



PUTTING THE FUN BACK
INTO LEARNING!

Grade 3 Curriculum Update

February 2016

Curriculum

Grade 3 have been working very hard during the first few weeks of term two and we have already covered a lot of new topics and areas as mentioned in the previous newsletter.

We have begun streaming for Maths and English to group the children, allowing for further personalisation of their learning. Please be aware that learning in class, homework, weekly tests (spelling/timetables) and other aspects of your child's learning will differ between each class and between pupils. This is so everything is tailored to the needs of your child to ensure maximum progress can be made throughout the year.

Please contact your child's new Maths and English teacher if you have any questions or issues you want to discuss.

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Ms Anna (3AN) anna@albasmaschool.ae

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English

In English we have been focusing on story settings, story structures and how to use story maps and actions to retell the fairy-tale 'The three Billy Goat's Gruff'. Over the next few weeks we will focus on the new genre of explanations texts, why they are used, how they are structured and the language features within these text types. Grammar will also be a focus for term two and one lesson a week in English will be dedicated to grammar, spelling and punctuation.

Maths

We have been busy learning about 2d and 3d shapes and angles over the last few weeks. During February we will move on to new topics which include rounding numbers to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000. To support your child with this please make sure they are familiar with counting in groups of ten. We will be estimating to check answers to a calculation, first rounding the numbers, before adding or subtracting to provide an estimated answer, then using the previously taught column method for addition and subtraction to work out the exact answer. We will also be learning how to use the inverse operation to check answers to a calculation and finding the perimeter and area of given shapes.

Science

In Science we are continuing with our topic of states of matter. We will focus particularly on identifying the part played by evaporation and condensation in the water cycle and associating the rate of evaporation with temperature along with understanding why water is so important to living organisms and ways in which we can conserve water in our everyday lives.

Topic

In topic we have been enjoying learning about the lives of the ancient Egyptians. We will continue with this topic during February, focusing on exploring artefacts and understanding what they can tell us about the daily lives of the Egyptians, the ancient ritual of mummification and also investigating the discovery of famous tombs and pyramids. We will explore the topic of Egyptians through Art and DT. In DT we will be designing and making our own Egyptian jewellery and in Art we will be using pastels to create portraits of famous Ancient Egyptians.

Homework and weekly spelling tests

Your child receives homework every Sunday. Please return this completed each Wednesday. We would like your support in continuing to encourage children to prepare for their weekly spelling test by helping them to practise at home. Please also continue to practise times tables at home – by the end of Grade 3 children are expected to know and be able to recall their times tables facts up to 12 x 12!

Uniform

Please ensure your child comes to school each day wearing correct uniform. School shoes should be black. All items of uniform are now in stock in all sizes to buy from Zak's so we now expect to see each student wearing correct uniform.

Stationary

This is a further polite reminder that your child needs to have a labelled pencil case containing these stationary items: *pencils; colouring pencils; glue stick; scissors; ruler; eraser; whiteboard markers.*

Please make sure your child's stationary is **labelled**, especially whiteboard markers, glue sticks and scissors. Thank you very much to all who have done this.

Thank you for your continued support.

With kind regards,

Grade 3 teachers.