



a happy school™

February 2016

Issue
No. 7

the smile

NEWSLETTER

AL BASMA BRITISH SCHOOL

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Guardians

January has whizzed by in a whirl of teaching and learning. Thank you to all of the parents who attended the parent's meeting on 25th/26th January to discuss their child's progress against term 1 targets and any new targets for term 2. We received lots of positive feedback and many parents were appreciative of the teacher's efforts and hard work.

We have had an overwhelming response after opening online admissions for new families. As a result, we have closed KG1, KG2 & G1 applications having already received 170 sibling applications in January. Applications remain open for G2 to G9 although waiting lists are increasing quickly as there are only a small number of places available. We are also accepting sibling applications for KG1, KG2 & G1 delivered by hand to the Admissions Officer (Ms. Najuva) for siblings of existing children and new applicants to G2 to G9. Please be prepared to quote the application reference. Sibling interviews will take place shortly, the Admissions Office will be contacting you personally.

Enrichment activities will begin on Wednesday 10th February from 3 pm to 4 pm. We were very pleased with the launch of the new online registration process. If you are yet to confirm your child's attendance, please click on the 'accept' link in the automatically -generated email you received after registering or complete the letter.

Leaving school early impacts negatively on progress and attainment. We strongly discourage it unless for urgent or unavoidable situations.

Mrs. Allison MacDonald
Principal

International Day

On 3rd March the entire school will celebrate International Day. Please look out for a message from the Whatsapp group for your national team so that you can organise a celebration of your national culture, food, drink and heritage.

Thank you to the parents who have volunteered to help us to set up the groups. Celebrations are scheduled for the evening.

KEY DATES

3rd March
International Day Celebrations

28th February
Reading Week

24th March
Last day of Term 2

10th April
First day of Term 3

ATTENDANCE/PUNCTUALITY

Best attendance:

KG1: Ms. Amal (88%)
KG2: Ms Lisa (93%)
G1: Ms. Teena (92%)
G2: Ms. Saima (93%)
G3: Ms. Anna (93%)
G4: Ms. Leane (98%)
G5: Ms. Becci (92%)
G6: Mr. Cian (93%)
G7: Ms. Nahed (87%)
G8: Mr. Wayne (92%)

Best punctuality:

KG1: Ms. Cliona
KG2: Ms. Ayesha
G1: Ms. Teena
G2: Ms. Saima
G3: Ms. Amna
G4: Mr. Michael
G5: Ms. Suganthi
G6: Mr. Cian
G7: Ms. Samia
G8: Ms. Veena

The classes with high early pickups:

KG1D & H
G2A

This newsletter is also published on the school website – www.albsamaschool.ae under the "Information" tab.

CELEBRATING ACHIEVEMENT



G5 to 8 demonstrating their cooking skills



Ms. Sophie's class experimenting with volcanos



Above: G4 using parachutes to investigate air resistance

Below: Ms. Amna's class making collars on the theme of 'Smile'



GENERAL INFORMATION

Al Basma is a **healthy school**. Please support us in educating your child about how to live a healthy lifestyle by providing them with healthy snacks and meals for break and lunch times. Also, we are a nut-free environment.

Term 2 **fees** are now payable. Please visit the Finance Office to settle your tuition and transportation fees at your earliest convenience.

Kindly respect our neighbours and **park** considerately when dropping and collecting your child.

If you wish your child aged 12 or older to **leave school alone**, please send a letter accepting responsibility for your child and stating what you are giving permission for them to do and include two passport photographs to reception. Once your child has been issued with a badge, they will be able to leave the building.

The week commencing 28th February is going to be **Al Basma's Reading Week** with the Book Fair taking place in the school from 1st to 3rd March. Parents will be able to visit the Book Fair from 3 pm to 4 pm on the 1st and 2nd March. More details will follow. We will also celebrate World Book Day including a character day. This initiative is in support of Sheikh Mohammed Al Maktoum's declaration that 2016 is the 'Year of Reading'.

CORE COMPETENCIES

The focus is:
COMMUNICATION