



PUTTING THE FUN BACK  
INTO LEARNING!

March 2016

Dear Parents,

How quickly this term is passing by! Only 3 weeks left now until the end of term 2. There are still a number of key events coming up during the next few weeks.

### International Day

On Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March it will be International Day and we look forward to the children celebrating this event by wearing their national dress during the afternoon for the parade around school. Children need to attend school in their school uniform and then they will change into their national dress ready for the parade. We are looking forward to seeing the children's models and posters in their nation's tent. Food can be delivered on Thursday for the event. A reminder that we are a nut free campus, therefore no nuts please.

### Al Basma Reads and World Book Day

During this week the children are listening out for Emile Sande's 'Read All About It'. At this point they will 'drop everything and read' as part of our Al Basma Reads week in order to continue to raise the profile of reading across school. The children have also had the opportunity to complete shared reading with Grade 5 children in order to encourage reading with others. On Thursday 10th March we are celebrating our World Book Day and we are looking forward to seeing the children dressed up as their favourite book characters. There will be plenty of other activities taking place to help celebrate this also. The children have also visited the book fayre this week!

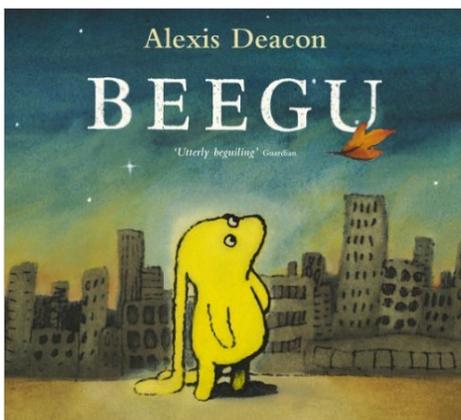
### Stationery

Lack of stationery is currently acting as a barrier to learning for many children. Without the basic stationary listed, children cannot access the learning opportunities provided. This is directly impacting on their achievement and progress. Please ensure all children have a pencil case containing the given items every day. Some children will also require a new writing book or maths book. The cost of this is 10 AED a book. Please send this in a labelled envelope inside the communication book and the homeroom teacher will purchase the book for your child and deliver it to them.

Pencil case items:

- HB pencil
- 35gm glue stick
- 12 colouring pencils
- Black whiteboard marker
- 30cm ruler
- Eraser
- Pencil sharpener

### English



In English, we will be focusing on the book 'Beegu' by Alexis Deacon.

Beegu is not supposed to be on Earth. She is lost. She is a friendly little creature, but the Earth People don't seem very welcoming at all. However, so far she has only met the BIG ones. The little ones are a different matter . . .

I'm sure the children will enjoy the story of Beegu and learn a lot from it. The children will be developing their ability to predict what will happen next at different points of the story and why they think this. They will be learning about the main character and

continuing to develop their phonic application through writing. Please encourage your children to tell you about the story each day and retell it in their own way.

## Maths

In Maths this month, we will be focusing on multiplication, division and fractions.

In multiplication the children will continue to develop their fluency of counting in 2's, 5's and 10's. They will be identifying odd and even numbers and becoming familiar with these up to 20. As part of this they will be using sorting diagrams to identify the properties of the numbers. Please continue to practise this with the children at home both forwards and backwards for further challenge. Doubling and halving will be continued to be consolidated.

When moving onto fractions the children will be focusing on halves. They will be learning to identify half of objects, shapes and quantities. This will be linked to division and sharing equally into 2 parts. Please use practical objects when reinforcing this at home and ask the children to split it equally into 2 parts.

## Science

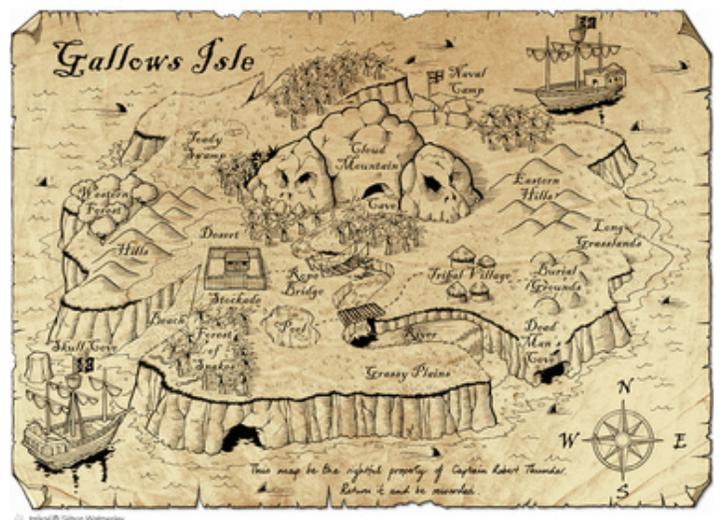


This month in science we will be focusing on plants and plant growth. We will be investigating how a bean plant grows in certain situations. We will be keeping a 'Bean diary' over the course of the next 4 weeks and recording our weekly observations of the bean plants we are growing, closely observing and recording the growth and physical changes over the duration of this period. Some of the other questions we will be investigating with regards to this particular topic will include; How does a plant grow without soil? How does a plant grow without light? and How does a plant grow without water? We will also be learning about different types of plants including wild plants and garden plants and deciduous and evergreen trees.

## Topic

This month the children will be consolidating their understanding of the world and the different continents. This will be linked to mapping skills and identifying the different points shown on a compass – north, east, south and west. The children will be identifying hot and cold places around the world.

Later the children will be learning how to read maps and then creating their own maps by graphically recreating a real area. As part of this they will be learning to give and follow directions on a simple map.



## Bug Club

<https://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk> (user name and password required from school – Bug Club)

Please actively use this to listen to your child read every day. Please encourage them to answer the questions by clicking on the bug within the text. Please contact your homeroom teacher if you need any further information or support.



**Websites** - Below are some useful websites which you can use at home. There are lots of games which you could play together with your child, to consolidate our Maths and English learning.

**Phonics/ English**

<https://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk> (user name and password required from school – Bug Club)

<http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks1/literacy/phonics/play/>

**Maths**

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/5-7-years/place-value-odd-and-even>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks1/maths/>

<http://www.ictgames.com/numberFacts.htm>

**Contact details for teachers:**

Please find below the contact details for all teachers within Grade KG2.

A – [laura.clayton@albasmaschool.ae](mailto:laura.clayton@albasmaschool.ae)

E - [jakiy@albasmaschool.ae](mailto:jakiy@albasmaschool.ae)

B – [susan.lee@albasmaschool.ae](mailto:susan.lee@albasmaschool.ae)

F – [lisa.c@albasmaschool.ae](mailto:lisa.c@albasmaschool.ae)

C – [ayesha.a@albasmaschool.ae](mailto:ayesha.a@albasmaschool.ae)

G – [jessica.t@albasmaschool.ae](mailto:jessica.t@albasmaschool.ae)

D - [nadia@albasmaschool.ae](mailto:nadia@albasmaschool.ae)

H – [petronella.d@albasmaschool.ae](mailto:petronella.d@albasmaschool.ae)

Many thanks for your support.

The KG2 team.