



المدرسة الإنجليزية الحديثة THE ENGLISH MODERN SCHOOL

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CAMBRIDGE
International Examinations

Cambridge International School

Parents' To Do List:

- Check school website
- Check homework
- Check week ahead
- Email school with any query
- SMS with any query
- Read to your child daily
- Say thanks
- Praise your child for all their hard work
- Pay school fees.
- Eat well and exercise
- Get plenty of rest and have a great day!

Message from Head of School



Ref: sst/LW/0314/1718
16.04.2018

Dear Esteemed Parents,

Welcome to Volume Two of our newsletter for this academic year. Our students continue to thrive in their holistic learning; here we are at the start of term three. How time flies! This term we are looking forward to finishing off the academic year with lots of activities and events such as Inter-school Battle of the Books, Inter-school Spelling Bee and other sports events, to mention a few. I am confident that our students will continue to enjoy their learning experiences in and out of the classroom.

As we educate our students in becoming lifelong learners, please make sure you encourage and motivate your child/children at home in their education. Furthermore, I would also like to take this opportunity to remind you of your children's cyber safety while using the internet on their laptops, desktop computers or handheld devices. Please ensure that your child/children are accessing information that is age-appropriate.

As we continue to enrich our practices, school environment as well as the learning and instruction in the classroom, I want you to know that we value and appreciate your feedback as esteemed parents. Please feel free to stop by my office anytime to share innovative ideas with us; we want to hear

from you. You can email us, call us or drop a note in our suggestion box at the front office.

I would also like to inform parents to please refrain from taking photos of other children in your child/ children's class room and putting it on social media. This is to maintain confidentiality as you do not have permission from other parents to use the photos of their children publicly.

We at EMSW and EMKG pride ourselves on promoting a professional learning community by collaborating with colleagues in other International schools across the globe. I am pleased to inform you that EMSW is now a member of The European Council of International Schools, an organization that gives educators and children the opportunity to network and collaborate with other international schools in Europe for staff Professional development opportunities, student exchange programs, and other educational events.

This newsletter has been proudly put together by our faculty and staff here at EMSW and EMKG. Please take the time to go through it, as you will find it filled with useful information and updates on our student's learning and achievements as well as the positive impact that our school has in the local community.

Thank you for your continued support of the mission and vision of our esteemed school. Please visit the school's website for further information and photos of events that took place in Term 2.

Yours sincerely
Omolola Wright
Head of School

Early Childhood Education Department

A warm welcome to all the ECE parents and children. I am so proud to see how well the children have settled into the school routine, they are more independent and are enjoying their learning experiences.

We all have enjoyed our 'Dress Down' Thursday's, in which we all had the opportunity to have 'Crazy Hair' and 'Tourist day,' more 'Dress down' days in April. This has been a great opportunity to see so many of the children with help from their parents being so creative and imaginative when exploring ideas on how to take part in these fun days. The children also enjoyed making their Mother's Day creations and handing out the mother's day chocolates.

Please keep checking the website for further news and developments in the ECE as well as other relevant information.

It is always good to hear feedback from the parents during our coffee morning as well as using the suggestions boxes at the main entrance and on reception. We always look at the responses and where possible, try to make the changes happen to ensure that we can continue to support the children, parents and the school.

Children's Learning

Our aim is for the children to love learning so we are always seeking innovative programs which will inspire the children to like what they are being taught.

We have seen how the children are exploring and using the skills that they have developed in Term 1 and during Term 2 across all areas of the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum (EYFS) we will continue exploring and gaining feedback from other learning programs such as; 'Education City,' 'Jolly Phonics' and the Second step program. We will also be looking at the 'Scholastic' numeracy for KG2 next year and continue to explore the 'jolly phonics' literacy programs for KG1 and KG2 which will enhance the EYFS curriculum and the other programs that we currently use. I am sure this love of learning will continue to grow in Term3 and prepare the children to move onto the next stage of their learning journey.

The children have enjoyed exciting themes which are linked to the curriculum as well as other learning experiences in school, such as;

- '*Understanding the World(Science),*' The KG2 children at EMK have started to develop the EMK garden, and enjoy looking after their plants and watching them grow. All of the other children have also been able to grow plants inside and watch how they grow when they look after them.
- * '*Healthy Foods,*' The children enjoyed bringing in and sharing their healthy fruit and vegetables. The child were able to use their literacy and numeracy skills to help set up a fruit and veg store and sell them to their parents and other classes. Sports day was a great event, one which the children and staff enjoyed very much, it was a great team event.
- * '*Transport*' the children have really enjoyed the transport theme, making their own vehicles from recycled materials and using vehicles within the literacy and numeracy sessions too. The
- * children are looking forward to their field trip , where they will be going on a bus tour to see what types of transport they can see on their journey.

To ensure that your child gets the most out of their learning, it is essential that your child attends school regularly and arrives to class on time. It is also, equally important for parents to continue helping the children with their learning at home during every day routines, such as; buying grocers, games during a car journey such as 'I spy', visit to the park, eating out, washing, cooking are just some ideas that you can do to help with your child's learning at home.

In the ECE we will continue to maintain the vision and mission of our school, in that we are consistently challenging the children's learning and development. We always ensure that the children have opportunities that can help make a positive impact in the world around them and nurture them to become lifelong long learners in our multicultural environment.

Mrs. Sandra Hallows.

ECEAssistant Principal.

PRIMARY DEPARTMENT

Term 2 has absolutely flown by! It's hard to believe that we are heading into Term 3. This was the term for students to put into practice the skills that they began to learn in Term 1 and to build upon them. By now, the students are very aware of the school's and their teacher's expectations for their academic performance and for their behaviour. Most of our students are progressing nicely in both of these areas. However, some continue to struggle with making academic progress or behaving appropriately, and for these students, we ask for your support at home so that, as a team, we can continue to work together to help your child(ren) make the necessary gains in Term 3 in order to be promoted to the next year group. We are glad that you are a part of our team in helping your child(ren) reach their potential.

Year 1:

In Year 1, we have been exploring different materials and sorting them according to their properties. We had the opportunity to share in the 'Read Aloud Day' with Year 4 and we all learned from each other.

Our students have been writing poems, while practicing their writing, reading and spelling. Year 1 learners have also been improving their listening, speaking and comprehension skills by participating in discussions of general and specific curricular topics. We also, had our first show and tell about farm animals and we all enjoyed it.

In Math, the students have been learning about 3D shapes, ordinal numbers, subtraction, time, counting in tens and comparing objects using comparative language. We have been taking higher level books from the library and understanding how to treat books correctly. The students have become emotional problem solvers by following the 4 problem solving steps from Second step. While learning about all of these concepts, we have done many art components to enhance their learning and boost their creativity.

Year 2:

In year 2 we've had a productive and most productive second term.

In Maths, our students have expanded their knowledge about numbers by working with all 4 mathematical functions (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division). They have also worked a lot with shapes and can now recognise the 2D and 3D shapes, all around us.

In English, the students focused a lot on planning, writing and double checking their work - a skill they will need now and in the future. They have continued learning how to spell a growing number of familiar high frequency words also. During their writing, the students have focused on extending sentences with the use of adjectives, past and present tense and simple verb words.

As always, our Science lessons have been compact with plenty of practical and theory work. They worked on recognising materials that can dissolve in water, natural and man-made materials and different uses of rocks. Another topic we focused on this term, which the students were very excited about was creating and understanding how circuits work. Science has been fun!

And finally, in Social Studies, our learners have looked at famous landmarks in their country and in other countries. This was a topic that was really taught in depth through educational landmark videos and a field trip opportunity; it was a lot of fun! The students also learnt about different parts of the world and their different cultures.

Year 3:

Over the term, English lessons were focused on quality of literature as a model of the English language. Students learned to write through examples of quality literature by deconstructing texts for meaning, grammar and sentence construction. It included reading, viewing and writing a variety of imaginative, persuasive and informative texts. They also practiced writing poems using these different poetic devices.

This term, students in Year 3 have achieved excellent results in Mathematics. They learnt to develop a deeper mathematical understanding and fluency in all basic operations (Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication and Division) through inquiry, exploring and connecting mathematical concepts, choosing and applying problem-solving skills and mathematical techniques, and through communication and reasoning. Students in Year 3 were also exposed to many mathematical problem solving questions to ensure they have an understanding of how questions can be answered. Achieving all areas in Math involved the whole class and group activities including students with the strongest Math skills participating in the Annual Math Quiz Bowl.

In Science, students were working scientifically. They continued to develop the key skills of prediction, observation, sorting, drawing conclusions and evaluating investigations. They were inspired by topics involving the properties of materials and testing those materials. They also carried out investigations based on magnets.

In Social Studies, learners identified different types of transportation and used their research skills on concepts regarding life in different places around the globe. They also used their inquiry skills in recognizing and explaining different types of houses as part of this term's summative assessment. At the end of the term, learners identified different international celebrations and discussed different kinds of food from around the World.

Year 4:

In Year 4, the students focused this term on new topics within all subjects. In English, students developed their reading and writing skills, making full use of their imagination. They imagined a strange building and described it in great detail. They found out about the living and eating habits of other children their age around the world. The story of Neil Armstrong took them back in history and they imagined a journey through the stars.

Math brought along new challenges as the students developed a line into an angle, which then grew into a 2D shape and finally into a 3D shape. Fractions and decimals make them think of how much Math knowledge is related to everyday life and how much we use it on a daily basis.

In Science, the students explored the three states of matter: solid, liquid and gas and again they connected their knowledge to everyday life. Sound was another unit that Year 4 students learnt about this term. They learnt how a sound is produced as well as how it travels through different materials.

Social Studies included interesting topics such as the Communities, Cultures and Customs of different countries. The students gained knowledge about the way other nations behave in society, the rules they have as well as the culture that they, themselves, belong to. They also studied about water, its importance in our everyday life and ways of saving water.

Year 5:

During the Term 2 English lessons, the students had so much fun learning and talking about various topics: famous personalities from around the world and their work, myths, fables and proverbs with their teaching points as well as Ancient civilizations and their influence in our day-to-day life. Moreover, the students studied the Old Egyptian Hieroglyphs and really enjoyed creating short paragraphs in that old style of writing.

The Math lessons introduced the students to the world of decimals, fractions and percentages, making connections to their daily life. We continued our math journey with interactive lessons about reading time and timetables. The lessons about area and perimeter helped the learners understand better the difference between the 2 concepts and the way we calculate them.

The Term 2 Science lessons gave us the opportunity to correlate English and Science when talking about the famous astronauts/astronomers and their work regarding the Solar System. The lessons about the states of matter and water cycle will help the students have a better understanding of the Term 3 Social Studies unit on water, its uses and the way we can recycle it.

In Social Studies, we focused on the United Nations Organization and Human Rights/ Children's Rights and Responsibilities, which made the students more aware of their rights and duties as citizens. The students continued learning about the Arabian Heritage and the influence that the British Empire has had in this part of the world.

The Second Step programme has guided us in becoming aware of the importance of preventing Bullying in and outside of school. These lessons allowed the students to learn how to deal positively with the challenging situations that they face every day.

Year 6:

Term 2 has been a great Term for Year 6. In English, students read whole books in depth for pleasure and for information. They continued to develop their knowledge and skills in writing, refining their drafting skills and publishing their final piece. They were taught to write formal essays as well as writing imaginatively. The students also focused on increasing their knowledge of vocabulary and grammar skills as well.

In Math, the term was very productive. Some of the important topics that were covered in this term are the addition and subtraction of fractions with different denominators by identifying equivalent fractions with the same denominator. Learners also drew and labeled a pair of axis in all 4 quadrants with equal scaling. This extended their knowledge of one quadrant to all 4 quadrants, including the use of negative numbers.

In Science the focus was on important topics like how solids can be mixed and how it is often possible to separate them. As scientists, they strengthened their abilities to observe, describe, record and begin to explain changes that occur when solids are added to water. The students also discussed and researched the notion of energy in motion. Learners studied traits that living things have and how they have changed over time and that fossils provide information about living things that inhabited the Earth millions of years ago.

In Social Studies, Year 6 students identified their city, country, or continent on a map and were able to find the coordinates of it. They have described the European exploration in North America and in addition, researched explorers of their choice. The students also focused on exploring the different kinds of immigration such as: international, voluntary immigration, and forced immigration. This is in addition to a project done in class that helped the students learn about personal budget and the importance of personal spending and saving.

QATAR NATIONAL CURRICULUM DEPARTMENT

During Term 2, the students covered the last subjects of part 1 of their text books in Arabic and Islamic. They started learning from part 2 from the middle of Term 2. In Qatar History, they were focusing on the second unit of the Qatar History textbook.

The students enjoyed their learning through different strategies in and out of the classrooms. Project based learning was one of the strategies that worked well. The students worked on different projects in the three subjects. In Arabic, the projects were focusing on different subjects for years 1-4 and summarizing stories for years 5-6. In Islamic, the projects were focusing on designing cards, and objects related to the topics learned. In Qatar History, the students designed beautiful projects which related to the heritage of Qatar.

Arabic week was the most prominent event this term. The students enjoyed the outdoor Arabic competitions in grammar, spelling, reading and comprehension.

Years 4-6 students visited years KG1-Year 3 classes to read to them, and it was a rewarding reading day. All students visited the school book fair and enjoyed exploring and buying their favorite books.

We would like to inform you that 113 students participated in the National Quran Competition this term, 32 students got excellent, 18 students got very good and 36 students got good. Well done to all participants.

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The highlight of this term was the Annual EMS Sports Day fest. This year was full of fun and laughter and blissful memories were created once again. We were able to promote the objectives of this event; the joy in doing physical activity as well as healthy and friendly competition among the children.

Here is a glance back from the Sports Day. ECE students were divided into 4 teams. We began the day with warm up dances accompanied with lively songs just to break the ice. We made stations for each game so the kids can take turns and gather points. The children participated in many activities such as obstacle course, relay races, space hopper, ball rolling race, sack race, and many more. The obstacle course race gave the students a chance to be risk-takers as they got to show off their athletic ability through balancing on the benches, jumping over obstacles and crawling through tunnels. It was an amazing day for all of the children as well as the teachers who participated in games like tug-of-war. Everyone definitely had a perfect time!

Congratulations to the top 3 winners of this year.

KG1

- 1st Caterpillar
- 2nd Butterfly
- 3rd Ladybird

KG2

- 1st Apple
- 2nd Pineapple
- 3rd Kiwi

The success of this event will not be possible without the help of our Teacher's and Teachers Assistants - a Big Thank You for all the hard work!

Primary Physical Education

PE department have had a successful time of it in within the sports arena

We have been connecting with a number of schools over the past few months.

This has enabled our children to experience playing different sports against schools and performing very well. The boys and girls who represented the school in tag rugby, basketball and football have enjoyed their experiences immensely.

We attended a number of QPPSSA championships during these last few months in various sports.

In the athletics we took home 6 gold medals and 1 silver. Mahmoud and Albert of year six performed brilliantly Mahmoud took gold in the 4x100 metres, silver in the 800m and gold in the high jump. Albert took home gold in the shot putt even though he had never previously seen a shot putt in his life

We took several children to the tag rugby championship, missing out on the quarter finals to a last minute try. Also in the cricket championship the year 5 boys and girls just missed out on a bronze medal losing by one run in their last game. The children have really gained confidence and become inspired to part of the various teams.

On Sunday the year 5 girls and boys will be playing in the first Al Wakrah schools football cup at Gems. Wednesday year 3 and 4 boys will be playing their first ever basketball game against a neighboring school. A number of children have expressed an interest in playing in the Qatar national schools chess Championships in April.

GUIDANCE AND COUNSELLING DEPARTMENT

The school counsellor works with students, parents, teachers and administrators to help make your child's school experience a success. Reinforcing the ESLRs is a large part of the counsellor's job. In Term II, we are celebrating ESLR, Effective Communicators.

Effective Communicators: I share my feelings and ideas with confidence. I listen to and respect other communicators.

Student success depends on home and school working together to develop Independent Learners, Effective Communicators, Global Citizens, Ethical Individuals, Critical Thinkers, and Dynamic Achievers.

Parents:

Please use the *SecondSTEP Character Educational Program at home*. Please visit www.secondstep.org and click tab *Families*.

Parents:

We have introduced a new program called *Bullying Prevention Unit*. Please login to www.secondstep.org and register.

EMSW HEALTH & SAFETY:

The English Modern School- Wakra needs to be informed of any information, no matter how small, in connection with your child's health. That is why we are entrusting this responsibility to you, parents.

SICKNESS/ILLNESSES

- If your child becomes ill while in our care, parents are contacted immediately and you are asked to come and collect your child.
- Sick children **MUST** remain at home until they are 24 hours free from high temperature and vomiting or if your doctor has given clearance to return.
- Parents are responsible for finding back-up care for sick children. **PLEASE DO NOT BRING YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL IF HE/SHE IS SICK.** Please do not send your child to school if he/she has an elevated temperature (above 37.6 degrees). Low temperature in the morning does not guarantee that your child is well.
- Children with contagious illness such as *conjunctivitis, impetigo, chicken pox, cough and colds* and *head lice infestation* must be kept at home to ensure that it cannot spread to other students in the school.

Parents of students with medical conditions, such as *Diabetes, Epilepsy, Anaphylaxis and/or history of severe allergic response, Severe Asthma, Blood disorders such as hemophilia or G6PD* and *heart conditions* are required to provide an **UPDATED FULL MEDICAL REPORT**. Kindly ensure that you have provided the school of any prescribed medication that can be used in case of emergency.

MEDICATIONS

If your child takes a medication (prescription or over-the-counter) that needs to be given during the school day, please contact the school nurse.

Medications can only be given if they come to school in a correctly labelled original bottle. They will not be accepted in baggies, envelopes, etc.

Please have an adult deliver the medication to school - not the child. All changes in prescription dosage must be accompanied by a newly labelled bottle or letter from the doctor indicating the changes. Nonprescription medications may be given only if the medications are in the original bottle with clear instructions from the parent/guardian as to how they are to be administered (dosage, time, etc.).

- All medications, including cough drops, are stored in the nurse's office. Uncollected, expired medication will be disposed at the end of the school year.

REHYDRATION

During times of extreme heat, staff and students are at risk of heat related illnesses such as dehydration, heat cramps, heat exhaustion and heat stroke. It is essential that your child has sufficient water or juice. Please, use non-breakable containers; no glass bottles as these can shatter and possibly result in injury.

FOOD ALLERGEN

Please be advised that nuts or products containing nuts cannot be sent to school at any time. Several students in our school have potentially life-threatening allergies. Therefore, it is critical that everyone follow the food guidelines. Students are discouraged from sharing food due to potential allergen contamination. Any nut products found in school will be removed from the student.

MINISTRY OF PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAMS

Annual Visual Acuity Test

This assessment is conducted to all Year 1, 3 & 5 students. Students found with difficulty during the test were given referral to undergo full eye examination with an eye specialist.

Annual Growth Monitoring

Students (aged 5 years old and above) came to the Nurse Room to have their BMI, height and weight measured. The results have been recorded and sent to the Ministry of Public Health.

EMK Health Department

At EMK, Health Department conducted the Growth Monitoring of KG2 students aged 5 years old and above, as part of the health program of the Ministry of Public Health. Height, weight and body mass index were obtained and plotted on the student's individual growth chart. Growth monitoring will help in early detection of students who are at risk of any growth problem or having growth problem.

As part of school policy in keeping our student's safety, parent's cooperation is highly needed in ensuring their child's well-being, health and safety in the school;

- Sick students must remain at home and can return to school if he/she is free from high temperature or doctor has given clearance to return to school.
- Children with contagious illness such as conjunctivitis, impetigo, chicken pox, cough and colds must be kept at home to ensure that it cannot spread to other students in the school.
- **Medical Certificate** from the doctor must be given to the School Nurse or Teacher when the child returns to school.
- Children with medical condition such as Asthma, G6PD or Allergies, Minor and Major Surgery must give a full medical report to the school and needs to be updated or reviewed to know if there are any changes in the child's condition, medication and care needed.

Children who had fracture/injury must follow doctor's note on until when the child needs to be staying at home to ensure their safety. **PLEASE DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL IF HE/SHE IS STILL UNFIT TO COME TO SCHOOL AS PER DOCTOR'S INSTRUCTION.**

LIBRARY

In term 2, developing information literate students who are ethical and responsible participants in the society is still the Library's commitment. It helps the students and teachers become efficient users of ideas and information by supporting and providing access to information. To learn more about the library, you may visit <http://www.englishmodernschool.net/emswakra/our-school/library>. The website has also been updated for easy navigation and access of information.

The School held its yearly book fair last March 2018. Students, parents, and teachers were ecstatic to see and buy books that they love at the book fair. It was a successful event as they all went home contented with their new found book friend.

Battle of the Books 2018 Al Wakrah Inter-Schools Competition, which will be held in EMS Wakra, began its exciting preparation last February. EMS Wakra students from Year 3 to Year 6 have been chosen and started reading books in order to compete for the slots in representing the school for the Inter-Schools Competition. The schedules of the event are as follows:

22nd and 23rd of April: EMS Wakra School-based Battle of the Books

29th of April: Al Wakrah Inter-Schools Battle of the Books.

As always, we invite you parents, to be our partner in encouraging and helping your child/children to become an enthusiastic reader, skillful researcher, critical thinker, and ethical individual.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The school is well equipped with hi-tech digital/IT devices for students and staff. Each classroom is equipped with desktops, projectors, and interactive whiteboards. Also, there are laptops available for students to practice. Chrome books are also available for students.

Also, the school is fully equipped with high-speed internet and laptops to have access to Wi-Fi network. More IT devices will be installed to facilitate student learning through visual and audio media in line with a 21st century and digital learning.

MESSAGE FROM THE SCHOOL CASHIER

The voucher system from the Ministry of Education & Higher Education is open to Parents who are eligible for it. Parents who receive school voucher should submit the voucher certificate stating that he/ she does not take any educational allowances from his or her company.

FRONT OFFICE

School receptionists are often the first people that students, families, and visitors see when they enter the school. We are here to help everyone to communicate with the school's departments such as Head of School, Senior Leadership and Management Teams, Year Group Leaders, teachers, faculty members and student's parents. Our tasks include answering phone calls and other administrative duties. We welcome parents and visitors to our school in a professional way and ensure that all queries and inquiries are dealt with in a timely and respectable manner. If you need to meet with the school's faculty and staff, please come to the front office and complete a form and we will schedule an appointment for you.

UPCOMING SCHOOL EVENTS:

International Day at EMK:

April 18

International Day at EMSW:

April 19

**Inter - school Battle of the Books hosted by English Modern School, April 29
Al Wakra campus**

Annual School Production

May (Date to be confirmed)

KG 2 & Year 6 Graduation Ceremony

May (Date to be confirmed)

KG 1, years 1,2,3,4,and 5 Awards Ceremony

May (Date to be confirmed)

**Inter - school Spelling Bee Competition hosted by
Vision International School**

May 21,22 and 23