was a resounding success. The students have made amazing progress so far this year in PE and we are sure they will do the same in swimming. We look forward to working with our youngest swimmers as they embark on their journeys to learn to swim.

Swim Team practice will recommence week commencing 19/01/2020 when the ECA programme starts again. Letters will be sent out to those who are invited to join the swim squad this term.



Arabic



بكل حماس و فرح نستقبل هذا الأسبوع فصلا دراسيا جديدا، كما نستقبل طلاب آسبن الكرام بعد قضاء أوقات ممتعة و مميزة خلال عطلة الشتاء. ونتمنى لهم جميعاً مزيداً من النجاح و التوفيق خلال هذا الفصل.

أما طلاب الروضة فقد تم مراجعة الحروف السابقة التي تعلموها وكلمات تبدأ بالحروف ومراجعة الأشكال والألوان والأعداد وقراءة بعض القصص مع التركيز على التحدث باللغة العربية الفصحى.

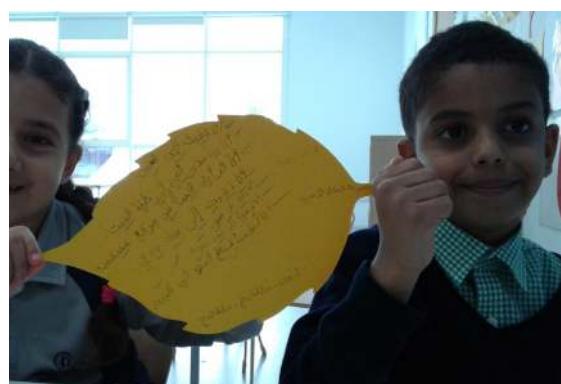
وغذى طلاب السنة الأولى هذا الأسبوع ذاكرتهم بمراجعة الحروف، وتقدير مهاراتهم وقاموا بأنشطة جماعية وفردية متنوعة أما طلاب السنة الثانية فقد تعلّموا التركيب وكيفية تكوين كلمات من خلال الحروف والمقاطع وذلك من خلال الأنشطة الممتعة والمفيدة. أما طلاب السنة الثانية فقد راجعوا الحروف التي تعلموها كما راجعوا مهاري التركيب والتحليل من خلال الأنشطة الممتعة والمفيدة.

استمتع طلاب السنة الثالثة بمراجعة أنواع الكلمة وحروف الجر وسط أنشطة تربوية ممتعة ومفيدة. كما راجع طلاب السنة الرابعة أنواع الجمل وتقدير مهاراتهم السابقة،

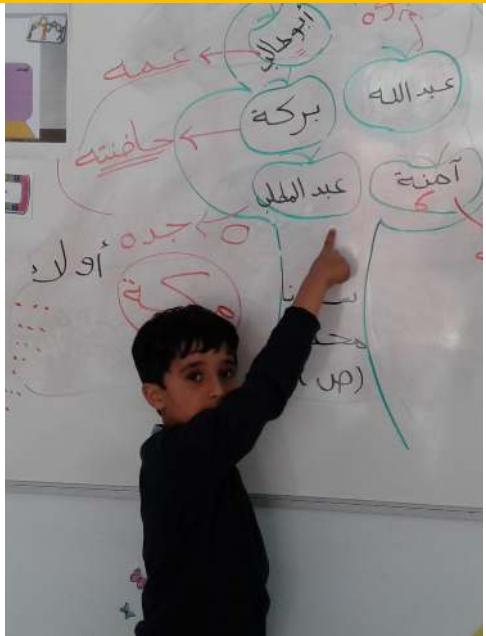
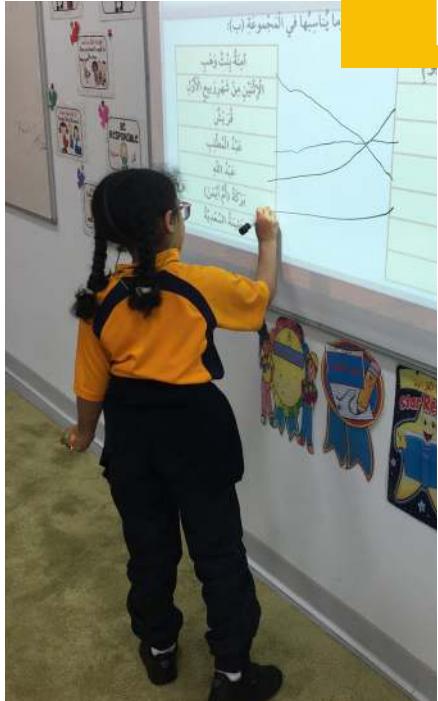
كما استمتع طلاب السنة الخامسة بمراجعة أنواع الجمل والتمكن من تصنيفها وسط أنشطة صافية ممتعة ومفيدة.

أما بالنسبة لطلاب السنة السادسة فقد راجعوا أنواع الخبر من خلال أنشطة فردية وجماعية متنوعة وتقدير مهاراتهم السابقة، أما طلاب الصف السابع فقد درسوا خلال هذا الأسبوع درس نحو بعنوان " تركيب العطف " حيث استطاع الطالب التعرّف على أركان تركيب العطف من معطوف ومعطوف عليه وحروف العطف دلالة ومعنى كل حرف من حروف العطف، كما تمكّن الطّلاب توظيف تركيب العطف في كتاباتهم وتوظيفها كأداة من أدوات الربط .

أما طلاب الصف الثامن فقد درسوا خلال هذا الأسبوع درس نحو " المبني للمجهول " واستطاعوا التمييز بين الفعل المبني للمعلوم والفعل المبني للمجهول، وكيفية بناء الجملة للمجهول.



Islamic



بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

بداية فصل دراسي جديد يحيط به الأمل والتفاؤل والنشاط والمثابرة في تحصيل العلم النافع، والذي يفيد حياتنا اليومية وواقعنا المعاصر، ونهدف به إلى الارتقاء بوطننا الغالي دولة الإمارات، فنحن في مدرسة آسبن هايتز نسعى إلى تنمية عقول أبنائنا الطلاب، وترسيخ قيم سلوكية ودينية تقوم على الوسطية والاعتدال في ديننا من خلال مادة التربية الإسلامية، ومن نافذة أنشطة متعددة تُنفذ من مجموعات طلابية تقوم على التعاون، وما يتخلله من مهارات القرن 21 مثل: والتفكير الناقد، والإبداع والابتكار، ومحاور الهوية الوطنية.



Social Studies



مع بداية فصل دراسي جديد نتمنى لطلابنا المزيد من التقدم . لقد تم هذا الأسبوع إجراء الاختبار التشخيصي لمادة الدراسات الإجتماعية لجميع المراحل لمعرفة المهارات التي أتقنها الطالب والتي يجب العمل عليها خلال هذا الفصل مع الطالب وقد اشتمل الاختبار التشخيصي بعض المهارات التي تعلمها الطالب خلال الفصل السابق وبعض المهارات التي يجب ان يتعلمها خلال هذا الفصل لتتمكن من تزويده بالاستراتيجيات التي تناسب قدراته . ومع بداية الأسبوع القادم سوف يتم البدء في موضوعات الفصل الدراسي الثاني وهي كالتالي :

الصف الثاني : (وسائل النقل البرية والجوية)

الصف الثالث : (المياه السطحية في بلادي)

الصف الرابع : (الجهات الأصلية)

الصف الخامس : (النمو السكاني في بلادي)

الصف السادس : (الموقع الجغرافي لدول مجلس التعاون الخليجي) .

الصف السابع : (المظاهر الطبيعية لقاربة آسيا)

الصف الثامن : (نظم المعلومات الجغرافية)



Music



Students have had fun reading musical notations and performing on the Drums and Woodblocks. Beat is the basic unit of time. The beat is often defined as the rhythm listeners would tap their toes to when listening to a piece of music, or the numbers a musician counts while performing. Beat is the rhythmic noise played on a drum or a woodblock. An example of a beat is the tempo at which a conductor leads an orchestra to play.

