



المدرسة الأمريكية  
للإبداع العلمي  
AMERICAN SCHOOL  
OF CREATIVE SCIENCE

MALIHA

مليحة

# Foundation Years Newsletter

November 2020



## Good Bye, November!

Assalamu Alaikom dear Foundation Years parents!

The month of November was a month full of different events and activities. We started off with the **formation of PTA (Parent-teacher Association)** at the beginning of the month. PTA is a group of parents and administrators who work together to plan different activities and provide the school administrators with feedback in order to improve our day to day operations and practices.

The month of November then continued with various student centered celebrations and activities, such as **“Black and Yellow Day, Occupations day and World Children’s Day”**.

As a school, we have participated in the **UAE Flag Day** celebrations and most recently we have remembered the UAE Martyrs (**Martyrs’ Day**) and we have celebrated the **UAE National Day** with our students. Students in Grade 1 learned all about the design process during the **Grade 1 STEAM Week**.

Between November **15<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>**, our school held online **Parent-Teacher meetings (PTM)** – where parents had the opportunity to meet their child’s teacher online and discuss his/her progress. We are pleased to inform you, that in Foundation Years we have held 609 online meetings during those two weeks. Please see the photos of all activities at the end of this newsletter.

We are currently preparing for **December Professional Development Week**, in which our staff will attend various training sessions.

Thank you for your continuous trust and support.

“Together we can”

Jana Minhas – Head of Section

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## November Spotlight: Assessments

### Ongoing assessments:

Ongoing assessments are an integral part of the American educational system. Our students are taught to be responsible learner and do their best in every lesson.

Our teachers assess students on a daily basis – this helps them modify their lessons and provide differentiated activities for each child based on his/her current level of achievement.

Our ongoing assessments include performance tasks, teacher observations, student in-class participation, student work (writing journals, reading on RazKids, student reflection in Math and Science journals), and much more.

In KG (face to face and distance learning), students are mainly assessed during the lessons; the teacher explains certain concepts, students practice the concepts with the teacher and the teacher checks students' understanding of the concept by assigning certain activities during the week.

In Grade 1, these assessment practices are extended by short quizzes and assessments that children are required to complete. Students are also required to work on specific projects (for example STEAM Week) through which the teacher assesses students' abilities to demonstrate their understanding of a certain topic or a skill.

**You can see your child's progress on I-campus (Parent Portal).**

# Mark your Calendar!

When	Who	What
<b>December 6 - 10</b>	<b>KG1, KG2, Grade 1</b>	<b>Ongoing assessments continue</b>
<b>December 13-January 2</b>	<b>School wide</b>	<b>Winter Break for students</b>
<b>January 3 – 28</b>	<b>KG1, KG2 &amp; Grade 1</b>	<b>Ongoing Assessments</b>
<b>January 28</b>	<b>School wide</b>	<b>End of Semester 1 (Please note that this year we have 2 semesters. )</b>
<b>January 31</b>	<b>School wide</b>	<b>Semester 2 starts.</b>
<b>February 4 (To be confirmed)</b>	<b>School wide</b>	<b>Report Cards published on Parent Portal</b>

This school year is divided into two semesters. Therefore, students will be issued two Report Cards (previously we have been using the three-term system – with three Report Cards).

The benefits of having two semesters are:

1. Better academic focus
2. More accurate grading system

Ongoing assessments continue for KG1, KG2 and Grade 1 students in December and January. Please make sure your child is attending all classes. Our teachers are currently working on Semester 1 Report Cards. Report Cards are scheduled to be published in the beginning of February 2021.

All ASCS staff will attend different Professional Development sessions during the week of December 13 – 17. These session are aimed at improving different skills and sharing best practice between all ASCS educators.

## Computer Science Department Update

Assalamu Alaykom,  
Dear Parents,

Greetings from the Computer Science Department!

### Introducing the new Digital Citizenship Curriculum

We believe that students need Digital Citizenship skills to participate fully in their communities and make smart choices online and in life. Therefore, we are pleased to announce a significant update to our Computer Science curriculum for Grade 1; Digital Citizenship Curriculum.

Our curriculum equips students with critical 21<sup>st</sup> –century thinking, effective and responsible use of technology, creativity, collaboration.

The curriculum also covers E-Safety topics such as: cyberbullying, privacy, digital footprints and more.

### Testimonials



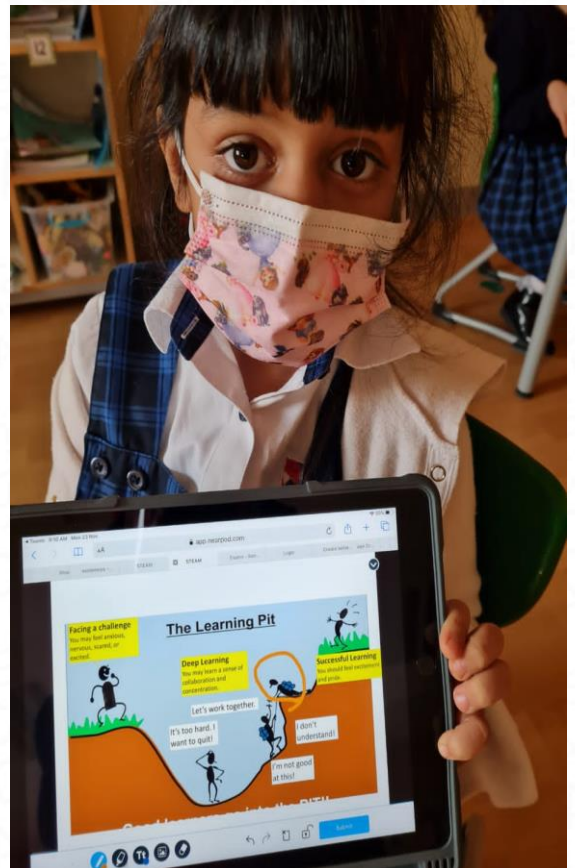
At the beginning, my first graders were so curious about “Digital Citizenship”. They discovered that “Digital citizenship is the responsible use of technology to learn, creativity, and collaboration while being online”. - Ms. Sadia Shaheen Grade 1 Digital Citizenship Teacher

### Hello World, we are digital citizens!

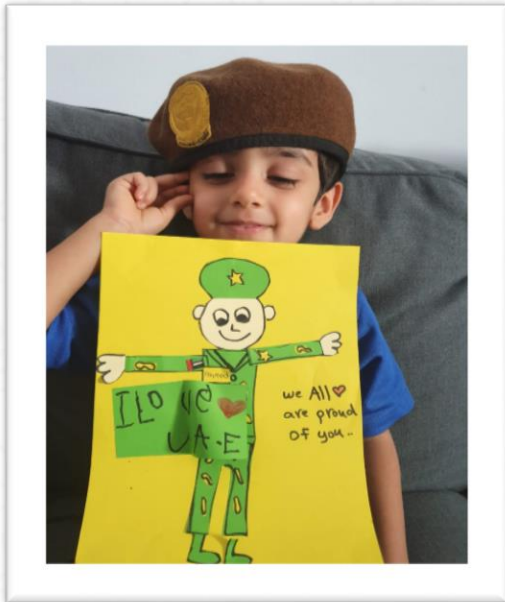
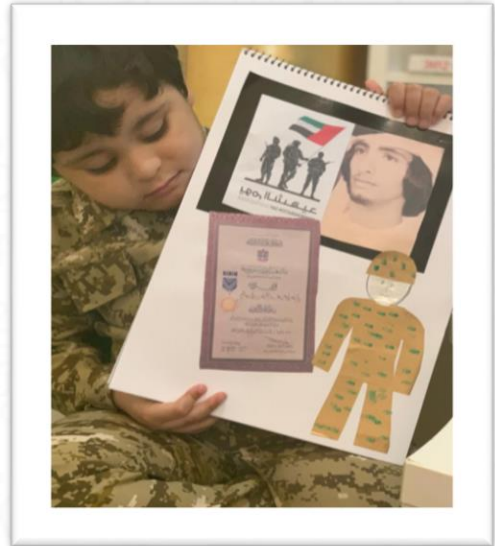
There are lots of things to think about when it comes to being a responsible digital citizen. At school, your kid is learning all about it, and now they can show you what they know!

digital footprint  
media balance  
cyberbullying  
online privacy communication  
news & media literacy

## Photo Gallery: Grade 1 STEAM Week



# Martyrs' Day



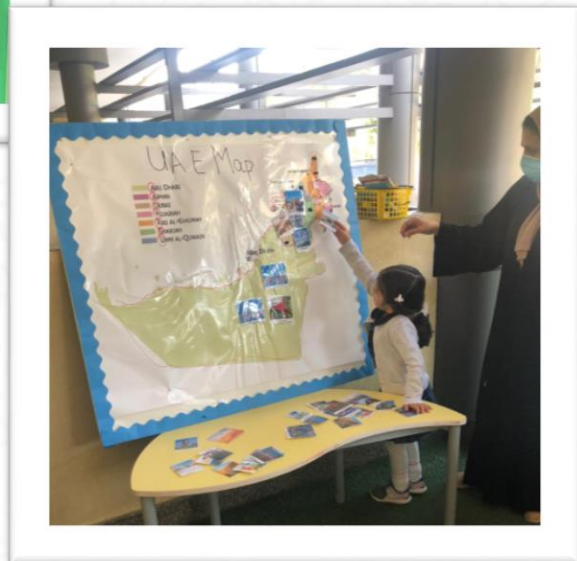
# Learning about UAE



**Best Display Board  
Teacher and TA  
Competition**



**Learning about  
Different Emirates of  
the UAE in KG2**





# Activity Time



When I  
grow up, I  
want to  
be....(KG1)



Kitchen  
Classes (DL)

Picnic for the  
World  
Children's  
Day  
Celebration

