



**Dedicated to delivering  
AMAZING LEARNING**

**Weekly Update**  
Term 2.2, Wk 2 27th February 2020

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Dear families,

### Arabic Language week

Our Arabic team worked incredibly hard this week to ensure your child's Arabic language learning was even more memorable, inspiring and effective. On Monday I was proud to 'open' the 'Aspen City' where children could take part in real life learning in the Aspen hospital, supermarket, bank and museum. Our Aspen children love learning in Arabic just as much as they enjoy their learning in other curriculum areas. This is because our Arabic and English curriculum colleagues work collaboratively together, drawing on good practice in both curricula and ensuring children receive similar experiences in both. Staff training and development is key to the success of the development in teaching and learning, and we are so appreciative of our hard working team who embrace new learning so wholeheartedly.



Our assembly this morning showcased the creative learning opportunities, memorable experiences and fun that has been experienced by both native and non-native students this week.

Momtaz!

### Covid-19 (Coronavirus) update

The safety and wellbeing of children, families and staff at Aspen Heights is our number one priority. I wish to update you with the measures we are taking to ensure the school is safe and hygienic, how we are teaching the children to be safe in their hygiene, and to request information from you.



### Preventative measures:

- Our cleaning solutions company always adhere to very high levels of cleanliness and hygiene. During this time, they have all had training regarding additional cleansing services to be carried out. We are also carrying out 'deep-cleans' every weekend until further notice.

- Every classroom and corridor has an antibacterial hand sanitizer dispenser. We have informed children, and encourage them to use this at regular intervals in the day. Handwashing and cleansing is a routine before children have snacks or lunch.

### Information required:

If you have recently travelled abroad to China, Iran, Korea or Italy, please complete the form on the link below:

Please see the latest Department of Health advice on the link here:

<https://www.doh.gov.ae/en/health-information/Novel-Coronavirus>

### Trips and visits

This week our Year 1 and FS2 children enriched their curriculum experience with educational visits to Emirates Park Zoo and the turtle conservation project at Jumeirah Saadiyat. Thank you to the teachers who worked hard to arrange these trips, keeping children safe in our community, and to family helpers, our 'helping hands' who supported.



### Child-led conferencing

This term we are launching a new initiative to enable your children to reflect on their learning, be aware of their strengths and areas for development, and be confident in their communication. Family conferencing on Tuesday 3rd March ( 2.30-4.30) and Wednesday 4th March (2.30-6.00) will be led by your child, with the support of their teacher. Please sign up for a meeting slot on the parent portal if you have not yet done so.

### اجتماع الاهالي بقيادة الطلاب

هذا الفصل سنضيف مبادرة جديدة لتمكين طلابنا من التفكير فيما تعلموا، إدراك نقاط قوتهم و أين يحتاجون لمزيد من التطوير، وزيادة ثقتهم بنفسهم في تواصلهم الاجتماعي. سيكون اجتماع الأهالي المقام الأسبوع القادم يومي الثلاثاء (2:30-4:30) والاربعاء (2:30-6:00) بقيادة الطالب، مع مساعدة المعلمة. يرجى حجز موعد في اجتماع الأهالي في حال لم تقوموا بالحجز بعد.

Many thanks for your continued support, and have a wonderful weekend with your families.

Mrs Emma Shanahan, Principal





## Primary Update

What a fantastic Arabic Week we have had. The students and staff have worked extremely hard and I have even learnt some new words - see if you can find out what my favourite Arabic word is! I have also been teaching in Year 1 Jerboa class this week and I have been so proud of how independently they have worked, producing some fantastic maths work using addition. Year 1 also enjoyed their trip to the zoo which links in to their 'Crazy Creatures' topic. Year 1 Sandcats wrote a fantastic recount using time openers. I also taught science in Year 2 Oryx this week and they were extremely knowledgeable about the human organs and they labelled them inside the body and explained facts about these. Year 5 Hawksbills also impressed me with their grammar by being able to write in the past and present tense. Well done to FS2 who had a brilliant trip to Saadiyat learning about marine animals. Another busy and enjoyable week at Aspen Heights. I look forward to seeing you all for Family Conferencing next week on Tuesday and Wednesday. Have a great weekend.



Mrs Laura Stevens  
Head of Primary



Class	Attendance%	Late%
Oasis	87.50%	0%
FS1 Butterflies	88.60%	0.52%
FS1 Geckoes	92.42%	2.53%
FS1 Hedgehogs	88.89%	3.54%
FS1 Mice	96.67%	0.95%
FS2 Bulbuls	89.39%	1.01%
FS2 Doves	91.30%	4.35%
FS2 Ducks	92.27%	2.42%
FS2 Pipits	90.91%	3.03%
FS2 Sparrows	89.37%	7.73%
Y1 Foxes	87.88%	5.05%
Y1 Hares	97.62%	1.19%
Y1 Jerboa	97.16%	1.70%
Y1 Sandcat	90.22%	5.98%
Y2 Camels	91.92%	4.55%
Y2 Leopards	93.65%	5.29%
Y2 Oryx	92.59%	4.76%
Y3 Flamingos	92.98%	3.51%
Y3 Kingfishers	94.71%	1.59%
Y3 Ostrich	97.08%	1.17%
Y4 Falcons	87.78%	6.67%
Y4 Houbara	86.55%	7.02%
Y5 Hawksbills	95.32%	3.51%
Y5 Parrotfish	94.44%	3.70%
Y6 Dolphin	98.29%	1.71%
Y6 Seahorses	92.31%	5.77%
Y7 Mariyah	91.92%	6.06%
Y7 Saadiyat	89.74%	5.98%
Y8 Futaishi	88.89%	1.59%
Y8 Yas	83.33%	9.8%

## Attendance

Well done to FS1 Mice, Year 1 Hares Year 4 Dolphins, and Year 7 Mariyah who had the best class attendance in their key stage for this week.

Well done to Oasis who had no late children at all.

Great effort and I'm sure the children will enjoy the 5 minutes extra playtime.

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.

Please see the attendance and punctuality table above.



## Secondary Update

This week we have had an amazing week of celebrating Arabic language in Aspen Heights. We've seen plays, heard stories, watched assemblies and visited Aspen City!

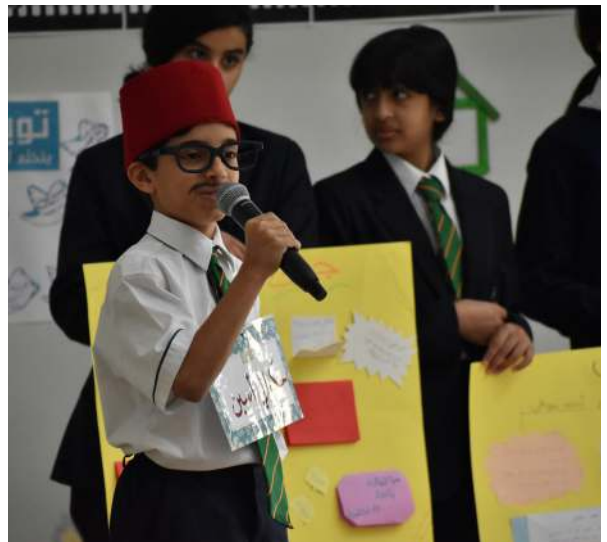


I've seen some wonderful work in Mathematics this week and integration of technology in Art lessons.

Next week is our family conferencing. Please bring your children with you as they are going to lead the meetings and show you what they've been learning and how they've learned.

Coming up in a few weeks is the Science Fayre. I've asked your children to complete a Science project at home which they will present to the rest of their peers in Secondary School on 9th March. I hope to see lots of innovative ideas.

Dr. Kate Plumb  
Head of Secondary





# Arabic Week





# Arabic Week





# Nursery



Thank you to all the families who joined us on Thursday for International Day. We had so much fun performing on stage and then visiting all the stalls. An extra big thank you to the class reps and other parents who helped make the day such a success!!

We have continued our new topic 'Sky High' and our Talk4Writing story 'Whatever Next'. The story helped inspire some creative drawings and paintings in the mark making areas of our classrooms.

This week we enjoyed Arabic week and listened to a story in Arabic. That was really exciting! Ask your child about the story.

In literacy, we looked at the story Whatever Next and discussed the characters. We also used props to retell the story.



In mathematics, we had so much fun making our own rockets and then seeing how far they could fly. We enjoyed measuring the distance to see whose rocket could fly the farthest.

We had such a great time making our own moon out of tin foil too and we made a class Lava Lamp, which was amazing!

We have also started practicing a new song in our classes for Drama Workshop week! Next week we will be continuing our book called Whatever Next and learning more about the moon and rockets.





This week the children have had an amazing time beginning their new book 'The Tiny Seed'. We have read the story and began to learn about plants and flowers and where they come from. The children have been planting their own seeds and learning about what it needs to grow, such as water, sunlight and nutrients from the soil.

We visited Saadiyat beach also this week and learnt the importance of keeping the beach clean and tidy in order to keep the animals safe. We spotted lots of different plants and also a couple of sand beetles hiding in the sand! We had lots of fun and the children were very excited to come back and continue their learning in the classroom.



In mathematics, this week we have been continuing our learning of measure, and comparing taller and shorter objects in the classroom as well as children in the class. We have a height chart in our classroom that the children love to check to see if they are growing!

Thank you to the parents who joined us on our trip, as well as everyone for your continued support.





# Year 1



This week has been extremely fun in Year 1. On Monday and Tuesday we walked to Emirates Zoo to enhance our learning about animals and the children had a fantastic day. We watched a sea lion show and the children saw a lot of animals they had never seen in real life before. When we came back, the children wrote a recount about the trip and we will continue to use our zoo experience in our topic and science learning. In English this week, the children started a new unit called 'Crazy Creatures' which fascinated them all so much. Ask your child to name some of the creatures - they are all very strange.



We have been asking questions and researching facts about each one this week and will continue with this work next week too. In mathematics, we have been doing addition and the children are showing that their mental maths skills are getting better which is great to see. Everyone has also enjoyed the activities which have been happening throughout Arabic week. Have a great weekend!





# Year 2

In English this week, we had a mystery box sent to us which was full of clues as to where the postcard we have received was from. After some investigating, looking closely at the mystery items and discussing them we made predictions about where we thought the postcard had come from. After we read the postcard, we discovered it was from a boy visiting London in England. We have also completed some more grammar work on different sentence types, identifying questions, exclamation sentences, statements and commands. We are getting very good at writing a range of sentence types now.



In our mathematics sessions this week, we have been working on our place value knowledge, recognising the amount of tens and ones in two digit numbers and completing challenging tasks to practise this. In our mental maths, we have been practising counting in twos, fives and tens and trying to increase our times table fluency.

This week we have started a new science topic called humans, health and fitness. Our teachers were very impressed with all our knowledge of the different parts of the body and even our internal organs. We drew around each other on the playground and worked in groups to label as many body parts as we could. After we spoke about animals and their babies, we loved hearing all the different names for the animals' babies.





# Year 3



We had so many fun activities during Arabic week! We enjoyed filming our teachers having an Arabic conversation with students, choosing books in the Book Fair and playing games through Arabic in the hall. We are excited to share our learning with families during assembly on Thursday.

In English we used the story 'The Wolves in the Walls' to write persuasive letters to the wolves to leave Lucy's house and let the family return. We also learned how to use dialogue and different forms of punctuation in our writing. In mathematics, we worked on solving addition calculations and carried out measurement investigations using the classroom environment.



Our new topic in art and science is light and shadows. We had fun using torches to test and see if materials in the classroom were transparent, translucent or opaque. We learned how to mix paint to create different shades of colour to create a grey cat!

Wishing everyone a wonderful, restful weekend.





# Year 4

This week in year 4, we have had a busy week of learning. In English, we continued to learn about writing recipes. We had fun on kahoot testing our knowledge of a and an. As well as having the chance to be boastful, writing about how fantastic we are!

In mathematics, we changed our teachers. As part of our lessons we showed off our super counting skills and showed what amazing problem solvers we are discovering missing numbers and correcting mistakes.



Science lessons this half term are all about sound. We had the challenge of remaining silent whilst going on a sound walk around the school, observing all the sounds that we could hear. After this, we got the chance to be noisy by exploring the science of sound with a tuning fork and water.



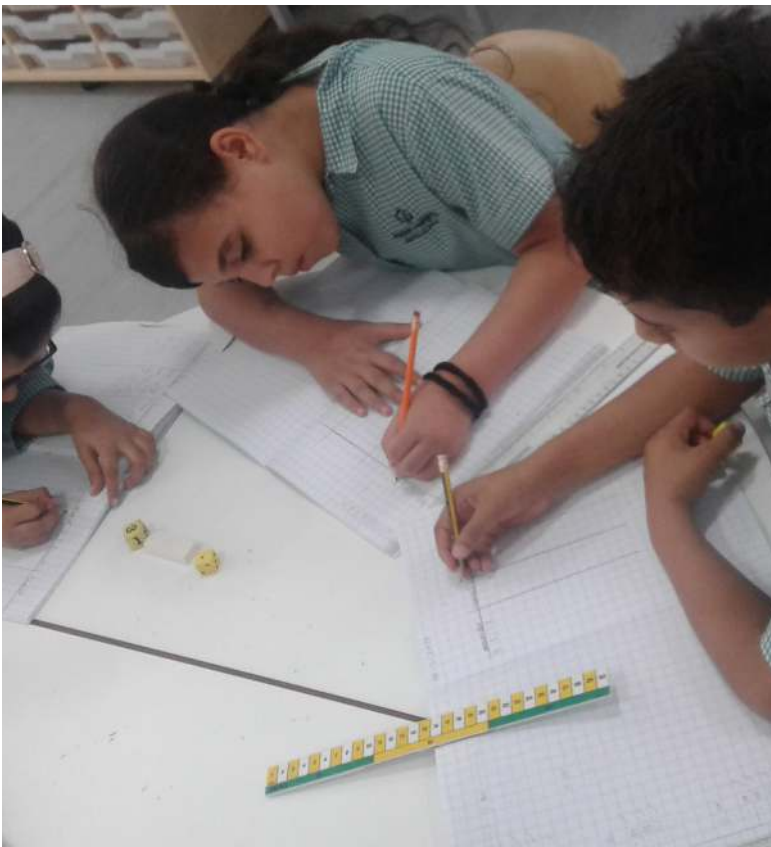
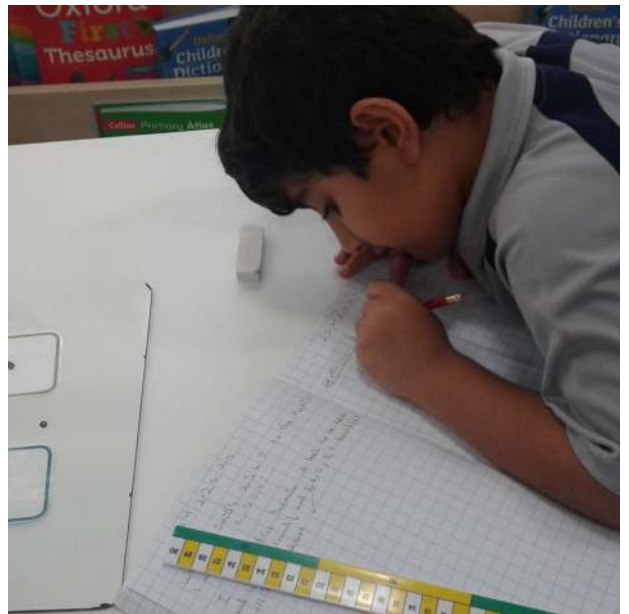


# Year 5



This week in English, we have started to 'box up' our postcards from all over the world. We have thought about the times we have been on holiday and what we wanted to tell our families and friends back home. We have used lots of new vocabulary to make our postcards interesting and have learnt about writing in the past tense and first person.

In mathematics this week, we have learnt about rounding. We have used puzzles and reasoning skills to help us figure out rounding problems. We have followed patterns and this has helped us to remember the steps. We created our own problems and solved them with our friends.



We have been very busy researching Arabic artists this week in computing and have started to draw our own pictures in the style of these artists. This has also helped us prepare for our trip to Manarat Al Saadiyat next week! In science, we have continued learning about materials and have investigated solutions and dissolving!





# Year 6

WOW! Yet another week full of amazing learning experiences and fun. We have really enjoyed Arabic Week and working on projects throughout the school to celebrate the Arabic language. For example, interviewing our teachers, reading stories with younger children and spelling quizzes!

In English, our current topic has drawn to a close. We did this by planning and inventing our very own unique suspense stories. We reflected on all of the learning in this topic and applied it to our own creative writing. The children enjoyed becoming teachers and marking their own writing by identifying their 'think pink' and 'good green' elements in their stories.



In mathematics, we have explored strategies to use when solving multiplication problems, such as the grid method and long multiplication and deepened our understanding by solving problems. Some of us wore our problem solving hats and converted dates written in Roman Numerals into English dates and then researched a special event in the UAE that happened in that year.

In science, we have started our topic on Light. We became Light Detectives and walked around the school finding various light sources and thinking about how the light was used, the strength of light, and how much light passes through certain things. We had lots of fun looking at shadows and how they are not always quite what they seem!





# Year 7



Both classes this week made super use of reference texts (dictionaries and thesauruses) in English - well done! Black Beauty - in a sudden turn of events Black Beauty falls ill. John blames little Joe Green's ignorance for this. Joe, who is kind-hearted, did not have the knowledge he needed to care for Beauty, hence Beauty's illness. The themes of self-discipline, morality, friendship and animal welfare are coming to life as pupils trace them through the novel's plot.

In Humanities, we have continued our work on The Norman Conquest and have looked at the qualities the new King of England should have. We looked at the various contenders to the throne and who became King. We have started looking at the challenges the new King faces and the battles he faces to remain King.

In Mathematics, we started talking about probability. We discussed the outcomes connected with fair dice, set of cards, spinners and a coin. We also counted probabilities and we discovered the probability of the event that is "not happening".



In Art this week, we looked at how to start building around the idea of modifying a portrait to suit the style of Tim Burton. In addition, we touched upon mood and how to create atmosphere for the overall feeling of an art piece.

This week in our French lesson, we have been focusing on rooms in the house. We are currently working on designing a floor plan of our own house or an imaginary house and labelling it in French.

This week in Computing, we are creating a school blog with pictures and write ups of what we have been learning in different subjects. We have been creating different Paint 3D models and exploring different drawing and painting techniques in Paint 3D.

In Science this week, we looked at the skeleton and found out why we need a skeleton and its three main functions. We then looked at antagonistic muscle movement and made a model arm.





# Year 8

In our French lesson this week, we have been looking at types of houses and rooms in the house. We have also been working on writing paragraphs in which we describe where we live and the types of rooms we have in our own houses.

In Mathematics, we reflected on graphs. In remaining lessons we discovered a difference between ratio and proportion and we solved real life and engineering problems that include those topics.

Art class this week was focused on value and the application of this concept in portrait making. Students found it interesting, through various exercises, that this could assist in making a two dimensional surface look three dimensional.

Our character list in The Secret Garden is growing. This week Mary met Colin, her cousin. Colin is intrigued by Mary who talks to him as an equal and who, from Colin's perspective has a vast knowledge of the outside world. Colin, however, was not prepared for Mary's feistiness, she is as feisty as he is, they are an 'agreeable' match (equally matched) in their temper. Will a friendship develop out of the conflict between the characters or will there be a dramatic twist in the plot?



This week in Computing, we are creating a school blog with pictures and write ups of what we have been learning in different subjects. We have been creating different Paint 3D models and exploring different drawing and painting techniques in Paint 3D.

In Geography, we have started a topic which will last two weeks due to the importance of it. We are studying the causes, effects and solutions of pollution in China due to its economic expansion. Cause, Effect, Solution is important 'Scaffolding' for the students Geographical learning and will underpin much of their future studies.

In Science this week, we consolidated our work regarding cellular respiration and looked at the effect of a lack of oxygen on the body, discovering EPOC and how to overcome it. We then moved on to our next topic, where we planned an investigation to find out what factors affect the rusting process.





## PE

We have continued to develop critical thinking skills through our Outdoor Adventurous Activities (OAA) unit. The unit consists of lots of problem solving, teamwork and teambuilding activities, devising strategies to solve and figure out tasks set and learning how to read simple maps and plans.

### Swimming

This week we have started lessons on essential self life saving skills in Key Stage 2 and 3 students whilst our Nursery, FS2 and Key Stage 1 students continue to work on building confidence and improving stroke technique.

Swim Team practice continues with some amazing progress being made in every training session. Years 2, 3 and 4 practice is during ECA on Mondays and Years 5,6,7 and 8 during ECA on a Tuesday.

### The PE Team





# Arabic



هذا الأسبوع كان أسبوعاً مميزاً حقاً، إذ أنه أسبوع الاحتفال باللغة العربية الذي تنوعت فيه الأنشطة و الفعاليات المختلفة من يوم لآخر، حيث أن طلاب آسبن استمتعوا كثيراً منذ اليوم الأول بقراءة قصص مشوقة و مسلية مع حضور بعض أولياء الأمور و الكاتبة الإماراتية الصغيرة مريم صلاح الجنيبي.

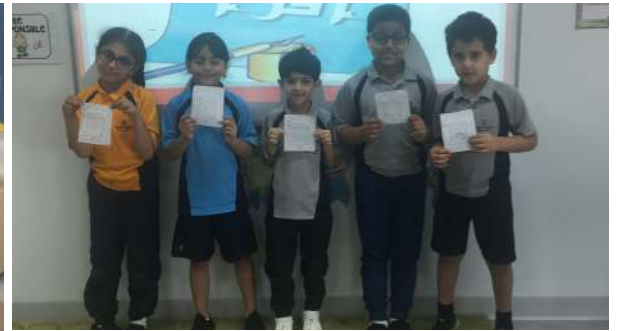
أما اليوم الثاني فقد كان يوم ممتع ومميز باستقبال الضيف المميز ألا هو الحكواتي الذي أضاف على الصفوف جواً من المرح و البهجة حين دخل على الطلاب فجأة و قص عليهم حكاية طريفة و مسلية كما غنى معهم أغنية (أنا الحكواتي) أما بالنسبة لليوم الثالث الذي كان يوم المفاجأة بالنسبة للجميع، حيث أن الطلاب اكتشفوا مدينة آسبن المذهلة التي كانت تزخر بالأنشطة و الأركان المتنوعة منها حديقة الحيوان، المستشفى، الصيدلية، المسرح، المتحف القرية التراثية، المتحف الإسلامي...وقد قام الطلاب بالتنقل من ركن إلى ركن حاملين معهم تجربة رائعة قاموا بها من خلال نشاط تعليمي أو لعبة تعليمية هادفة لتطوير مهارات اللغة العربية لديهم فكانت بالنسبة لهم رحلة ممتعة حقاً و تجربة فريدة من نوعها. وفي اليوم التالي، شهدت مدينة آسبن نمطاً آخر من الفنون و الإبداع، حيث أنه كان يوم الفن و الزخارف العربية، فتعلم الطلاب بعض فنون الزخرفة و أشكالها. كما عرض طلاب الصف السابع مسرحية ممتعة عنوانها (محكمة اللغة العربية) كل الشكر والتقدير لفريق قسم اللغة العربية على الجهد الذي بذلوه من أجل نجاح هذا الأسبوع كما نخص بالشكر أيضاً كل أولياء الأمور الذين ساهموا في الفعاليات والأنشطة الخاصة بأسبوع اللغة العربية، فقد أضافت زيارتهم للصفوف بهجة و جواً تعليمي رائعاً.







بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ  
أسبوع جديد بنشاطاته المتعددة والهادفة، أدمجت فيه مادة التربية الإسلامية بنشاطاتها الممتعة والتي تعطي الطالب دافعية  
التعلم مع مادة اللغة العربية في أسبوع اللغة العربية لغة القرآن الكريم الذي أوحى الله به إلى نبيه الكريم صلى الله عليه  
وسلم حين نزل عليه جبريل الأمين فقال له: ( اقرأ ).





# Social Studies



هذا الأسبوع تعلم طلاب الصف الثاني درس بعنوان مهن في بلادي ، كما تعلم طلاب الصف الثالث عن هويتي الوطنية والمستندات الرسمية التي تثبت الهوية الوطنية ، في حين تعلم طلاب الصف الرابع درس بعنوان واجباتي اتجاه وطني في حين تعلم طلاب الصف الخامس درس بعنوان إمارة ومسمى ، كما تعلم طلاب الصف السادس درس بعنوان الحقوق والواجبات في بلادي وقد تم ربط كل هذه الموضوعات بالعديد من الإستراتيجيات والأنشطة الفعالة التي تحقق الهدف هذا إلى جانب الربط باللغة العربية .  
وفيما يخص المرحلة الثانوية فقد تعلم طلاب الصف السابع عن درس المدرسة الإماراتية وتعرفوا على مراحل التعليم في دولة الإمارات كما تعرف طلاب الصف الثامن على جهود الشيخ زايد على المستوى العربي والمحلي من خلال درس ( زايد والتاريخ ) .





# Music



This week in Music we learned about the ukulele. The ukulele is a member of the guitar family of instruments. It generally employs four nylon strings. A ukulele is one of those instruments that are quite unique in their nature. Originating in Hawaii, the ukulele has played and still plays a valuable role in the culture of this island. The most important aspect of teaching a student to play the ukulele is getting them interested in playing it. Students learn the basic chords, strumming patterns, keeping in mind some songs to learn, such as simple tunes which they perform in the Music class.

