



PUTTING THE FUN BACK
INTO LEARNING!

Grade 4 Curriculum Guide

January 2016

The monthly Curriculum Guide is to inform you about the up-coming teaching for January in Grade 4. It will detail the topics, and the key concepts to be taught and how you can support the learning of your child from home. We hope the children had a well-deserved break and are refreshed and ready to build on the excellent progress they made in term one. With term two being shorter than term one your child's attendance is vitally important as we have lots of content to cover in a shorter period. Your child will continue to work in their streamed classes for Maths and English and they should be focusing on achieving the targets set in the initial parent meeting. Please remember 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 and personalised to meet the needs of each child to ensure maximum progress can be made throughout the year.

Parent and Teacher contact:

Please note your child's teachers can answer any specific curriculum, homework or classroom queries. If you have any issues please do not hesitate to contact your child's homeroom teacher. Please be informed that teachers have very busy teaching and supervision schedules and will endeavour to reply within 24 hours.

Grade 4A– Mr Michael – michael@albasmaschool.ae (G4 Leader)
Grade 4B – Ms Laura – laura.hogan@albasmaschool.ae
Grade 4C – Ms Leanne – leanne@albasmaschool.ae
Grade 4D – Ms Lysie – lysie@albasmaschool.ae
Grade 4E – Ms Ailish – ailish@albasmaschool.ae

Uniform: We have been informed that Zaks, our uniform supplier, is fully stocked with the correct school uniform. We take pride in the way our students look and expect them to have the correct school and P.E. uniforms. Please be aware that children should wear **all black** shoes or trainers with their school uniform. In addition, children should only wear plain navy cardigans, fleeces and jackets in class or school uniform fleeces. For a full uniform list please consult our website: <http://www.albasmaschool.ae/>

Homework: Spellings will be sent home every Monday to be tested on the following Monday. One piece of homework for each of Maths and English will be sent home every Sunday to be returned on a Wednesday. Each child should have a book to complete their homework in. If they have misplaced their homework book please email or speak to the teacher so this can be replaced. Can we please ask that you guide your children with the homework and not complete it for them. If they do not understand their homework or do not have enough time to complete the homework please leave the teacher a note in the homework or communication book and they can review the tasks with your child in school.

CURRICULUM:

Maths: During January children will be further developing their mathematical skills; In the first week back the children have looked at the place value of 6 digit numbers this is done by learning how to read, write, compare, and add or subtract 10, 100, 1000, 100,000 to or from these numbers. In

addition to this the children will be introduced to negative numbers, and solving problems involving large numbers. Following on we will review addition and subtraction and enhance these skills by applying them to larger numbers and money. Finally the children will look at long multiplication, square numbers and cube numbers.

English: The children will be looking at how to write suspense and mystery stories over the next three weeks. The children will study the different grammatical structures and writing techniques needed to create a feeling of mystery and suspense in their writing. To help at home you could look at writing short sentences, onomatopoeia, metaphors, similes and personification. General grammar rules and sentence structure will be taught throughout every English lesson.

Science: This term the children will start a new science ; forces. In this unit the children will be studying balanced and unbalanced forces, gravity, friction and the use of mechanisms such as levers, gears and pulleys. The children will identify forces and complete force diagrams. They will find out about Isaac Newton and his discoveries about gravity. The children will look for patterns and links between the mass and weight of objects, using Newton meters to measure the force of gravity. Furthermore, they will work collaboratively to investigate air and water resistance. They will have the opportunity to work in a hands-on way to explore friction. Finally, they will find out about how different mechanisms, including levers, gears and pulleys work.

Topic: The new topic for this term is 'The Rainforest'. During this topic the children will learn about what a rainforest is and where in the world they can be located. They will learn about: the rainforest itself including climates, weather and the 4 different layers; deforestation and its impacts on people and places; different plant and animal life that can be found in the rainforest, and the people that live in rainforests.

If you have any concerns please do not hesitate to contact the class teacher.

Thank you for your support and appreciation.

Mr Michael and the Grade 4 teachers