



AL BASMA BRITISH SCHOOL

Grade 2 Newsletter

September 2015

Dear Parents,

We would like to warmly welcome you to Grade 2. You will hopefully already have heard about your child's class teacher but let us introduce you to the rest of the Grade 2 teachers.

2A (2SO) – Ms Sophie	sophie@albasmaschool.ae
2B (2SA) – Ms. Saima	saima@albasmaschool.ae
2C (2JO) – Mr. John	john@albasmaschool.ae
2D (2LA) – Ms. Lamia	lamia.a@albasmaschool.ae
2E (2LU) – Ms. Lucy	lucy@albasmaschool.ae
2F (2NI) – Ms. Nicola	nicola@albasmaschool.ae
2G (2ZO) – Ms. Zoe	zoe@albasmaschool.ae
2H (2HA) – Ms. Hannah	hannah.c@albasmaschool.ae

Please let your child's class teacher know if you have any questions by writing in your child's organiser, or by e-mailing the teacher. They will be more than happy to answer any queries you may have.

Curriculum

Al Basma British School is now following the 2014 English Curriculum, which came into effect during the last academic year. Please bear in mind that this new school curriculum has much higher expectations of all pupils, and therefore your child may find some concepts more challenging than they would have done last year. For example, last year in Grade 2, children were expected to know the 2, 5, and 10 times tables before moving up into Grade 3. This year, they will be expected to know all 12 times tables, including division facts (of which they should know the 2, 3, 5, and 10 times tables to the 12th multiple) before they move into Grade 3. We will, of course, do whatever we can in class to help your child fulfil their potential, but it would be very much appreciated if you could support your child at home with their homework, and listen to them read stories aloud in English, even if this is only for 5 minutes before they go to bed.

Homework

Your child will receive one piece of English homework and one piece of Maths homework a week. It will be handed out each Sunday and returned on Wednesday. We will also provide your child with 100 High Frequency Word Flashcards which you may keep at home to practise with. Your child should be able to both read and spell these words correctly by the end of the school year. For those that are able to read and spell these correctly sooner, we will provide your child with an extra 200 High Frequency Words to extend their learning. During each term, we will also ask your child to create a project with their parents on one of the Foundation Subjects e.g. History, Geography, Art, Music etc.

Specialist Subject Timetable

Please note that the timetable may change at a future date, due to unavoidable clashes with specialist subjects in both Primary and Secondary departments. We will let you know of any changes to the timetable as and when they happen. Your child will have specialist teachers for Arabic, Islamic Studies and UAE Social Studies. If your child is non-Muslim, they will receive PSHE with their class teacher during Islamic Studies. Subjects for Grade 2 taught by specialist teachers also include: PE, French, and Music.

Uniform

In Grade 2, when your child has PE, they should come into school wearing their PE uniform. Until your child is allocated a school house (Fire, Air, Water, Earth) they may wear an ordinary T-shirt with school tracksuit bottoms. Please DO NOT let your son or daughter wear football studs in school. Trainers should be worn on PE days by all children, but on non-PE days, children **MUST** wear black school shoes. Thank you for your understanding and co-operation in this matter. Everyday school uniform comprises Bermuda shorts, school skirt, long pants, polo T-shirt and school fleece jacket. All uniform is available from Zaks, 1st floor Raha Mall.

Water bottles

Your child **MUST** bring a water bottle to school with them. There are water fountains in the school where they may fill up their bottle with fresh water. Please make sure the bottle is clearly named.

Snack and Lunch

Your child will have a short break at 10am where they may eat a small snack. There is a much longer break at 12pm where they have more time to eat their lunch before going outside to play. Please make sure that your child's lunchbox is clearly named. Please also note that Al Basma is a NUT-FREE school due to both children and teachers in our community having a severe allergy. Your co-operation in this matter is greatly appreciated. Our school strives to be a healthy school, and we would very much like to see healthy snacks in your child's lunchbox, if possible.

School Day

Classes will begin straight after the National Anthem has been sung at 7.55am. Please ensure that your child arrives on time to school, complete with pencil case, lunch box, communication book, RFID badge and water bottle. Punctuality is important in the morning as the ENC core subjects, Maths and English, will be taught during the first two hours from 8.05am. At the end of the day children will be taken down to the hall to line up for the bus, or down to the car pick-up (which has now been moved from the KG playground to the running track) at 2:30pm. The gates will open around 2:40pm for parents to enter.

Each Thursday, Grade 2 will have Golden Time to reward the super behaviour that will have taken place during the week. We will also be using Class Dojo, awarding dojos for the hard work that takes place within the classroom.

Birthdays!

All the teachers in Grade 2 LOVE birthday cake! If your child wishes to bring a cake into school to share with their class, may we kindly request that the cake is brought in ready to be distributed to the children, cut and placed into little party bags. Due to the restrictions of the timetable, we unfortunately will not have the time to cut the cake and then distribute it to the class. Please remember cake should be NUT FREE; an ingredient list and use by date should be sent with the cake. Thank you very much.

All the teachers in Grade 2 are looking forward to the coming academic year. Your child's class teacher is very excited about teaching your child, and seeing the progress they will make over the coming academic year. Please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher if you have any questions. However we hope that you have found the information contained in this letter useful and that it has answered some queries you may have had. We look forward to working with you!

With kind regards,

The Grade 2 teachers.