



PUTTING THE FUN BACK
INTO LEARNING!

Grade 2 Curriculum Guide

January 2016

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year! We hope you had a lovely winter holiday. We would like to welcome two new teachers to Grade 2: Ms. Roisin and Mr. Oliver. Mr. John (2C) and Ms. Zoe (2G) left Al Basma at the end of last term but they did everything they could to ensure a smooth transition by preparing your child for their new teacher. Ms. Roisin will be teaching 2G and Mr. Oliver will be teaching 2C. They are both qualified and experienced teachers from the UK and they are very much looking forward to working with your children over the next two terms. I am sure you will join us in welcoming them to Grade 2.

A list of e-mail addresses has been included below. Please feel free to contact your child's teacher by e-mail, or by writing in the home/school organiser.

| | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| 2SO (2A) – Ms Sophie | sophie@albasmaschool.ae |
| 2SA (2B) – Ms. Saima | saima@albasmaschool.ae |
| 2OL (2C) – Mr. Oliver | oliver.k@albasmaschool.ae |
| 2LU (2E) – Ms. Lucy | lucy@albasmaschool.ae |
| 2NI (2F) – Ms. Nicola | nicola@albasmaschool.ae |
| 2RO (2G) – Ms. Roisin | roisin.b@albasmaschool.ae |
| 2HA (2H) – Ms. Hannah | hannah.c@albasmaschool.ae |

Curriculum

For the first 3 weeks in English, we will be focusing on Traditional Tales, building up to writing a Traditional Tale from a key character's perspective. In order to do this we will be re-visiting speech marks, the use of adjectives, and exchanging 'said' for more precise verbs e.g. whispered, shouted, cried etc. We will also start focusing on writing in paragraphs.

For the first 3 weeks in Maths, we will be looking at Geometry, focusing on the properties of 2D and 3D shapes. We will be identifying vertical and horizontal lines and pairs of perpendicular and parallel lines in 2D shapes, as well as lines of symmetry. We will also be identifying right angles in shapes, and learning to recognise obtuse and acute angles.

In Science, Grade 2 children are becoming rock detectives! We are looking at what materials are made from rocks, and we will be investigating what is beneath our feet. We will also be asking why volcanoes erupt and where they are found in the world, and we will be learning to explain how fossils are formed.

In Geography, we will be exploring volcanoes, investigating the causes of earthquakes, tsunamis and tornadoes. We will evaluate the effect that volcanoes and extreme weather conditions have on humans and different environments.

In History, our topic is Ancient Rome and the ROMANS! We are going to explore where the Roman Empire began and learn about the famous Emperor Julius Caesar. We will look at Hadrian's Wall and research what its' purpose was. In addition, we will explore the topic of Romans through Art, and Design and Technology (DT). In Art we are going to make our own pieces of Roman jewellery and pottery. In DT we will be making models of Ancient Roman buildings and aqueducts.

Reports

Reports can be collected from Reception if your child was absent on the last day of term.

Homework

Please note that in response to parental suggestions, homework will now be handed out on **Wednesday** and should be returned the following **Sunday**.

Stationary

Please ensure that your child is ready for the new term with a labelled pencil case containing these stationary items: *pencils; colouring pencils; glue stick; scissors; ruler; eraser; whiteboard markers*. Term 2 stationary packs will be available to purchase from the school store next week.

Please make sure your child's stationary is **labelled**, especially whiteboard markers, glue sticks and scissors.

Uniform

All uniform can be bought from Zak's in Al Raha Mall. Please ensure that your child is wearing the correct school uniform every day. All items should be labelled with your child's name. Black shoes **must** be worn on non-PE days. Please, no 'home clothes' to be worn, including jeans. Also football boots are not appropriate for school even on PE days!

Parent Meeting

There will be a Progress Evening on the 25th and 26th of January from 4.30pm to 7pm, where we will discuss your child's individual targets with you in person. Further details will follow in the appointment letter.

We are looking forward to teaching your children over the next few weeks, and we thank you in advance for your continuing support and co-operation.

Kind regards,

The Grade 2 team