

AL YASMINA ACADEMY TERM 1 YEAR 2 CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER 2018-19



ALDAR ACADEMIES
AL YASMINA ACADEMY

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tue 16.10.18 - Maths
Open Morning - 8:05-
9:00

Thu 18.10.18 - Pink
Day

Sun 21.10.18 & Mon
22.10.18 - Half Term

Tue 23.10.18 -
Parent/Teacher Con-
ferences

Wed 14.11.18 - Maths
Open Morning - 8:05-
9:00

Tue 20.11.18* -
Prophet's (PBUH)
birthday

Thu 29.11.18* - Mar-
tyrs' Day

Sun 2.12.18 & Mon
3.12.18* - National
Day

Thu 6.12.18 - Maths
Open Morning - 8:05-
9:00

Thu 13.12.18 - End of
Term 1

*TBC



MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF YEAR

Ms A Orr



Dear Parents,

We have had a fantastic beginning to the first term and the students have settled in brilliantly to Year 2! They are developing their skills as learners by collaborating, trying their best, not giving up and understanding that we learn through making mistakes.

The children thoroughly enjoyed inventing their own versions of the traditional hero and villain tale, Little Red Riding Hood and are currently learning how to write instructions for how to make a 'superhero' sandwich, which both link to our 'Heroes and Villains' topic.

We will be continuing the topic for the rest of the term, building up to the students' own spectacular heroes and villains pantomime in November.

May I take this opportunity to thank you all for your continuing help and support; we look forward to meeting you at the PTCs (don't forget to make an appointment with your child's teacher.

Ms. Orr (Head of Year 2) and all the Year 2 Team

CURRICULUM IN FOCUS

English

We will be continuing to write instructions, focusing on key features such as titles, subheadings, time connectives (chronological order), 'bossy' (imperative) verbs, adverbs, diagrams and the equipment/ingredient sections. This will lead to the students writing instructions on how to make a 'superhero' sandwich, which links to our 'Heroes and Villains' topic.

We will begin a narrative unit and learn how to write in the style of a significant author. The author we are focusing on is Giles Andreae and his series of Nat Fantastic books – Nat Fantastic is a little boy who can turn into a tiny superhero and go on fantastic adventures! The students will be focusing on character and setting description and writing an alternative story using Talk for Writing techniques. Through this our SPAG (spelling punctuation and grammar) focus will be capital letters, full stops, exclamation marks, exciting verbs, adjectives and adverbs. The students will also enjoy learning about onomatopoeia.

We will then have a nice drama focus as the students learn their lines and song lyrics for the upcoming pantomime; they will enjoy rehearsals and acting on stage with each other.

Maths

We will be reinforcing our skills in place value in order to support our learning in addition and subtraction. Children need to have a strong understanding of place value and the idea that one ten is the same as ten ones. Children need to be able to count to 20 and be able to partition 2 digit numbers in order to add them and to subtract from them. We will add 2-digits and 1-digit, subtract 1-digit from 2-digits and then move on to adding 2-digit numbers. When the students are secure in adding 2-digit numbers we will look at adding together 2-digit numbers including an exchange. Next we will subtract with 2-digits and when that is secure the students will use their knowledge that one ten is the same as ten ones to exchange when crossing a ten in subtraction.

We will also be working on understanding money before moving on to multiplication. We will begin by making and recognising equal groups, recognising the multiplication symbol and using repeated addition to form multiplication number sentences. We will reason and problem solve using multiplication pictures and use arrays to solve multiplication pictures.

You could also help your child at home by looking at **2, 5 and 10 x tables**. Multiplication tables are the back bone of so many aspects of maths and the more secure their knowledge, the easier it is to grasp many other aspects such as fractions and division. Again, try to make it fun, why not try some iPad apps:

[Lumio Farm Factor](#) FREE

[Addition & Multiplication Number Bubbles](#) FREE

[Multiplication for Kids](#) FREE

Some fun websites for your children to enjoy at home are below:

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

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

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

Science

During this term in Science we will be developing our understanding of materials and their properties; the students will be taught to identify and compare the suitability of a variety of everyday materials, including wood, metal, plastic, glass, brick, rock, paper and cardboard for particular uses. They will also find out how the shapes of solid objects made from some materials can be changed by squashing, bending, twisting and stretching.

CURRICULUM IN FOCUS Contd.....

Computing

In Computing we will be continuing to look at the basics of programming and algorithms by using the Scratch software.

Art/DI

In Art we will be learning the primary colours and mixing them to make the secondary colours; we will then use these colours to design a superhero badge and make our own superhero capes to use in a fabulous photoshoot.

We will describe the work of and take inspiration from notable artists, Andy Warhol and Roy Lichtenstein. We will create superhero themed Pop Art.

Homework

Using the 'Takeaway' homework sheet, please ensure that the 5 activities with a star in the box are completed by the given deadline.

Any tasks that your child completes each week should still be handed in on a Monday and the books will be returned to the children on Wednesday.

In addition, your child is expected to **read every night** at home. Two (soon to be upped to four) reading books will be sent home with your child each week, along with a Reading Record book which should be completed with a relevant comment and/or signature to show that an adult has heard your child read; your child will not be given new reading books unless the reading diary has been signed and the books returned. Please send the Reading Record book and reading books in every day.

Children will have the opportunity to choose a library book, which should be carried to and from school in a book bag and brought in to school every day.

Please be aware that there will be an AED 50 charge for any guided reading or library books that are lost or damaged.

Phonics homework can be found on **Education City** (<https://ec1.educationcity.com>) in a folder under the phonics teacher's name.

Other activities relevant to your child's learning will be uploaded to the Classwork and Homework folders on Education City that you may wish to access at home.

Your child's login details can be found in the back of the Reading Record books.

SPECIALISTS IN FOCUS

Arabic

We offer the Ministry of Education (MoE) curriculum to support **native Arabic** speakers learning Arabic in the four language skills: listening, reading, speaking and writing. We aim to develop individual self-expression and self-confidence via a broad and balanced language curriculum. Classroom activities are designed to enable children to communicate effectively with others in school, public life and internationally and to promote and support the use of technology/multimedia resources. Native Arabic Speakers will get their lesson outline as usual at the start of every week as per the Ministry textbooks for Arabic, Islamic Studies & UAE Civics.

Non- native students will continue to work on improving their Arabic reading, writing, listening and speaking skills. My classroom is our topic for the coming weeks, where students will be focusing on recognising the different shapes of the letters A – Kh. They will also learn how to pronounce letters correctly with the short Arabic signs, how letters can be used to form words and how to say and write the classroom objects in Arabic. To improve speaking skills they will learn how to greet others and introduce themselves in Arabic. Lots of focus will be on how to use the vocabulary we learn to make sentences. A variety of fun activities are planned so students can enjoy their Arabic lessons. The take- away homework menu for Arabic has been sent through the Parent Portal to help parents and students practise Arabic at home.

Teaching and learning methodology:

We strive to ensure that we:

- Provide a variety of meaningful and authentic language learning opportunities.
- Cater for different learning styles.
- Foster supportive, positive and reflective language learning environments.
- Allow learners to be risk takers.
- Develop competency, creativity and independence.
- Deliver language programmes through a variety of methods and strategies, linking closely with an emphasis on inquiry.
- Make links with our school and wider community.
- Expose students to the habits and traditions of Arabic culture through many different ways.
- Provide clear, challenging and thought-provoking tasks.
- Promote independent and critical thinking.
- Encourage discussion and reasoning skills.

Scope and Sequences:

- Prepare lesson plans to achieve the lesson objectives.
- Integrate cooperative learning.
- Generate bespoke material to support MOE curriculum.
- Provide feedback on assignments and tests.
- Use differentiation during instruction to meet the needs of students at varying levels of knowledge acquisition.

Islamic Studies and Social Studies

Throughout the second half of Term 1 the students will be learning different topics related to the ministry of education curriculum. Follow the portal weekly for more details on what they are doing in class and what they need to consolidate at home.

SPECIALISTS IN FOCUS Contd....

Music

In term 1, Year 2 will begin to closely understand the new concept of musical pitch (high and low). We will continue developing our listening, rhythmic and concentration skills through various musical activities whilst learning about a new note value: the semibreve (a long note that lasts 4 beats). We will consolidate our knowledge of some other note values (quavers, crotchet and minim) and continue to build new rhythms using these notes. Scattered throughout the term will be a number of songs that support our learning as well as attentive listening and appraisal of the famous Russian composer, Tchaikovsky.

PE

Year 2 have had a fantastic start to the term in PE. They have completed a unit of work on Gymnastics which allowed the students to be creative and saw some excellent demonstration of gymnastic skills. Year 2 students will now begin a unit of work on developing game play and utilising space within a game. Students will develop their understanding of tactics, creating their own tactics in different games to gain success and develop team work skills such as communication.

Swimming

Throughout the second half of Term one in Swimming Year 2 will be focusing on ensuring everyone is able to understand and follow instructions and rules correctly to ensure safety throughout each lesson. We will be focusing on front crawl and backstroke ensuring everyone is able to kick efficiently and use their coordination to complete the full strokes with good timing. During the lessons we will also be learning some key elements of swimming such as floating, streamlining and diving.

For swimming students will need:

- An Al Yasmina swimming costume or trunks (as per the uniform policy).
- A swimming cap (for long hair).
- A poncho towel (**if possible to source**)- this will allow children to ensure they are respecting the values of the country by keeping themselves modest when getting changed.
- An Al Yasmina waterproof swimming bag.

Please ensure all items are clearly named and that names are replaced regularly due to them washing away in the water.

NAMES & EMAIL CONTACTS FOR TEACHERS

1. Armstrong class - Ms A Orr (HOY): aorr@alyasminaacademy.sch.ae
2. Rowling class - Ms C Howden: chowden@alyasminaacademy.sch.ae
3. Zayed class - Mrs L Hill: lhill@alyasminaacademy.sch.ae
4. Hillary class - Ms S Ebery: sebery@alyasminaacademy.sch.ae
5. Al Qasimi class - Mrs T Astab: tastab@alyasminaacademy.sch.ae

Please be aware that teachers are not always able to answer/access their e-mails during the school day and on some days there are meetings to attend and clubs to take, therefore it may take a day or so to get back to you. **If any message is urgent, please call the Reception desk.**

PARENT LIAISONS

The role of the Parent Liaison is to liaise with class teachers to support the children's learning and the curriculum, by providing help and organisation. Parent Liaisons will cascade information from the teacher to the parents to remind them of key dates, requests for help on trips, information about topic areas and other general notices. The Parent Liaison will also meet and greet new

Year 2 Armstrong	Heba Musalli	heba.musalli@gmail.com
Year 2 Rowling	Joanne Blackwood	Joanne.blackwood@btinternet.com
Year 2 Zayed	Emma Brien	eobrien@aldar.com
Year 2 Hillary	Kubra Mubashshir	kubrafazili@icloud.com
Year 2 Al Qasimi	Marion Wakeham	marionwakeham@gmail.com

REMINDERS

Class	Homework Out	Homework In	Swimming	PE	Library
Armstrong	Wednesday	Monday	Thursday	Sunday	Monday
Rowling	Wednesday	Monday	Wednesday	Sunday	Tuesday
Zayed	Wednesday	Monday	Sunday	Monday	Monday
Hillary	Wednesday	Monday	Tuesday	Monday	Sunday
Al Qasimi	Wednesday	Monday	Monday	Sunday	Wednesday

- Swimming is compulsory unless a medical note is provided. Please ensure your child is provided with suitable kit to wear for their designated day.
- Please provide your child with a labelled drinking bottle for water. Your child should bring in a healthy snack, preferably fruit, for break and a healthy lunch. As some children have severe allergies, **nuts, in any form, are not allowed in school. Please also avoid sending in chocolates, sweets and fizzy drinks.** We are striving to embrace a healthy environment ethos at Al Yasmina and your support is greatly appreciated.
- Hats must be worn outside. Please name them.
- The Year 2 team will be out on the playground at the end of every day if you wish to speak to your child's teacher. If it is a matter which needs more time than a few minutes, then please make an appointment at a mutually suitable time.
- Children should be brought in to school via the Primary green gates between 7.30 and 7:45 each morning and wait in the playground until the whistle is blown. Then they line up in their class lines with their teacher. The gates are locked at 8.05. Those arriving after 8:05 will be required to walk around to the main entrance and sign in the late book at the Main Reception. Please note that in order to secure the safety of all students the only entrance into the building is the Primary Reception.