



# PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER

No.4



STAR INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL,

24<sup>th</sup> September 2018

**Dear Parents,**

As usual school has been very busy this week, I'd quickly like to thank Mr. Andrew and the Senior Leadership Team for 'holding the fort' for me during my absence last week.

## GOVERNORS

It is the time of year when school look to acquire school governors to help be a critical friend to school. The Governor role is to ensure that school moves in the correct direction, that the School Development Plan is followed and that the children get the best opportunities they can through the resources that we have.

Prospective Governors must be nominated, hence if you know someone who would like to take on this role, please use the nomination form on the D6 communicator and give the form to Ms. Anagha or Ms. Janine at Primary Reception. Can I also ask that nominees write a small bio of themselves, stating why you want to be a Governor and also telling other parents a little bit about yourselves.

Bios will be left up for the next two weeks, whereupon an anonymous vote will be cast through Survey Monkey to elect the Governor.

Governor nominations and bios must be with Ms. Janine or Ms. Anagha by Thursday of this week.



## FIRE DRILL

On Thursday, school ran the termly fire drill. It was very well managed by teachers and children. It was comforting to see all the children, including Year 1, behaving so responsibly so early in the term. Well done to everyone.

## CAT 4

The main focus of the work being done last week was the preparation for the National Agenda Assessments called CAT4. This year, these are assessments, which are statutory for Year 4 and Year 5. The assessments relay information about a child's learning preferences and their areas of strength and areas which need development. The children complete the test online, it is a test which cannot be revised for as it isn't about specific knowledge, so please do not worry yourselves. Ask your children about the tests this week and see how they felt they got on. Results of the tests will be shared with parents at the first Student Learning conference.

## EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

This last week has seen many educational visits happening which have started the themes for our concept curriculum this year. Enjoy reading a little review of all of them.

### YEAR 5 – Planetarium

To kick-start our Space topic, Year 5 experienced a digital, mobile planetarium. The fully immersive experience helped to bring the mysterious wonders of space to life. This was enhanced by a storytelling session by an astronomy expert! We also had the chance to have our photograph taken in a galactic photo booth.



### YEAR 1 - Aquarium

Last week, all of the Year 1 classes visited The Dubai Aquarium and Underwater Zoo at the Dubai Mall. We were amazed by all the fish and sea animals that we could see and we learned lots of new creatures' names. As we walked through the zoo, we travelled all around the world from the Amazon Rainforest waters to the Night Animal territory where we were very brave and took part in a tree top walk with the owls and parrots. We even saw the aquatic hospital where the poorly fish go and how they are fed. They splashed us with water! It was a great start to our Sun, Sea and Sand theme as we now know lots of animals that live in these different places.



### YEAR 6 – VR TRIP

To start their first theme with a bang, the Y6s went to Dubai's new VR Park. Whilst there, they got to experience fantastic rides and saw how innovative ideas have changed how videogames are played.



## OUTSIDE PLAY

Year 1 will now be joining the rest of the school in outdoor play at both lunch break times. Can Year 1 parents please make sure that all year 1 children bring:

1. A HAT
2. A LABELLED WATER BOTTLE
3. A HEALTHY SNACK in a separate container from their lunch.



## SCHOOL BAGS

Now that children have settled down in school and are beginning to understand procedures, I need to remind parents about bags.

As part of growing up and moving into the Primary section of school, we try to work on our core value of INDEPENDENCE. We do this in many different ways, but one of the ways is that we try to get children to take responsibility for their own belongings.

As such, we have suggested that children have a RUCKSACK type of bag, which they can place over their shoulders and carry themselves. Many children are carrying their own bags, but there are a few who come into school and parents are taking this responsibility.

Can I politely request that when coming into school, children carry their bags. They shouldn't be heavy as they don't really have a lot to take home or bring back with the exception of water bottles and their lunch.

Thank you for being understanding in the matter. I look forward to seeing lots of children being very independent.



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

DATES	EVENTS
Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup> September – Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> September	CAT 4 ASSESSMENTS

Thank you,

*Ms Gill*