BRITISH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF CASABLANCA

JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

20th November 2026

Dear Parents and Families of Junior School Children,

Our week started with a great celebration of Anti-Bullying as many children chose to wear odd socks to school. They truly showed that being different is a positive thing and not something to be criticised or belittled. During the week, the teachers have talked to the children about what bullying is (and is not) and what they should do if they saw it happen or if it happened to them.

I have had the pleasure of teaching ICT to a number of classes this week and I have been very impressed by the IT literacy of our fantastic students. They are becoming better prepared for the world of IT than any generation before them and that is very exciting to see.

For the safety and happiness of all of our children, please ensure that you do not approach any child on school property (other than your own) in order to reprimand them for something you think that they have done. Any complaint about another child's behaviour should be passed onto the school to deal with.

Finally, a polite reminder that children must bring in the correct swimming kit on the day(s) that they have swimming - without it, the coaches are within their rights to determine that the child cannot swim that day.

With kind regards,

Mr Nick MacIver | Head of Junior School

EYFS:

Nursery

This week in Phase 1 Phonics, the children have been exploring alliteration and initial sounds. We introduced a puppet called Silly Snake, who only likes to eat food beginning with the sound 's'. The children enjoyed thinking of different foods that Silly Snake might like to eat!We also had fun coming up with alliterative names for everyone in our circle, such as 'Sunny Sami'. Using a basket, we played an initial sound-matching game, identifying objects beginning with the sounds 'p' and 'm' and placing them into the basket. The children particularly enjoyed this activity. We also played a game of 'I Spy', listening carefully and identifying objects by their initial sounds.In Numeracy, we explored Position and Space. Using a teddy bear, we investigated positional language by moving him around and asking the children whether he was sitting on, behind or in front of the table. The children enjoyed taking part and practising these new positional words.



Reception

In Phonics, we moved on to learning the grapheme/phoneme correspondence for 'ck' and introduced the tricky word 'the'. In Numeracy, we continued our two-week topic, '1, 2, 3, 4, 5', developing the children's understanding of subitising, representing and comparing numbers, finding one more and one less, and partitioning numbers up to 5 through fun and practical activities.Our exciting topic, 'Seasons and Celebrations', continued with lots of preparation and practice for our Christmas Carol Concert. We also learned about the festival of Diwali, discovering how it is celebrated and exploring Indian-inspired art activities to create some beautiful pieces. We enjoyed another busy and exciting week of learning!

YEAR 1



We had a wonderful time celebrating Odd Socks Day this week as well as give out and complete some kindness missions. In Maths, we have been practising our number bonds to 10 and developing our confidence in recognising and recalling the different number pairs that make 10. We have also begun the first part of our assessments this week, giving the children an opportunity to demonstrate all the fantastic learning and progress they have made. In English, we have been enjoying the wonderful story of The Gruffalo! We are developing our use of story language and bringing the characters to life through role-play. The children have also been creating mind maps to explore what the different characters might be thinking and feeling, as well as collecting interesting adjectives and vocabulary to describe them.

YEAR 2

This week, we began our assessments, and the children have been working hard to show what they have learnt so far. We also celebrated Odd Socks Day to raise awareness about bullying and remind everyone of the importance of kindness, respect and celebrating our differences.



YEAR 3



This week, Year 3 worked like real scientists to investigate how water travels through plants by planning a fair test—changing only the amount of water in each cup while keeping the drops of red or blue food colouring, plant size, and light the same. After recording our predictions, we placed trimmed spring onions in bottles. Over seven days of careful observation, we saw the white stem change colour and the dye reached the green leaf tips after a few days. In our scientific write-ups, we concluded that plants use tiny, straw-like tubes called xylem to pull water upward from the roots to the leaves.



This week, Year 3 joined schools from around the world for Protecting Our Planet Day (POP26), a live-streamed event run in collaboration with the European Space Agency (ESA) and the UK Space Agency. Connecting online with real scientists and conservationists, the children discovered how satellites in space monitor Earth's oceans and help protect marine life from climate change and pollution. Inspired by what they learned, every pupil designed their very own Ocean Protector badge, sharing creative pledges on how we can all help keep our seas clean and healthy!

YEAR 4

What a busy and colourful week in Year 4! The whole school took part in Odd Socks Day, and children talked about what bullying is and how they can be upstanders by speaking up and looking out for one another. In Science, as part of our Cambridge Primary curriculum, children explored the difference between an endoskeleton, a skeleton inside the body like ours, and an exoskeleton, a hard outer covering like an insect's. In Maths, we began our new topic on multiplication and division, starting with multiples and the patterns they make. We also visited the ICT suite, where children practised their Cambridge Digital Literacy skills by typing out multiples and spotting the patterns on screen.





INTERHOUSE COMPETITION:

The House Points competition this week was won by Bath (362points); 2nd Place: Warwick (354pts); 3rd Place: Cambridge (350pts); and 4th Place: Oxford (300pts).

IMPORTANT DATES:

- **Tuesday 24th November:** Student Council visit to Lalla Hasna Orphanage.
- **Friday 11th December:** Winter Fair.
- **Tuesday 15th December:** Christmas Show (exact timings TBC).
- **Wednesday 16th December:** 12pm School closes before lunch and children are to be collected for holidays.

STAR OF THE WEEK CERTIFICATE

Nursery A | Taysir for settling into BISC so well and being so kind to others.

Nursery B | Ghita B For always trying so hard at everything with such enthusiasm.

Reception A | Lina Z for good tidying at snack time.

Reception B | Soujoud for working hard.

Year 1A | Jad for great progress in reading and improved concentration.

Year 1B | Yasmine for her fantastic effort in Phonics and building sentences using finger spaces. Well done!

Year 1C | Omar, for his wonderful enthusiasm for science: he loves exploring, asking questions and finding things out.

Year 2A | Mayane for her wonderful minibeast project on the ladybird! She put so much effort into her work!

Year 2B | Ziad, for his consistent enthusiasm, effort and his excellent spiders project.

Year 2C | Asiya, for her determination and commitment to doing well in her assessments.

Year 3A | Jaouhar for continued excitement and enthusiasm in all subjects, with particular focus on his informal letter writing. Well done!

Year 3B | Sophie for her exceptional behaviour and determination during class.

Year 3C | Leya for her wonderful attitude to learning and for challenging herself more in recent tasks.

Year 4A | Jenna for consistent hard work across all lessons.

Year 4B | Laila for hard work and passionate discussion in Humanitie.

Year 4C | Amr for being engaged, listening well and showing great understanding of multiples of 3, 6 and 9.