

PARENT COMMUNICATION

Date: 08/28/2016

Subject:

Year 6 Newsletter – Term 1 Dolphins

Dear Family,

The start of a new school year always brings with it great excitement and enthusiasm. However, the children entering Year 6 will be beginning with an extra sense of **pride** as they are now the 'top' of the school as they will be the oldest Al Muna pupils. We will be working closely with the children to understand the responsibilities that this title entails and how it is more important than ever that they are acting as role-models to the younger children when demonstrating the '4 Cs' – courtesy, consideration, cooperation and common-sense. So, a warm welcome back to Al Muna for the parents, family and children of Year 6 and an equally warm welcome to the new members of the Al Muna community. Please read below for a summary of what your child will be covering throughout this half term and do not hesitate to ask a member of the Year 6 team if a question arises from what you read.

Topic: Our first topic is 'Formula 1'. It is difficult to say who will be more excited to start this topic, the children or the teachers! We are involved in an exciting opportunity through the 'Formula 1 in schools' program. This involves the children creating their own Formula 1 team, designing and racing a race car and producing the necessary publicity to advertise their team.

English: Literacy lessons provide an excellent opportunity for children to produce work they are proud of in both content and presentation. Children will be writing reports in a journalistic style based on the F1 and also using their own research on Formula 1 drivers to create biographies. Alongside these Literacy topics the children will also be developing their spelling and handwriting as well as their sentence, grammar and punctuation in skills.

Maths: We will begin by securing the children's existing knowledge on place value, particularly when it comes to decimal numbers. We will be consolidating and developing their written and mental methods for different calculations and continually improving their multiplication skills. It will be necessary for children to apply many of their mathematical skills to our Formula 1 topic, for example converting measures and solving time problems.

Science	ICT	History	Geography	DT	Music
We will look at light and how it travels and also explore electricity, circuits and how they work. In addition to this we will consider how electricity is used in transport.	Children will be working collaboratively to explore different apps and begin working towards creating their own app.	We will learn about the history of the Formula 1 and how it has changed over time. We will also research famous past and present formula 1 drivers.	We will explore the locations of the Formula 1 tracks and why they were chosen. We will also investigate the affect that this has had on tourism.	The children will be designing and making their own race cars. Using specific software and resources given to us from the F1 in schools team.	Pupils will sing, play instruments and learn the dimensions of music (pitch, rhythm etc.) all based around the theme of F1

PSHE	Swimming	PE	French	
<p>PSHE and circle time will be used on a weekly basis with a view to building and maintaining positive relationships and raising self-esteem. Our whole school focus this half term is 'We're all stars'. The purpose of this theme is setting our own individual goals and thinking about how we can reach them.</p>	<p>In the first couple of weeks, children will be reminded of safety rules & regulations during lesson time, around poolside and changing. Children will be tested initially in shallow water including safe entries and multi-stroke assessment and will progress to deep water during the course of the term.</p> <p>Throughout Term 1, children will be working on the following skills and stroke techniques with use of floatation aids to enhance performance.</p>	<p>Students will begin with baseline testing to assess their basic skill level. Students will be introduced to a range of basic skills, invasion games and multi-sport activities. Towards the end of the first term they will begin an athletics module in preparation for their sports day. The fundamental skills section will focus on movement before moving on to some basic skills to start to help them develop some basic tactics. Students will also be encouraged to be creative and express their own ideas and there will be opportunities to develop leadership and team work which will be heavily promoted throughout the year. Throughout the term health and fitness will be introduced and reinforced in all topics to address misunderstandings and provide guidance for students to begin their own healthy and active lifestyles.</p>	<p>We will be revising simple greetings and adding more expressions Counting from 0 -100 and beyond Names for Clothes Names of regular activities What like to wear and do and don't like to do Expressions used when shopping</p>	
اللغة العربية	Arabic non-native:	التربية الاسلامية	Islamic non native	Social studies
<p>الوحدة الأولى:- الدرس الأول الطيبات (الطيبات من الرزق) آيات من سورة النحل الدرس الثاني : دفة الحياة الدرس الثالث: النحو : الجملة الاسمية الدرس الرابع: الإملاء : الهمزة المتطرفة</p>	<p>1- Review. 2- Country and village.</p>	<p>1. الدعاء هو العبادة 2. حكم الإطهار 3. وصايا حكيمة (حديث شريف) 4. عاقبة الخائنين (سورة الحشر)</p>	<p>Unit A: Chapter 2 Ninety Nine Names One Creator Unit A: Chapter 3 Lesson 2: Surat-Al-Mulk 1, 2 3 Unit B: Chapter 1 In Palace of Phir'oun Unit B: Chapter 2 Musa Leaves Egypt</p>	<p>Unit One: Lesson One: geographical location and its importance. Lesson Two: natural features in the Arab world. A general review.</p>

Top Websites To Support This Half Term's Topics

TOPIC:

<http://f1forkidz.com/>

<https://www.yasmarinacircuit.com/en/formula-1/f1-in-schools>

SCIENCE:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/quiz/q44852863>

http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/scienceclips/ages/7_8/light_shadows.shtml

Specialist Timetable for Year 6 Porpoise

Please ensure your child brings the appropriate equipment with them for the specialist lessons listed on the days below. Children will get changed into their PE kit at school. Please ensure your child has their school hat, water bottle, reading records and any necessary books with them every day.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Native and non-native Arabic	Social studies	PE	Native and non-native Arabic	Boys swimming
Native and non-native Islamic	Native and non-native Arabic		Native and non-native Islamic	Girls swimming
	Native Arabic		Music	
			French	

Homework

Homework is an essential part of school life. It will include weekly spellings, English and maths tasks, which should take students between 20 minutes – 1 hour per activity to complete. Children can also take part in extended tasks based around the half termly topic. It is expected that pupils try their best with all homework tasks and hand work in promptly. Homework is set on the wikispace on Thursdays and will be due in the following Tuesday.

Reading

This year the pupils of Year 6 will be working through an extensive, but enjoyable and educational programme of reading. Each pupil will be involved in reading as part of a group, as well as individually as part of the Accelerated Reading scheme. Pupils are also expected to read at home (around 20 minutes of reading per day). Any reading completed at home can be recorded in the children's reading record books which their class teacher will check daily.

How can you support your child at home?

Resources for English and maths development

There are plenty of online learning activities and tests for English and Maths that will help your child improve their learning in core subjects. A few examples have been given below. Please note, due to the ever changing nature of the internet, we would always recommend that you check any websites that your child might access beforehand.

www.bbc.co.uk/schools/bitesize

Choose the Key Stage 2 option for years 5 and 6

<http://www.ixl.com/>

Choose grades 4 and 5 for British Curriculum years 5 and 6.

<http://resources.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/>

French

www.linguascope.com (password: almuna / login: allez).

Learners with English as an additional language

As a British Curriculum school, it is important that the children we teach have a good grasp of the English language. Children with English as an additional language face an extra challenge to their learning as, not only will they be expected to converse in English but they will also be required to understand, explain and apply abstract concepts with it. To help your child develop their understanding of the English Language we make the following recommendations:

- Talk with your child at home in English. They will need regular verbal practise in order to progress. Make use of topics that your child finds particularly interesting (e.g. favourite sporting heroes) in order to encourage this.
- Make books available in both their home language and English.
- There is a lot of progress to be made by conducting everyday activities with your child in English. This will give them a good basis to build upon when developing more abstract concepts. For example:
 - Practising mathematics whilst shopping (e.g. working out totals or change for purchases, working out special offers such as '2 for 1' etc.).
 - Calculating measurements (e.g. weighing ingredients for a recipe)
 - Everyday science observations (e.g. changes during cooking - melting, reversible and irreversible changes, mixing and combining).
 - Writing for real purposes (e.g. letters to relatives and friends in other places, writing notes to other members of the family, creating treasure hunts with clues). Please note - writing is an important skill to practice in any language as it is the development of understanding of writing as a meaningful medium that is important. Understanding of writing genre can be transferred from one language to another so practice in any language will be beneficial!

Meet the Team

Miss Adshead (Porpoise): Miss Adshead is proud to be working as phase leader of Years 5 and 6. She is extremely happy to be reunited with some of the children she taught in Year 4. Email her at: SAdshead@almunapprimary.sch.ae

Miss Williams (Parrotfish): Year 6 is her favourite year to teach. She is looking forward to helping the Year 6 students prepare for their transition into high school, by making learning fun and relevant. Email her at: TWilliams@almunapprimary.sch.ae

Mr Edwards (Dolphins): Mr Edwards is an ICT whizz and is looking forward to thinking of innovative new ways to help the children with their learning. Email him at: AEdwards@almunapprimary.sch.ae

The teaching staff are all around in the playground before and after the school day for a quick word, or to arrange a longer appointment. Alternatively you can email them at the addresses above.

We are also incredibly lucky to have three fantastic TAs supporting Year 5 and 6, including Ms Nimita, Ms Sheetal and Ms Komal, who will help and support all the children of Year 6.

If you have any further questions or require any additional information please do not hesitate to ask.

Yours sincerely

The Year 6 Team