



Aspen Heights British School Newsletter



Issue No. 38, Date: 5th July 2018

Dear families,

It certainly doesn't seem a year ago that I wrote my very first Principal's letter to you all; time flies when you are having fun!

Working with you- our community, has been a key focus for us. We hope you have felt supported by the family workshops, and part of a vibrant and busy community with our

various social events, a highlight of which was our first ever community Iftar during the holy month of Ramadan.

We are also very proud of our ADEK monitoring visit which noted our high effectiveness with many aspects of our work being 'very strong'.

Families will know that we are never complacent and always looking for ways of improving – so we look back at a successful year with many happy memories, while looking forward to the many new initiatives for the coming year to engage and inspire our children.



There are so many aspects of our first year that I remember with pride, and with a smile- far too many to mention here. To help me narrow it down, I have limited myself to a 'Top 10' favourite achievements and events from this year:

10. The winter talent show- seeing our once-shy children performing independently and with such confidence and good humour was a joy!

9. Authors visits- We have hosted 3 authors this year; Hessa Al Mazrouei, Laura Wall and Sarah Sillis. Inspiring a love of reading and writing is key to our success.

8. International day- I was so impressed by the hard work and support of the families who make up our Aspen Heights community

7. Bring a man to school day and grandparents day!- it was wonderful to see so many of the male members of our school community engaged in their children's learning- an interest that spanned generations.

6. Arabic language week- our teacher's competition at the end of the assembly was very competitive!

5. National day 47- A well-organised, joyous celebration! Everyone had a part to play, which contributed to the success of the day.

4. Active Aspen- the active events, from the Emirates run, to the orienteering house competition have been great fun, and hugely well supported by all.

3. Fun with numbers! Our very first community social event attracted an attendance of nearly 100! Thank you for your support.

2. Taylor the tortoise!- I loved the children's creative ideas and enthusiasm, and enjoy watching children interact with him in our reception area.

1. The Jungle Book- performing, acting, dancing and creating the set and props for a whole school play, in only one week just shows what amazing things we can achieve when we work together.

I would like to thank our staff at Aspen Heights; teaching, support, administrative and ancillary staff. They are an incredible team who have pulled together to achieve remarkable things. They all make Aspen Heights a better place to work and learn; I would like to thank them for their energy, commitment and dedication to making the school lives of our Aspen children so positive and successful.

We look forward to welcoming families back for another incredible year of learning at Aspen Heights.

Have a safe and exciting summer vacation.

Kind regards,

Mrs. Emma Shanahan

Principal Aspen Heights British School



FS1 Butterflies



It has been a fabulous year with our young Butterflies making their way to FS2. We started the year with some tears and now we have become confident and courageous learners.



The last week at school has been a little overwhelming with the joy of seeing the children achieve their milestones. It will be a long summer break until we welcome the children back in their new classes.

The snapshots of their journey is remarkable and I am extremely proud of all the children for their brilliant learning this year. I would like to thank you for your continuous support and acknowledgement this year. It has been a pleasure working with you and your child. Have a lovely break and happy holidays!



The children visited their new FS2 classrooms and got to know their new teacher. I am sure that the Butterflies will continue to read books at home and will be involved in some fun summer activities during the break.





FS1 Geckoes



It has been a busy week in Gecko Class preparing for FS2. On Tuesday we even got to visit our new classrooms and teachers! Some of our teachers are not in Abu Dhabi yet but they sent us photos and information about themselves which we enjoyed looking at. We also enjoyed meeting some new friends who will be in our class next year!

We have continued our phonics work this week and we are excited to keep practising it all summer at home, ready for FS2.



We have continued to watch our beanstalks this week, they are growing very tall! We have brought them home so we can continue to watch them grow.



Maybe they will grow all the way up to the clouds!

It has been a fantastic year together in Gecko Class and I am very proud of all their hard work and how much progress they have made. I wish you all a brilliant summer and look forward to seeing you in September.

FS2 Bulbuls



It is our final week in Bulbul class and we have been getting ready for our move into Year 1. This week the children got to meet their new teacher and see their new classroom. Some of our teachers are not in Abu Dhabi yet but they sent us photos and a presentation of themselves so we could meet them.



I would like to say thank you to the children for all their hard work this year. They have made amazing progress and have been a pleasure to teach. They have made me feel proud at so many different points throughout the year. Some of the highlights of this year have been our amazing trips, our fantastic assemblies and our community events. I wish Bulbuls all the best with their new adventure into Year 1.



FS2 Doves



We can't believe it's the last week of the term. It has been an amazing year and we all have some fond memories. Here's what some of the children had to say about their time in FS2:

"I have enjoyed going to different rooms for my learning."

(Thalia)

"I liked being in Doves because I got to do Art and learning and going on the Gold Star."

(Asiya)

"I like making things with lego."

(Jasem)

"I like counting, I like drawing. I like playing with Maha."

(Peihluan)



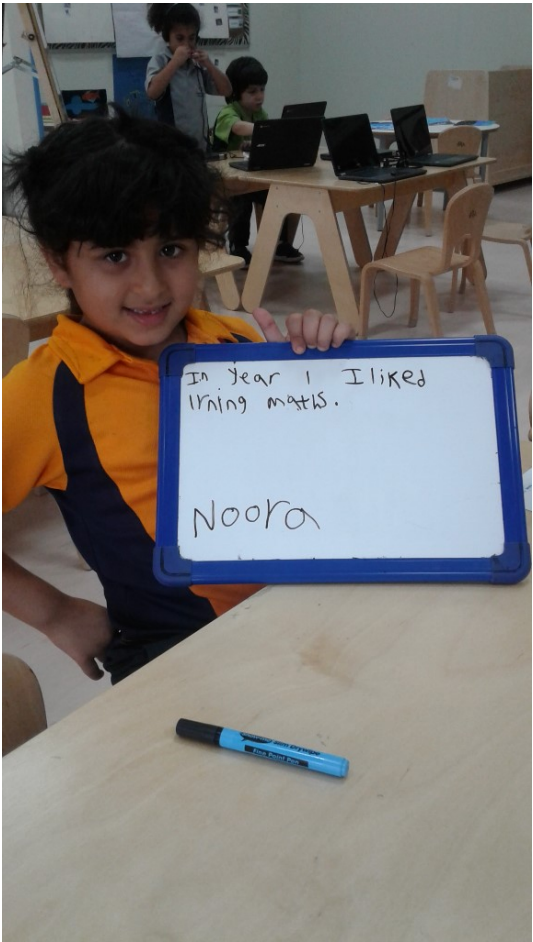
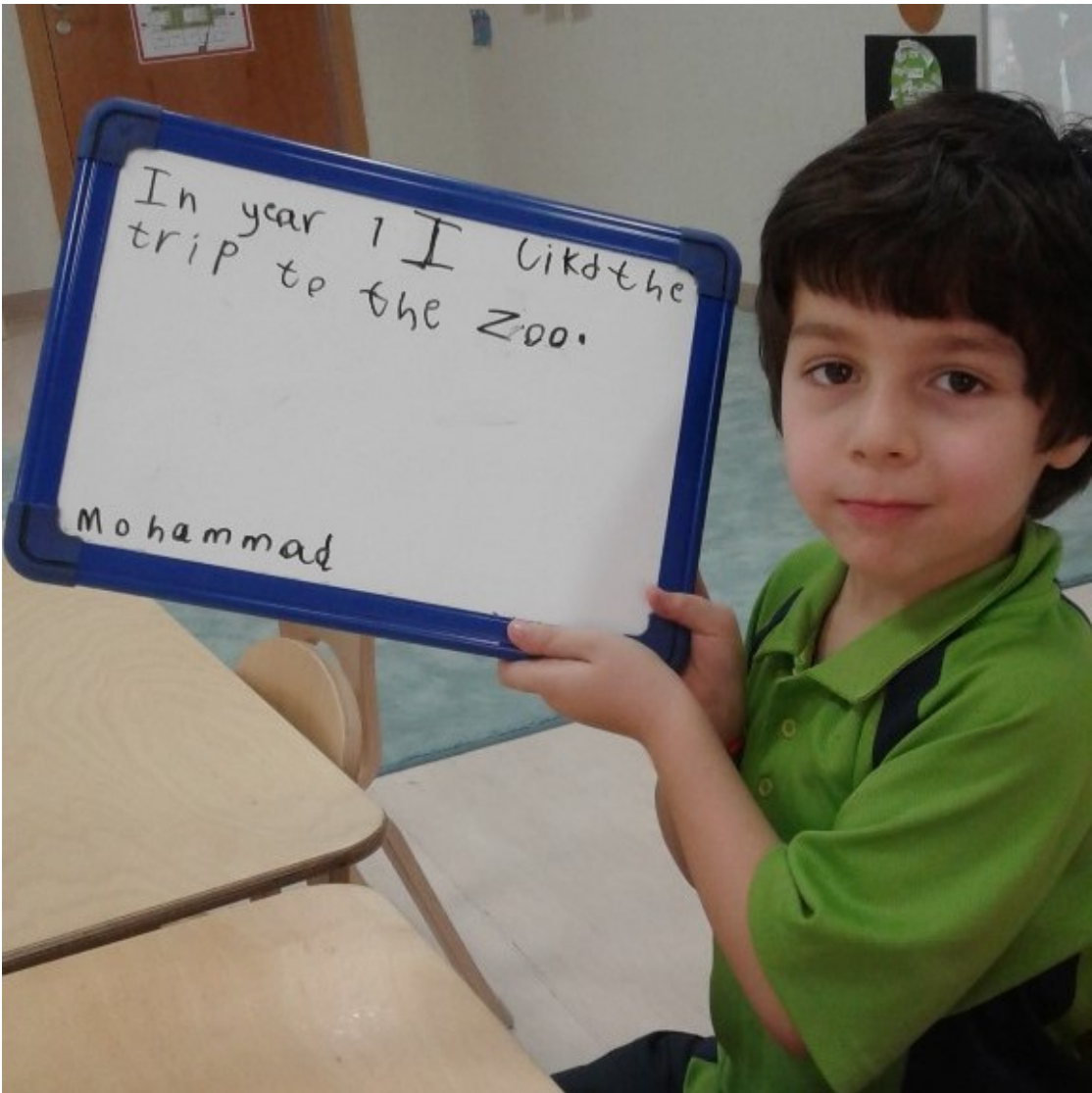
Even though it's the last week the children have come to school full of energy and participating in lots of activities. We are so proud of the children who have kept up their excellent attendance.

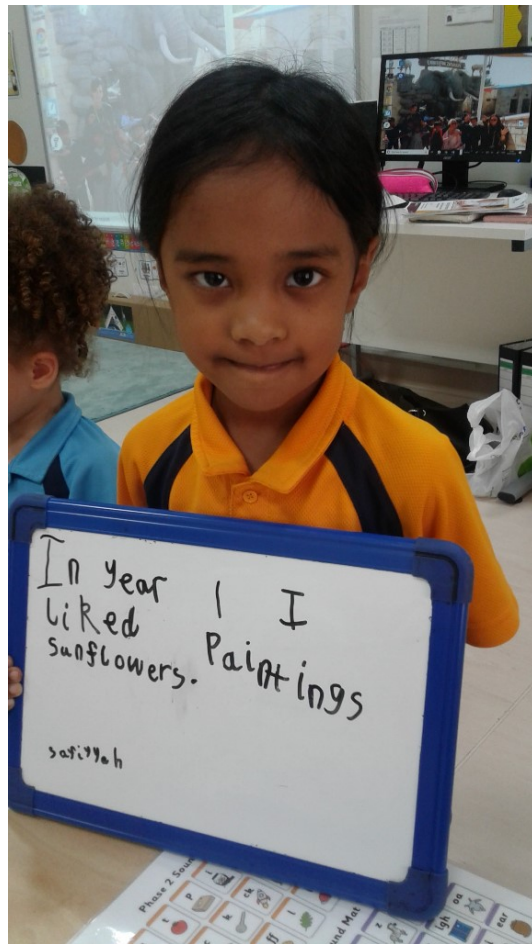
We hope Doves have a lovely summer break and we wish them all the best in Year 1. We will miss them.



Year 1 Hares

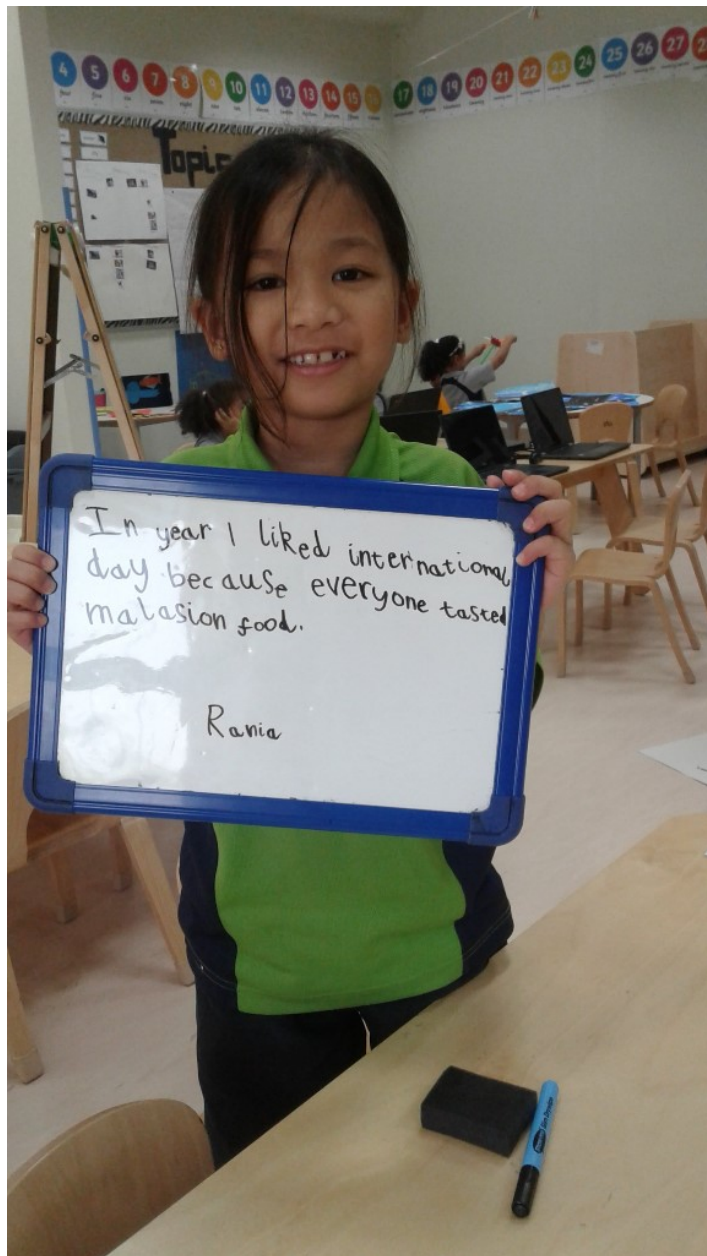
We can't quite believe our time with this class of amazing children has come to an end. Year 1 Hares have had a lovely final week together. They have been making animals using different materials and drawing their favourite crazy creatures to finish off our topic.





On Monday we looked at photographs from all of the events we took part in this year and from all of the trips we went on. The children loved this but Miss Faulkner and Mrs Hedges felt emotional thinking about how much they have all achieved this year.

Some of the children wrote about what they enjoyed in year 1 and all of their reflections sum up how much the opportunities at Aspen Heights this year have had an impact on their learning. They are all ready to enter year 2 and we wish them all the best. Have a lovely summer!



Year 2 Oryx

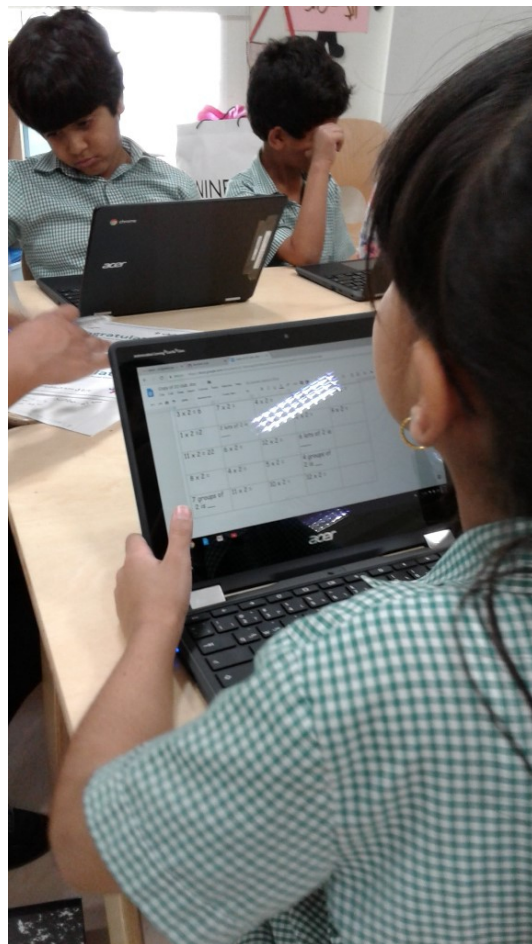
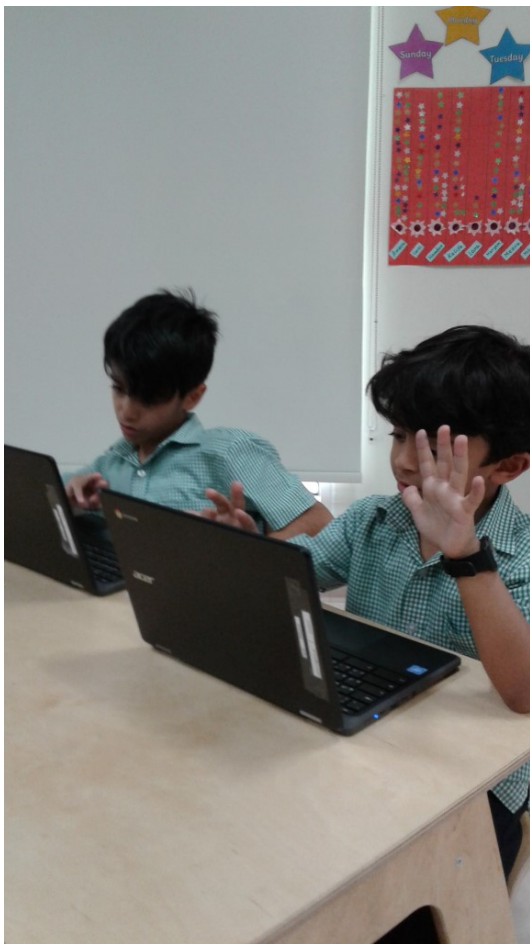


Year 2 Oryx had a fantastic final week and completed their year smiling.

In mathematics, we revisited addition and subtraction and then we challenged ourselves to complete the next Number Club.

In English, the children practised writing a postcard. We imagined we were on holiday in another country i.e. France, Singapore and wrote a postcard to our family back home.



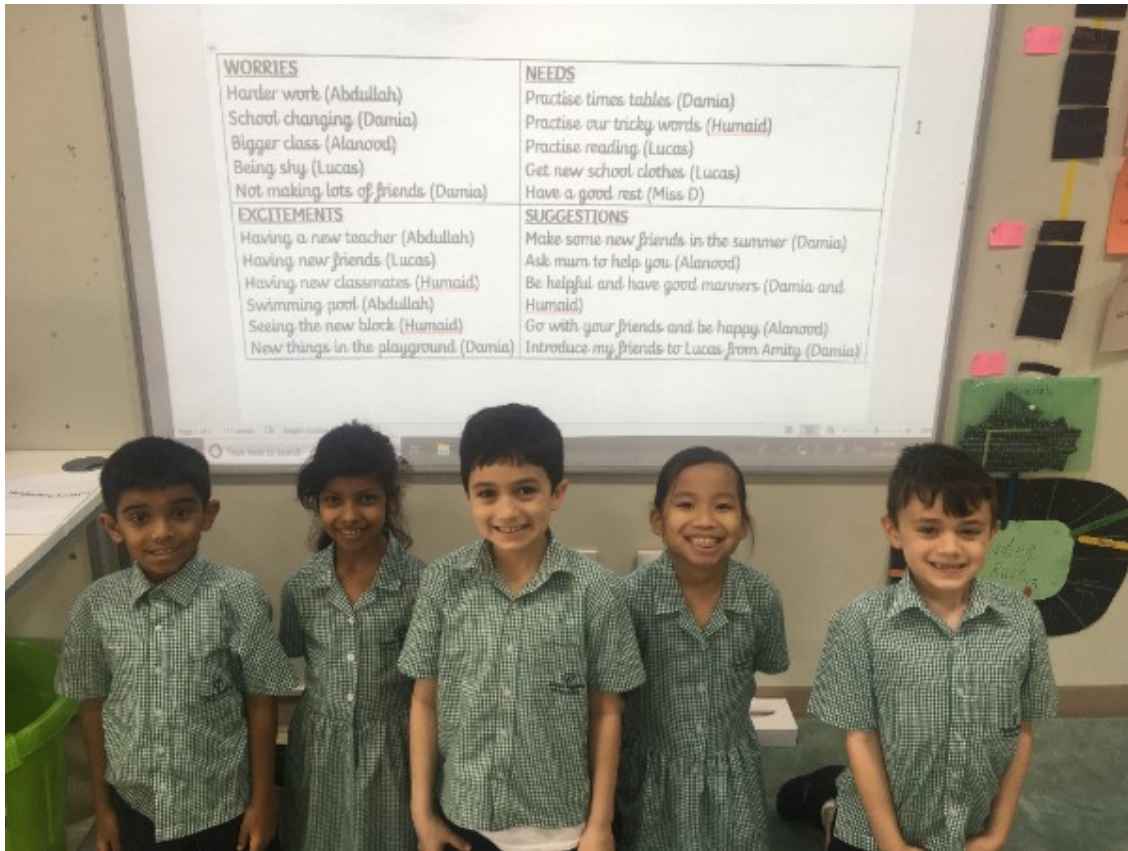


It has been amazing to see how year 2 Oryx have progressed in their learning. The children have developed special friendships with each other and have grown in confidence. I wish them all the best of luck in Year 3.

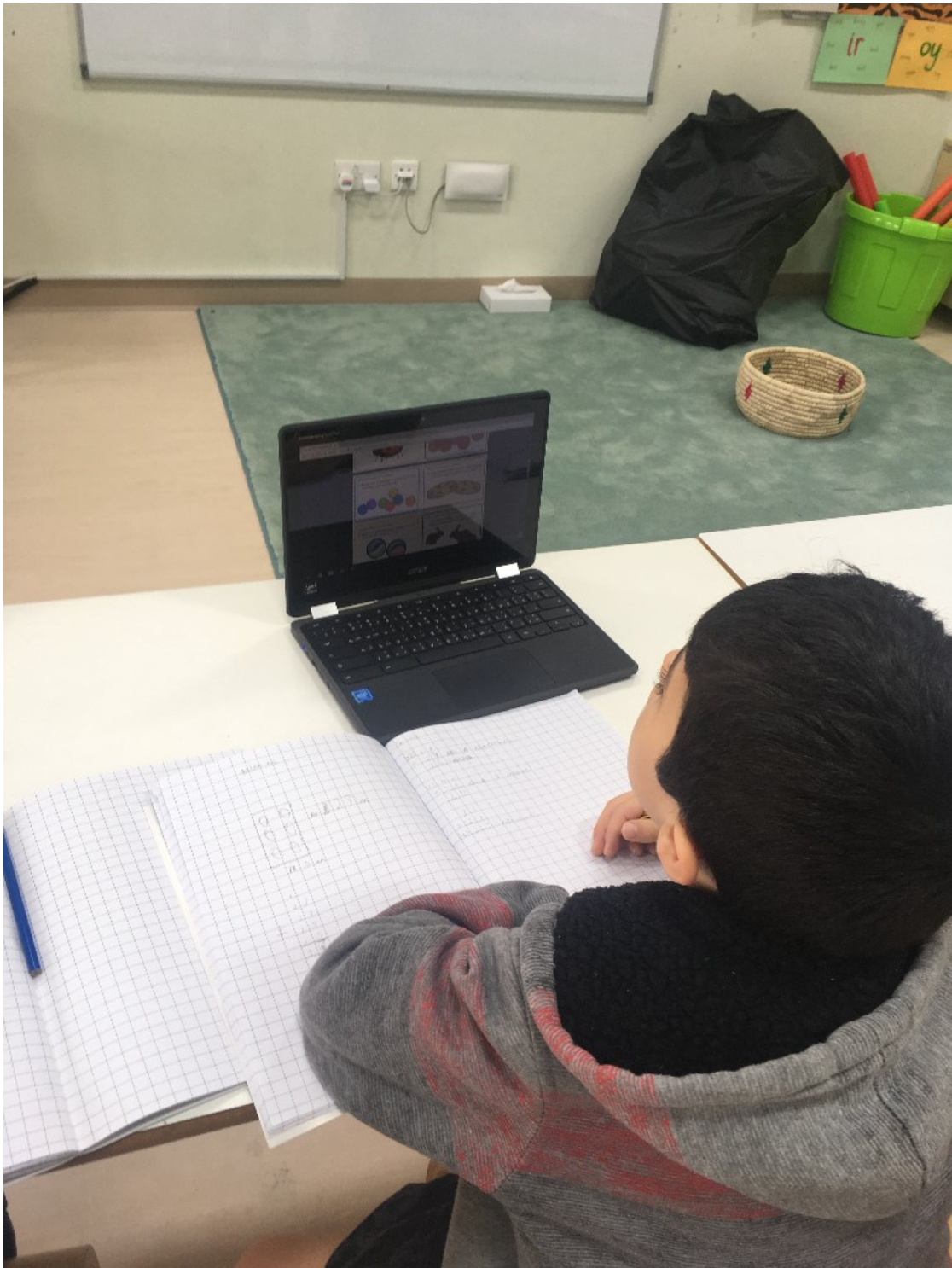
Have a great holiday everyone and enjoy every moment of it!!

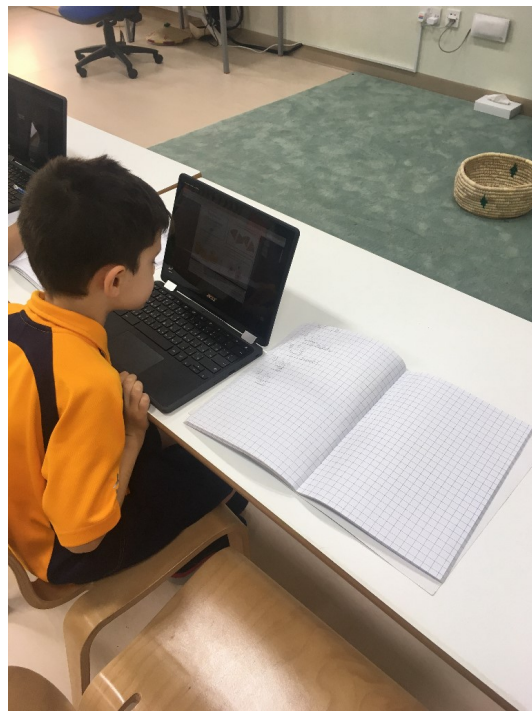
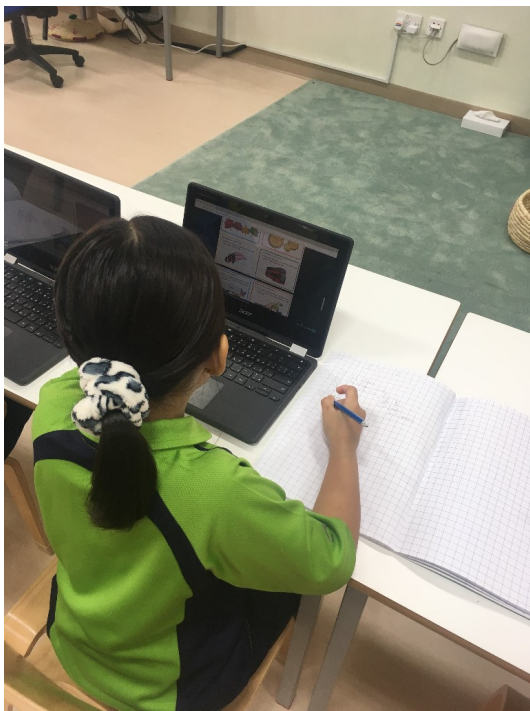


Year 3 Flamingos



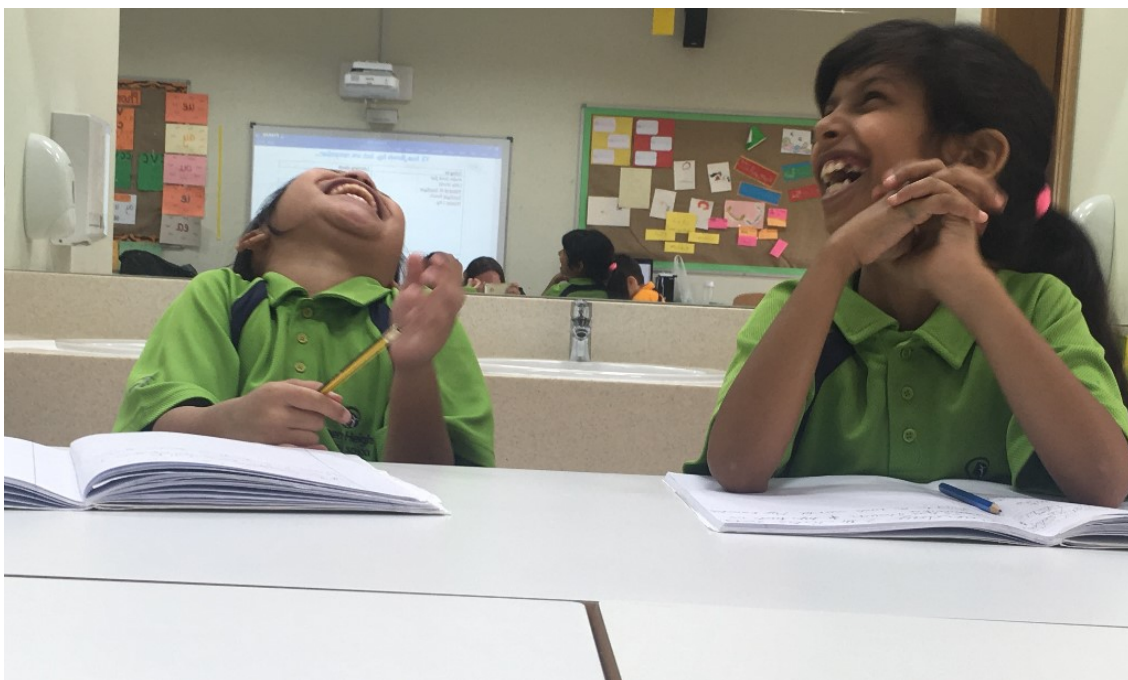
This week, we did a lot of work to prepare for year 4. We thought about our strengths and things we would like our year 4 teacher to know. We discussed everything we need to be confident and excited about change and gave people advice on their worries. We also thought back on our year and wrote about our highlights reflectively. We can hardly believe how much we've done in one year!





In mathematics, we showed that we were ready for year 4 by completing word problems using column addition and subtraction.

This made Miss Dailly extremely proud for many reasons – we worked independently, we read confidently, we could identify the maths within the question, we accurately added and subtracted, and we independently chose our level of challenge. This is such outstanding progress from September!

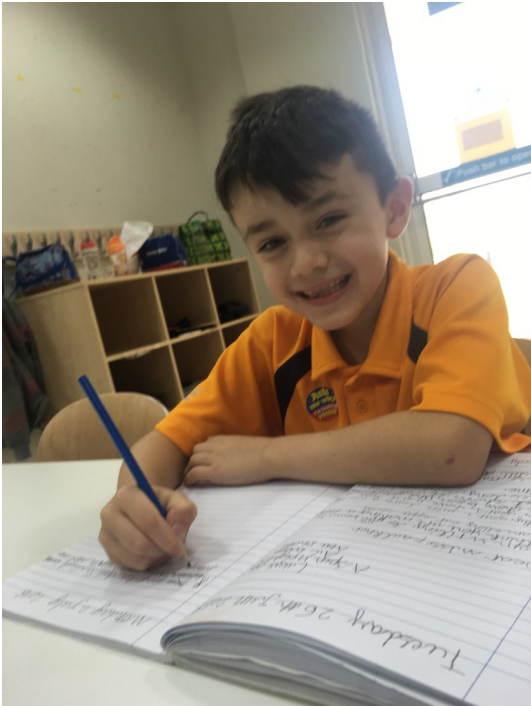
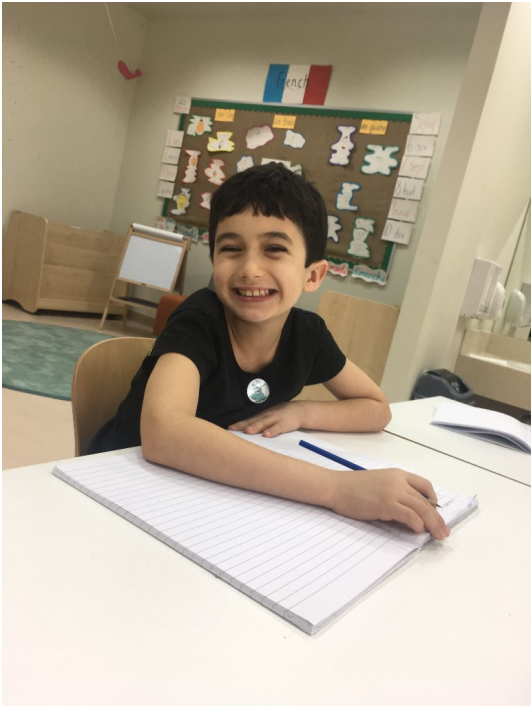


Year 3 Flamingos class completed their final week in year 3 with enthusiasm, positivity and, of course, amazing learning! It was a fun, busy and slightly emotional week as we

said goodbye to some of the friends and teachers we've grown close to this year. We will miss you all very much and wish you the best of luck on your next adventure!



We hope everyone enjoys their well-deserved break and has a wonderful time. Thank you for an amazing first year at Aspen Heights!



Year 4 Falcons



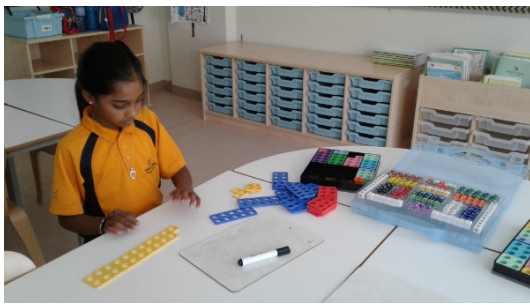
The final week of our school year has arrived. It has been with great sadness that we've said goodbye to some of our classmates towards the end of last week and during this week.

Thursday was an emotional day for everyone; the excitement of the summer holidays but also the sadness of saying goodbye to everyone for so many weeks.



The Year 4 students had fun during their last week working on their computing skills, picking the areas that they felt needed more exploration in mathematics and typing their stories for English.





This school year has been an amazing year for every Falcon in Year 4. They have become mature Key Stage Two students, ready to move into Year 5. They have made fantastic progress and have been a pleasure to teach.

Thank you to the boys and girls of Year 4 Falcons for making this school year amazing! We've laughed and talked and had so much fun together that they will always be remembered fondly. Thank you to the parents for always supporting us and for attending all of our events both in class and in school.

I hope you have an amazing summer holiday. Be safe!

Year 5 Hawksbill



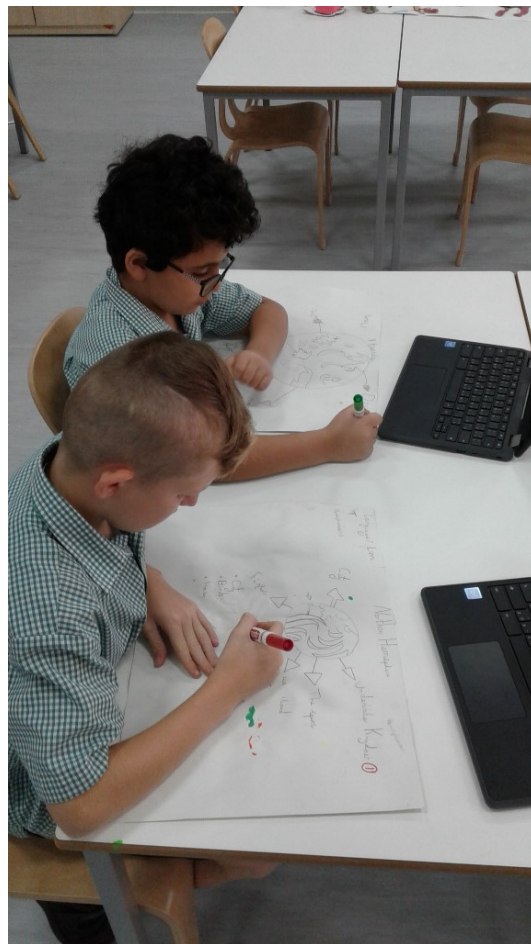
Year 5 have had fun this week completing their finished stories and showing different classes around the art exhibition that they created. They have enjoyed learning new songs and working as a team to do a performance.





This week in Year 5 we have found it sad to say goodbye to some of our friends during this week. We have made some lovely friendships this year and we have celebrated our friendships this week.

This year has been amazing for all of the Hawksbills!



They have grown into mature, sensible and caring individuals that make a huge difference to our school community. They all have their own qualities that they bring to the class, which has made this year really enjoyable. We have achieved so much this year and have had lots of lovely experiences!



We've had an amazing year and I hope that you all have a wonderful and exciting summer!
See you in September when you are even more grown up and ready for Year 6!



PE



Aspen Mini World Cup

Aspen Heights hosted its own world cup and what a thrilling world cup it turned out to be. The tournament consisted of six teams who competed in 15 matches. All of the teams demonstrated grit, passion and dedication throughout. It was fantastic to witness the emotional highs and lows of football on the route to the final with results that no one could predict.

Portugal were victorious in the overall tournament, but it was not all plain sailing as they finished joint third in their group with Argentina finishing first;

Group stage:

1. Argentina - 12 points
2. Portugal - 8 points
3. Germany - 8 points
4. Brazil - 7 points
5. England - 6 points
6. Spain - 1 points

Semi Final

In the semifinal Portugal faced Germany. They were leading 1-0 until a last minute masterful strike, finding the top right hand corner by Mohammed took the game to penalties. The Portugal team managed to hold their nerve and secure their spot in the final.

The eagerly awaited final had been made with Argentina triumphing against tough opponents Brazil with a 2-0 win, goals both coming from Oliver.



Final

Here it was, the day everyone had been waiting for 04/07/2018... Portugal VS Argentina. The game started at high speed with both teams not giving anything away. The chances were coming in but with both goalkeepers (Abdulla - Argentina and Fares - Portugal) making save after save, were we heading for a 0-0 draw?

A free kick had been awarded to Portugal in a goal threatening position. Could this be the moment? Salem calmly placed the ball down, measured his run up and with a thunderous strike took Portugal into the lead, 1-0. Argentina now started to dominate possession but against the run of play Fares kicked the ball from a goal kick - it took a deflection and beat Abdullah, Portugal 2-0.

1 minute on the clock - Oliver of Argentina receives the ball from a great pass by Maryam. He picks his head up with a powerful strike and scores, 2-1 Portugal, what a response. 10 seconds left, the crowds begin to count down 10,9,8... Adam takes a strike, it is saved

and slowly rolls back, Oliver strikes the ball with the last kick of the game and GOALLLLLLLLL, 2-2 the game will be decided with penalties.

This was now going to be a battle of nerves. The first penalty to Argentina... no goal the score remains 0-0. Can Portugal capitalise? ... Goal; 0-1 Portugal. The second penalty taker for Argentina; Goal, 1-1. Portugal respond with another great strike 1-2. The last penalty, can Argentina score? Yes 2-2. The pressure is all on this young Portugal player, can they secure the Aspen mini world cup with this kick... Yes 3-2, the crowd go wild and Portugal are the new Champions.

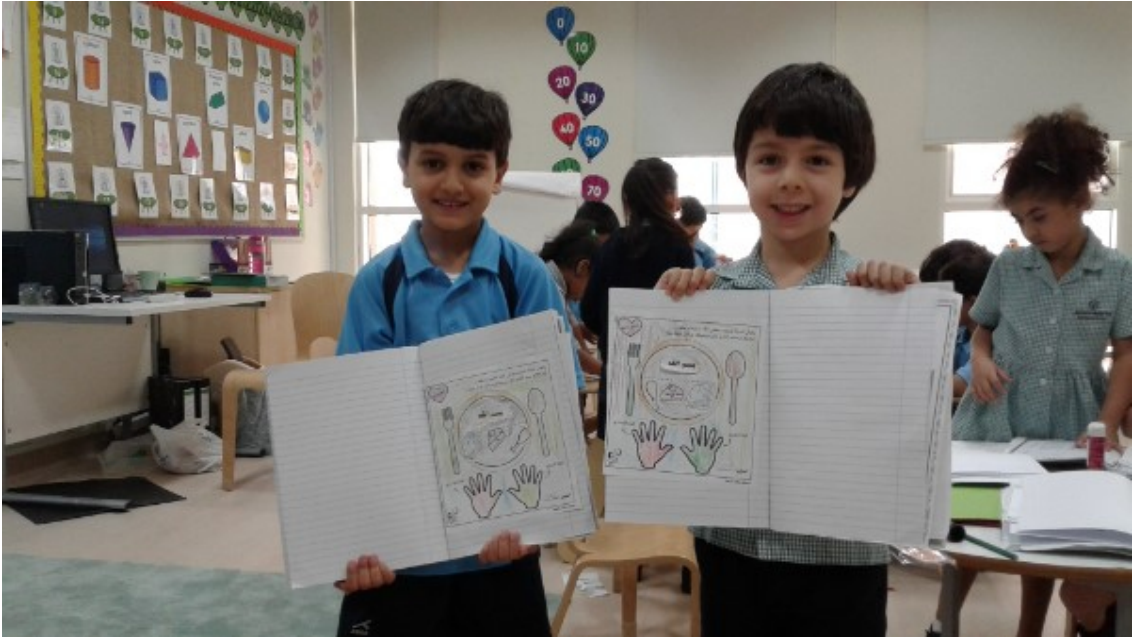
Well done to all those who participated it was fantastic to see so many Aspen students from all years taking part and having fun. It was a fantastic tournament and the Portugal player Ahmed said; "I want to thank all the other players who took part and the supporters".

مادة التربية الإسلامية



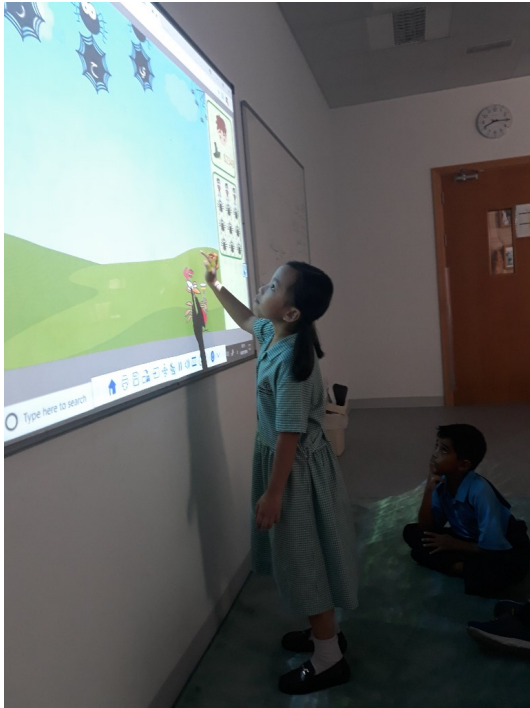
الأسبوع الأخير مع أبنائي الطلاب، كان أسبوعاً مليئاً بالنشاطات المتنوعة والتي تُخصّص مادة التربية الإسلامية، حيث أستوعبنا فيه مع أبنائنا الطلاب كل ما درس خلال العام الدراسي وما قمنا به، وأكدنا فيه على أهمية التحلي بالأخلاق الحسنة في تعاملنا مع الآخرين والتسامح مع الآخرين، فنحن في دولة التسامح، دولة الإمارات العربية المتحدة، بقيادة صاحب السمو الشيخ خليفة بن زايد، حفظه الله ورعاه، وأخيراً أرجو من الله تعالى أن يحفظ أبنائنا الطلاب، ونلقاكم على خير بإذن الله تعالى.

مادة اللغة العربية



قام طلاب السنة الأولى بمراجعة حديث آداب الطعام ونفذوا نشاط ممتع على الحديث .

قمنا في الصف الثاني بهذا الأسبوع بأنشطة صفية لتعزيز فه الطلاب للحروف الكلمات ومراجعة المقاطع والمهارات التي تم التعرف عليها خلال العام الدراسي، واستمتع الطلاب بالألعاب التعليمية المختلفة.



تشارك الطلاب في مراجعة مهارات اللغة العربية والتي تم
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