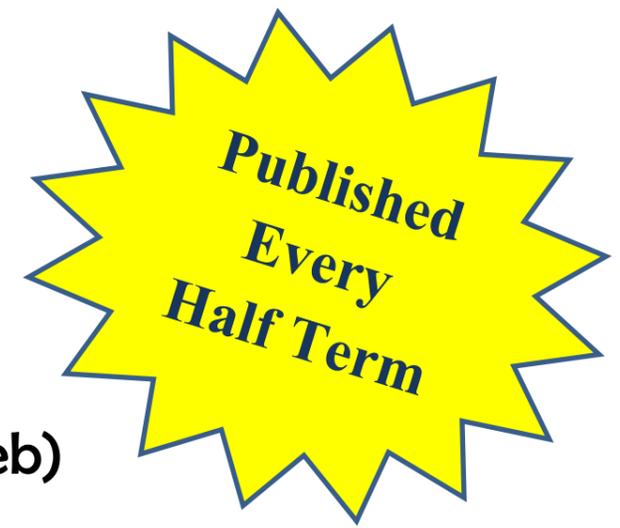




Egypt British International School

Teaching & Learning Stuff

What Have We Been Learning – Year 2 Spring Term 2022 (Jan – Feb)



Fiction Genre: Traditional Tales

Non-Fiction Genre: Non-Chronological Reports

Poems: Poetic Forms & Features

This term, we started off by our fiction genre – Traditional Tales. The children were introduced to two of many exquisite tales: 'Meerkat Mail' and 'The Magic Paintbrush'. They learned how to talk the text of both fictions using a story map. They were very enthused and had lots of fun telling the story while acting out the actions through pictures. The children are now experts with our Talk for Writing Process, they innovated the characters, settings and other details and planned out their own version of both stories. Finally, they wrote their new stories while structuring a beginning, middle and end during their 'Hot Write.'

We then introduced the children to Non-Chronological Reports and explained that they are a form of presenting information in many different ways such as: a non-fiction book, letter, information poster, news report or a tourist leaflet/brochure. The children began by recapping the main features of an information text which was previously taught last term (heading, subheadings, caption, paragraphs, and introduction). We then focused on one of the many examples mentioned above: 'A Tourist Leaflet', and discussed its main features and how to structure and present the information on a leaflet. The children then planned, designed and created their own Tourist leaflet about China, which is our current theme for Spring term in Year 2.

Along this, during this term in Grammar we revisited present and past tense, introduced word synonyms, pronouns and contractions.

Finally, during the last two weeks of this term, children revisited Poetry; yet explored new poetic forms and features. The children learnt a couple of new poetic features: syllables and onomatopoeia. Then we learnt all about Limericks, Haikus and Shape Poems and the children had a go at writing their own versions, which were exquisitely remarkable to witness!



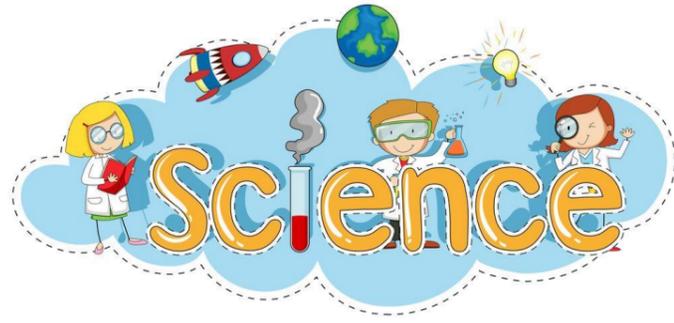
We started off our Math curriculum this term by recapping what place value is and how to place numbers on the number line. By doing so, students were able to determine which multiple of tens a number comes in between. Then, we extended their understanding by rounding numbers to the nearest tens.

We again revisited addition and subtraction concepts and introduced a new technique by finding the difference between two numbers using the frog method by counting on. Furthermore, students were introduced on finding change from 20 pounds by using their knowledge of bonds of 10 and 20.

Students were then introduced to recognise and identify properties of 3D shapes (including faces and vertices) and sort them accordingly. Additionally, we practised on how to tell the time to the nearest quarter on analogue and digital clocks.

Lastly, students were introduced to understand fractions and write mixed numbers. They were able to recognise $\frac{1}{2}$ s, $\frac{1}{4}$ s, $\frac{1}{3}$ s, and $\frac{2}{3}$ s of shapes. Furthermore they learnt to place $\frac{1}{2}$ s on a number line and count in $\frac{1}{2}$ s and $\frac{1}{4}$ s.

Teaching & Learning Stuff



Topic: Everyday Materials and Investigations

This half term in Science, we have been learning all about everyday materials. We started by introducing various materials and their properties like: wood, glass, metal, leather, plasticine and many more. Children learnt how to classify and sort these materials into different groups according to their properties. Moreover, children were also introduced to the difference between natural and man-made materials and they learnt to identify materials that are natural and materials that are man-made.

In addition to that, children learnt how some materials can change shape; by squashing, bending, stretching and twisting, while others can't. Also, they learnt how different products can be made from wood. They were introduced to the whole process of how paper is made and that paper originally comes from wood. Finally, the children were introduced to material inventors such as John Boyd Dunlop, Charles Macintosh and John Loudon McAdam. They learnt how they all looked at materials scientifically and made things that are still used today. It was one informative topic that children enjoyed learning and understanding about!

Topic: Significant Characters

This term has been momentous for the children as we have been exploring significant characters in History! They were introduced to the term 'significant' and explored the different reasons how and why a person becomes significant. The children did not only learn about what made each of our characters important but were also exposed to their background including their date of birth, childhood, education, family, their lives and achievements after they became famous, concluding with when and how they died.

We started off by explaining the space race that once occurred between Russia and the United States of America, which led to learning all about the first human to step foot on the moon; Neil Armstrong, followed by Buzz Aldrin. The children were then introduced to the Scottish inventor, Alexander Graham Bell, who invented the first practical telephone. They then learnt all about the Wright Brothers; Wilbur and Orville Wright, who successfully invented the first man-steered aircraft in 1903. The children got to know how they were so resilient and never gave up on their dream when no one believed them.

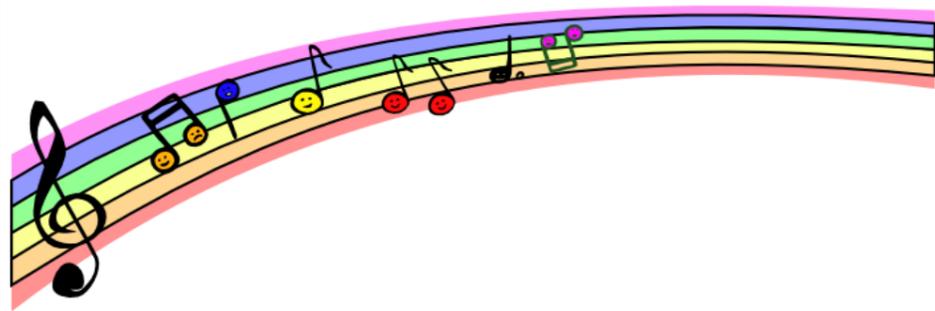
We then transitioned to a completely unique character that became significant after he died and not while he was alive. Vincent Van Gogh, a Dutch Post-Impressionist painter who became one of the most famous and influential figures in Western art history. The children then chose between two of his most famous paintings 'The Starry Night' or 'The Sunflowers' and enjoyed recreating one of them. We wrapped up the term with yet again an inspiring significant woman who changed people's thoughts about a woman's role in society and is mostly known for making hospitals a cleaner and safer place to be. Florence Nightingale the founder of modern nursing and the first woman who was awarded the honour of the Order of Merit by Queen Victoria in 1907! The children were surely all inspired and motivated learning all about these astounding figures whom forever changed the world - "There is nothing impossible to them who will try." Alexander the Great!



Topic: Going for Goals!

In the past half term, Year 2 children have taken the time to reflect on their current achievements and at the same time, set targets that they aim to achieve. It truly was a chance for the children to dream big and believe they can shoot for the stars!

Children learned the difference between short and long term goals. They practiced setting goals for themselves while acknowledging the steps needed to reach these goals. Furthermore, they knew all about bouncebackability and perseverance. It doesn't matter how much one might fail, what matters is that one keeps trying and never gives up!



Music

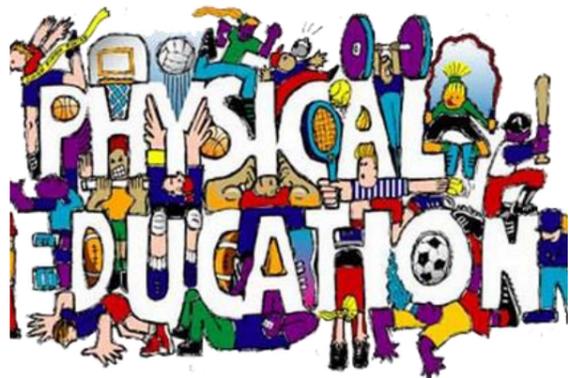
This half term, the children learnt all about the value and power of music in its different forms. In addition to continuing to learn about dynamics with reference to loud and soft sounds from last term. They excitedly also listened and identified both single notes and a series of notes.



Art

This term the children enjoyed making Chinese themed crafts to match our China Theme for Spring Term! They created Chinese Lanterns with coloured paper, drew a Chinese dragon and a traditional Chinese house.

The children also created a Valentine card with a 3D heart in its center!



This term, the children were so excited to practice some fitness exercises as warm ups to our P.E lessons. They then learnt all about Athletics exercises where they sprinted races, performed hurdle jumps and practiced overhand throwing motion. The children found it very interesting and had a blast training together!

Computer Science

This term the children continued their learning journey with 'Scratch'. Scratch is a program, the world's largest coding community for children which has a coding language with a simple visual interface that allows young people to create digital stories, games, and animations. The program continues to promote the children's computational thinking, problem solving skills and creative learning. Scratch also helped the children to self-express themselves and collaborate to create their own digital graphics!

