Maadi British International School

Learning for Life

Early Years Centre

4th March 2010

Dear Parents,

We hope you enjoyed the half term break and that the inclement weather didn't hamper your plans!

We welcome Alessandra Sletmo from Sweden to F1LT. We have said 'goodbye and ma'assalama' to Zaynah Pasha in F1LT and wish her well in her new school in Oman!

The classes in the Early Years Centre were very happy to present the fantastic sum of LE11.760 raised by the 'Danceathon' to Mr Ashby during the whole school assembly on Sunday morning. We are sure you will agree that that the children did very well and thank you so much for helping them find sponsors and raising these funds for the Egyptian flood disaster.

We have had a super time this week introducing our new theme of 'Homes'. We have looked at different types of homes and what they are made of. The children had fun making a collage of a house using different materials including wood, corrugated card etc. We are in the process of changing the role playing area into a tent with exploring toys such as torches, binoculars, compass, walkie talkies etc and we're sure the children will enjoy taking many imaginary jungle safaris or trips to the desert!

We hope you found the meeting about our introduction to phonics useful. The two websites we use are http://www.ngfl-cymru.org.uk/vtc/ngfl/ngfl-flash/alphabet-eng/alphabet.htm and http://www.starfall.com/. For those of you who were unable to attend the meeting I will include a brief summary at the end of this linkletter.

The letter sound for next week is 'S'.

Request

We need some photos of the 'Danceathon' for the school magazine. Please could you speak to Mrs Troupe or Miss Jan if you have some we could use. Thank you.

Reminders
P.E.
F1FJ – Sunday
F1LT – Monday

Library
F1 FJ will continue to have Library time after the first break each Wednesday 11.00 – 11.30 and F1 LT will have Library time after the first break each Thursday 11.00 – 11.30.
Please return their books on these days.

A sample of next week's activities:

Sunday	**Monday**	**Tuesday**	**Wednesday**	**Thursday**
Introducing the letter sound 's' using the Jolly Phonics big book and whiteboard activities.	Tabletop finger painting.	Sorting pictures to put in the correct room of the house.	Magnetic boards and letters for making their names.	Using the 'Counting teddy bears' for counting, sorting and size activities

Thank you!
Have a good weekend.
Foundation 1 staff

'Introducing Phonics' meeting 02.03.10

We follow the 'Jolly Phonics' scheme which is used in the main school. We introduce the children to one letter sound a week and we will let parents know which letter in the weekly Linkletter. We only introduce the initial letter sound at this stage. We cover the name of the letter, the sound it makes and the correct letter formation when writing. To avoid repetition, we use the 2 websites given in the Linkletter to reinforce learning rather, than the Jolly Phonics website which the children will use next year. The children thoroughly enjoy taking part in these phonic activities using the interactive whiteboards.

Some children are in the process of learning English as their second language and may not yet understand the phonic element of these activities but they are also very useful for helping to increase their vocabulary and will also show them correct letter formation.

(Please see Mrs Troupe if you would like a copy of the handout which shows the correct letter formation we use in the school).