



# Aspen Heights British School Newsletter



Issue No. 17, Date:25th January, 2018

Dear families,

## **Bring a man to school day**

I always say- families don't need an invitation to come to school- you are always welcome! However, we were pleased to welcome a number of 'men'- dads, and family friends who took time out of their busy day to attend our Aspen Heights Thursday assembly, and spend

time in class learning with their children. The theme of the assembly were stereotypes; children might think that because their Mums spend more time in our school, they are more interested in school and learning than their Dads- and this is far from the case! Our wonderful PE teachers, and Lilly's Mum and Ahmed's Dad from Geckoes helped us in our quest to challenge the stereotype that boys are better at football than girls, and that girls are better at drawing than boys. We had lots of fun and learned that, regardless of gender, everyone is unique and has something to offer. Families who attended assembly today gave their children a very clear message- what they do at school is worthwhile, important, and you are there to help. Thank you for your continuous support.





**Al Bahya Library Trip**

I was astounded at what an incredible community resource we have right on our doorstep. Year 1 and 2 visited the Al Bahya library and spent some time listening to stories by a local author (Nayrouz) and meeting her character puppets. We have arranged a community library visit after school during book week, followed by a picnic in the beautiful Al Bahya park. We hope you will be able to join us on Tuesday 27th February for our Community Reading Picnic.



**ECA's**

Extra-curricular activities enhance the curriculum offering for your child; we hope many of you will take the opportunity to sign up on the portal with our extended timing- the closing date for ECA sign up is now:31/Jan/2018,Please click this link to the portal:

<https://ahbs.engagehosted.com/Login.aspx>

**Attendance and punctuality- every lesson counts!**

We know that children who come to school more regularly make better progress, and need families to support with this. I have noted that some children are regularly late into school- they are missing important learning which will mean that they make slower progress than their classmates. Well done to Year 3 Flamingos class who has the best attendance this week, and to FS1 Butterflies class who has the fewest late children!

	Attendance%	Punctuality- %Late
FS1 Butterflies	83.88	<b>1.84</b>
FS1 Geckoes	81.22	5.62
FS2 Bulbuls	81.17	7.34
FS2 Doves	82.44	10.15
Y1 Hares	87.12	5.66

Y2 Oryx	91.45	2.37
Y3 Flamingos	<b>92.37</b>	3.92
Y4 Falcons	86.28	5.97
Y5 Hawksbills	88.92	6.74

We hope you have an enjoyable and restful weekend with your family,

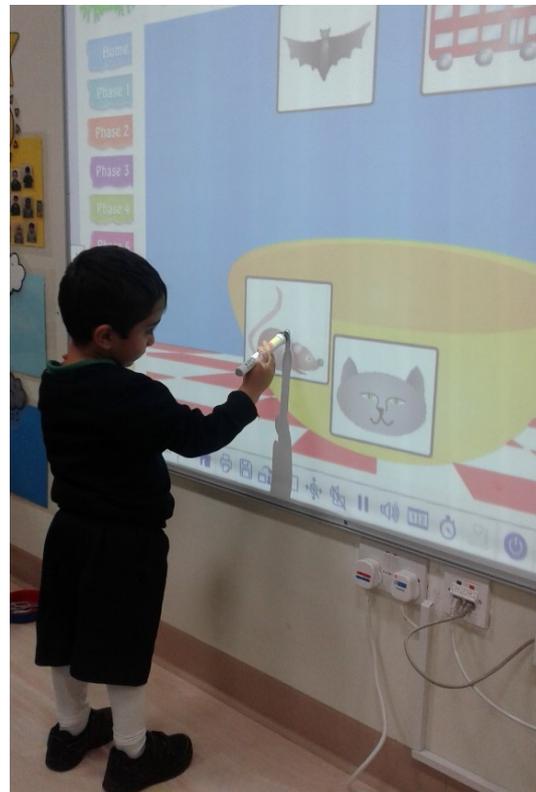
Kind regards,

Mrs. Emma Shanahan

Principal Aspen Heights British School

# FS1 Butterflies

Butterflies class this week, was all about fun learning and investigation. The children continued to learn about 'Commotion in the Ocean' and this time we found a 'submarine' deep down in the ocean.





The children used their technology skills during their phonics lesson, they matched the correct rhyming pictures and dragged them down to the cake bowl to bake their sound cake. The children also had the opportunity to create an individual submarine by using recycled materials. We were thinking what we would take with us if we were to live in a submarine for a while. Children decorated their submarines by sticking on the picture of their best belonging.



In mathematics, children learnt about 2D shapes and they were quite excited to see how they can create pictures and models using shapes. The children created



You might want to create one at home and recap the names of the shapes they have learnt. We also did some counting and worked hard to match the correct numbers.

submarines using 2D shapes and showed their friends which shapes they had used.



We practised our fine motor skills by threading through the sea shell. It was a little tricky but we enjoyed threading and we showed that we can be really focussed.

Please ensure your child is bringing their library book to return on a Sunday. Home/ school reading diary and guided reading book needs to be in your child's reading bag every day. Have a lovely weekend.

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# FS1 Geckoes



We have had a busy and exciting week in Gecko Class. Dougal was back again with another letter. This time he had sent pictures of a strange looking machine and asked us to find out what it did.

After some research we found out it was a submarine for looking at the animals deep down in the ocean. We thought this was very exciting!

During mathematics we used different 2D shapes to make pictures of our own submarines. We tried hard to name the different shapes we had used.





In Literacy we talked about what we would like to take with us in a submarine and then we drew a pictures of these things. We wonder what Dougal will take in his submarine!



We have had lots of fun this week exploring our outside area. We have some new activities outside and enjoyed using the reading tents especially.

We hope you have a relaxing and fun weekend.

## FS2 Bulbuls

This week Bulbuls have been using their creativity and thinking of their own ideas. They have been creating their own pirates. Some pirates have had hooks, wooden legs, parrots and eye patches.

They then added labels for their friends to read. In literacy Bulbuls have been writing sentences to describe a pirate using adjectives. They have also included the tricky word 'she'.





In mathematics we have been making estimations. We had to take a guess at how much treasure we thought was in the treasure chest without counting it.

In phonics we have been learning the sounds 'oa', 'ee' 'ai'. How many words can you think of that have these sounds in?

## FS2 Doves

### Great mathematicians!

This week, the children amazed us with their fantastic mathematical skills. They showed great accuracy in their counting and they applied a new skill of estimating very well. The children are showing a great understanding of number through various tasks. In particular, estimating how many objects there are in front of them. Lots of the children, as pirates, gained many gold coins because of their fantastic estimates.



**Help your child continue to develop this skill by estimating in different places e.g. estimate how many people are in the room or guess how many sweets I have in my hand for you.**



As part of the curriculum it is important for children to develop a sense of safety and handling objects carefully.



The Doves demonstrated a great understanding of handling objects safely and using objects for a purpose when they created images by hammering different pieces into a wooden board.

**Talk to your child about safety around the home. Some objects are designed for only adults to use but some objects can be used by children with adult supervision e.g. scissors, blunt knife.**

**Well done Doves**

# Year 1 Hares

This week in Year 1 Hares, the children have been trying really hard with self-initiated learning in Mathematics. They have been thinking about what they need to work on or what might challenge their brain the best and giving it a really good go.

The focus has been on addition and subtraction. I am pleased to see their mental maths skills developing greatly in this area.



The children have also been busy innovating the story of 'The Rainbow Fish' to create their own story. There have been some wonderful ideas. I have also attached a video of the class re-telling 'The Rainbow Fish' to the newsletter so please enjoy!



During our Science lesson, we investigated reptiles and amphibians in more depth. We used chrome books to help us with this and really enjoyed becoming more familiar with the keyboard while researching. We also loved our trip to the National Library, we had a local author read with us and we completed activities based on the stories.



## Year 2 Oryx



Year 2 Oryx have loved being fish monitors and they have very much enjoyed feeding them. The children made signs to let other children know how to treat the fishes.



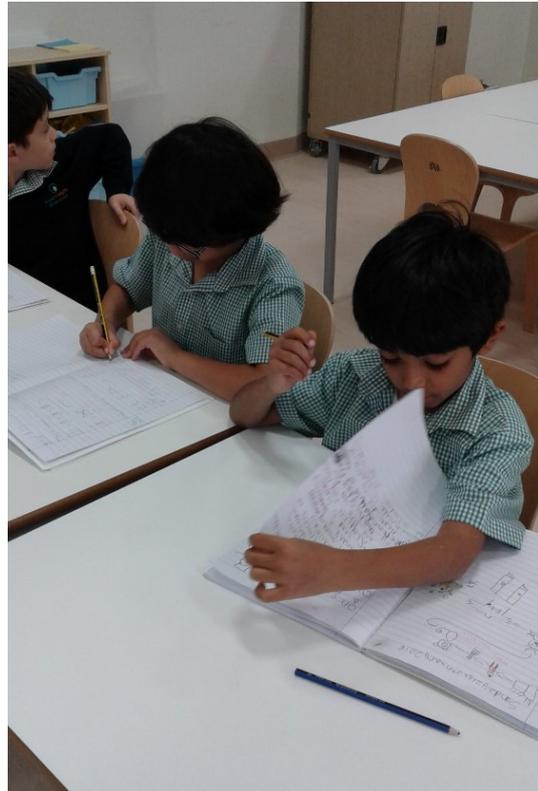
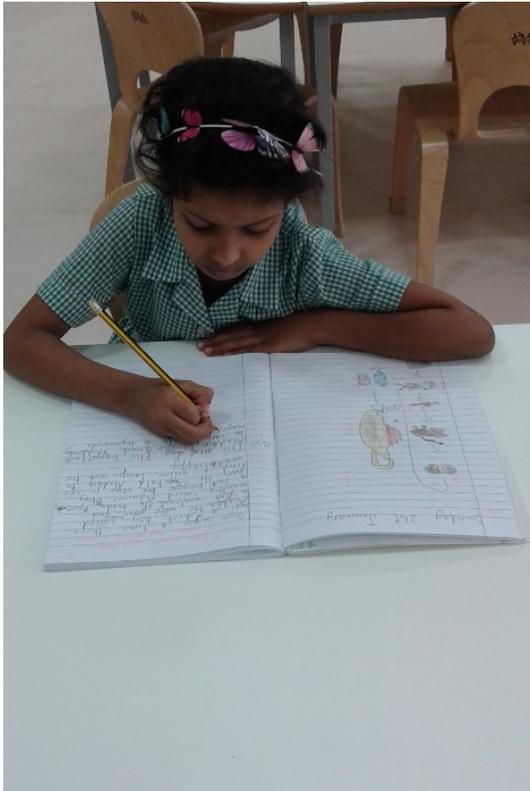
Wednesday was a very exciting day for Year 1 and Year 2 because the children visited Al Bahia Library. They met an Arabic author who has written children's story books. The children enjoyed making a character. Take a look at our pictures.

In Science, we have continued to care for our plants by watering them every day. Our planted seeds have germinated and

they have grown roots and a shoot.

# Year 3 Flamingos

Year 3 Flamingos class have loved being tortoise monitors. We have made signs to help keep Taylor as happy and healthy as possible and we discovered that his favourite food is lettuce.



We have continued to look at fairy-tales by reading and listening to new stories – we think that Jack was so brave to climb the beanstalk but we think that Goldilocks is very cheeky and naughty for breaking Baby Bear's chair and eating all his porridge!

We have continued to identify adjectives in our stories. We have begun to change the story of Aladdin by changing the adjectives in it. We planned the changes using a story map before re-writing each part.

In Mathematics, we have been looking at tally charts. We noticed that Miss Dailly uses tally

marks to count how many laps we run in our 7 Emirates Challenge. We need to keep practising counting in 5s so that we can easily count the tally marks.

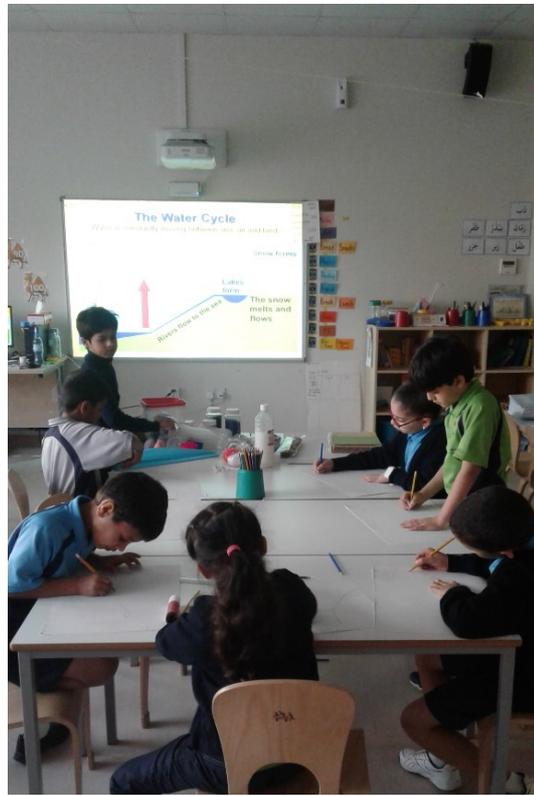


In Science, we explored the plants in the garden to try to work out what the different parts of the flower are for. We are looking forward to planting our own seeds and watching our plants grow!

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## Year 4 Falcons

Another exciting week for Year 4 Falcons!  
We are now concentrating on setting up our Museum. We had a competition to see who could think of the best name. The winning entry was by Jade and she named our Museum "The Super Explorers Museum". We look forward to inviting you in to see our museum when we officially open! For now, lots of research is being carried out about different explorers and biographies are being written. The Falcons have different exhibitions to research and create. The children have already drawn a plan of how their exhibition will look in the Museum.



The Falcons have also been working hard on number skills in mathematics, revising place value, ordering numbers, counting and mentally adding, subtracting and multiplying.

It is extremely important that the children learn their multiplication and division facts each week to help them progress. This week, they have been perfecting their multiplication and division strategies.

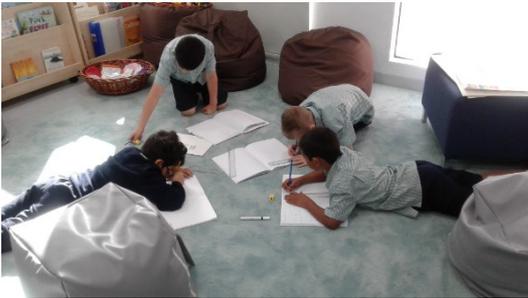
In science, we had lots of fun learning all about the water cycle and identifying when the water changes from liquid to solid or gas. In art, 3D water cycles were made to give each child an opportunity to explain what they have learned in a fun way.

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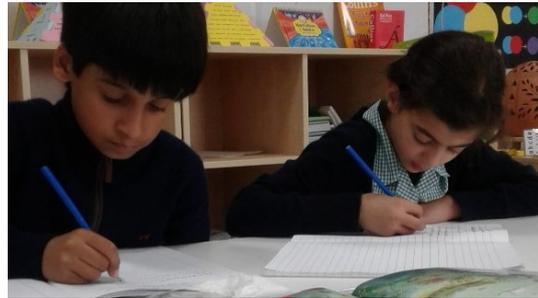
## Year 5 Hawksbill



This week Year 5 have worked really hard in mathematics to understand fractions and decimals. They have shown how fractions and decimals are part of 1 whole and can use their new skills to help with measurement! They have worked in teams to find the best ways to show how fractions and decimals are similar. Year 5 have also been working on their mental maths skills through Number Club and are very competitive!



In English Year 5 have worked hard to become more creative and include their own ideas when writing. They have thought carefully about their choice of words and how to build atmosphere in their writing.



We have also worked on different sentence types and how we can use this for effect in our stories.

In Science we have explored how the theories we created last week can be put into practice. We have researched different ways of recycling plastic, how we can conserve water and how people can help marine animals stay away from plastic. We have linked this to our school and have some exciting ideas about how we can help!



# Music



FS1 and FS2: We have a new phonics "Listening Bag" and in it are many covered objects that makes different sounds. First, we imitate the sounds. Then we describe the objects. When we name an object we try to guess which phonic sound starts the word.



This supports our language acquisition and broadens our experiences. In instrumental education we can now play "Four-Friends-Together" – it feels great when we play together!

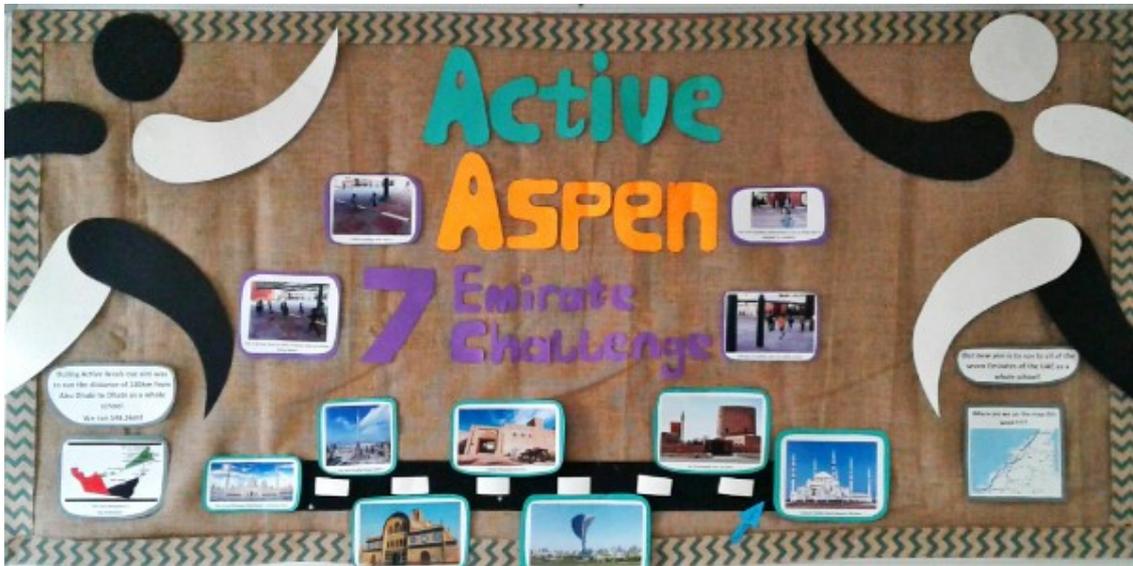


In Years 1 to 3 we are learning how to play the recorder: we can play notes A and C, and some of us can even figure out notes by ourselves. Our small group play helps us work together as a team. Years 4 and 5 are playing the piano.



The lesson focuses on self-directed learning; we are discovering how to play the keyboard by ourselves.

# PE



### The 7 Emirates Challenge

Term 2 Week 3: We have ran 752 laps as a whole school this week. We are currently 70km past Fujairah. We have now run to all of the seven Emirates, what an achievement! This means that as a whole school we have run a total of 439.65 km or 2,931 laps. Our journey began at the Grand Mosque, Abu Dhabi, from there we ran to the Burj Khalifa, Dubai and on to the Central Market, Sharjah. We kept moving north running to Ajman Museum, Umm Al Quwain Aquarium and Ras Al-Khaimah Fort. Our final destination was Sheikh Zayed Mosque, Fujairah – a whopping 369.6km from our original starting point. Well done to all of the students and staff who contributed to running 2467 laps! Take a look at how we clocked up the laps over the past few weeks!

Find out next week where our new destination will be.





### GoGo the PE Mascot

GoGo will go home with Haifa Damia Binti Hanif from Year 3 Flamingos this weekend. Damia has been working hard in PE and led the wake up and shake up in Thursday morning with her sister Rania . Well done Damia! Have fun and don't forget to upload the photos of you and GoGo being active together to our padlet:

<https://padlet.com/soneill8/gogo>

### Healthy Eating at Aspen Heights

Aspen Heights encourages our students, families and staff to lead a healthy and active life. Making good food choices is a very important part of a healthy lifestyle. So let's inspire each other to make good food choices - upload a photo of your healthy breakfast, snack, lunch or dinner to our 'Healthy Eating' padlet page. Please include the recipe below the photo so that others can give it a go!

<https://padlet.com/soneill8/healthyeating>

### Extra-Curricular Activities (ECAs)

ECAs have begun and will continue until Wednesday 8th March 2018. However, please note that there will be no ECAs from the 11th-14th February 2018 due to Staff Well-Being Week and International Day celebrations.

If you would like your child to take part in any activity, please register them on the Engage Portal. Follow the link <https://ahbs.engagehosted.com>. Once you have logged in, the first page will allow you to register your child for the ECA's. Ms. Sandy has also made you a very helpful tutorial video on how to do this step-by-step. The Engage link will be open from Thursday 18th February 2018 until Saturday 27th February 2018. Please register your child as soon as possible to avoid missing out on their first choice of activities. If you have any questions about an ECA, please feel free to email or chat with Ms. O'Neill/Ms. Sandy/Mr. Ram, or the teacher named as the activity leader.

Extra Curricular Activities Term 2				
Day	Holding	Activity	Teacher	Location
Sunday	S.O'Neill	Invasion Games	A.Ram	Hall
		Instrumental Music(Yr1-3)	M. Martens	Music Room
		Chess Club	R. Gupta	Counsellors Room
Monday	A. Ram	Athletics	S.O'Neill	Hall
		Instrumental Music(Yr4-5)	M.Martens	Music Room
		Tajweed & Qur'aan	M. Mohammad	Islamic Room
		Needle Art	Ms Sonia	Library
Tuesday	A. Ram	Kids in the Kitchen	S.O'Neill	Art Room
		Gardening Club	E. BC/ A. Purcell	Year 5 Classroom
		Culture Club	C. Daily	Year 3 Classroom
		Typing	L. Faulkner	Year 1 Classroom
Wednesday	S.O'Neill	Quiz & Puzzles	R. Gupta	Counsellors Room
		Art Club	Ms. Danya/Ms. Hedges	Art Room
		Arabic Reading	Ms. Enas	Arabic Room

### YAS Family Fitness Festival 26th-27th January

Yas Island brings you the very first two-day, free family festival focussing on fitness, health, nutrition and exercise. Go there and take part in the many free workout sessions, listen and learn about healthy living from expert nutritionists, take part in fun fitness challenges, shop for the latest apparel and even try your hand at some of the festivals healthy cooking challenges. There will be talks, fitness classes, activities for the children, exhibitors and samples of healthy food on offer. The Family Fitness Festival is sure to be a fun, exciting and bright family festival promoting family wellness, nutrition and exercise.

## مادة التربية الإسلامية



تعتبر مادة التربية الإسلامية في مدرستنا مادة شيقة بنشاطاتها المختلفة، وقد درسنا عدة دروس مختلفة هذا الأسبوع، فمنها مثل سورة الأعلى، وسورة قريش والتركيز جيدا على تلاوة القلان الكريم، وأركان الإيمان، ودائما نقوم بربط دروسنا بالواقع المعاصر الذي نعيشه في حياتنا اليومية وبهويتنا الوطنية، والتأكيد على أبنائنا الأعمام بأهمية هذا العام لتسميته بعام زايد الخير، وغرس القيم التي أرساها سمو الشيخ زايد رحمه الله تعالى في نفوس أبناء شعب دولة الإمارات



## مادة اللغة العربية



درسنا في الصف الأول هذا الأسبوع حرف الشين حيث قرأنا قصة الشبل شوشو وقرأنا جملا من القصة وقمنا بتجريد حرف الشين وأظهر الطلاب حماسا في الأنشطة . الصفية كما كتبوا حرف الشين في أول ووسط وآخر الكلمة .

تعاون طلاب الصف الثاني في التعبير عن مشاعرهم تجاه الشيخ محمد بن زايد حباً وتقديراً لمجهوداته المبذولة للحفاظ على الوطن الغالي



استمتع طلاب الصف الرابع بقراءة قصة ( سقف الأحلام ) وبدأوا تنفيذ بعض الأنشطة الممتعة عليها



In year 5 we studied the four direction words, we also wrote some simple sentences including words with the letter 'haa'.

The students expressed their love for Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed by drawing a portrait of him.



In year 4, we studied different numbers and we also wrote simple sentences including words with the letter 'taa'.

# مادة الدراسات الإجتماعية والتربية الأخلاقية



تتجدد الاسابيع ويزداد طلابنا نشاطاً فقد شهد هذا الأسبوع العديد من الأنشطة والفاعليات التي مارسها الطلاب وعملوا على تفعيلها داخل مدرستنا وبرز هذه الأنشطة مبادرة (شكراً محمد بن زايد) تحت رعاية صاحب السمو الشيخ محمد بن راشد رعا له وهي لتقديم الشكر والعرفان لصاحب السمو الشيخ محمد بن زايد ولي عهد ابوظبي رعا الله على جهوده في خدمة الوطن. حيث عملت هذه المبادرة على ترشيح احد اولويات الهوية الوطنية وهي الولاء والانتماء والتقدير لقيادتنا الغالية ولجهودهم المبذولة من اجل هذا الوطن



وربطاً مع مادة التربية الأخلاقية التي تعمل على نشر القيم الاخلاقية وبرزها قيمة التقدير التي يعمل عليها طلاب الصف الثاني وهذا ما ابدوه من تقدير لهذه المبادرة السابق ذكرها في حين يعمل طلاب الصف الثالث والخامس على قيمة تحمل المسؤولية لكل ما يصدر منه وما يطلب منه اما طلاب الصف الرابع فقد اعطيت لهم العمل على قيمة التعاطف مع الآخرين

أما فيما يخص الهوية الوطنية : فقد تم التجهيز بالمتحف التراثي بالمدرسة والذي يهدف الى ضم العديد من النماذج التراثية لدولة الامارات ليعكس لكل الزائرين له مدى تنوع وتميز تراث الامارات لذلك الرجاء من اولياء الامور مشاركتنا ببعض الادوات والاعمال التراثية التي اشتهرت بها دولة الامارات. واتوجه بالشكر لاولياء الأمور الذين بادروا بالمشاركة في تجهيز هذا المتحف شاكرين جهودكم

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