



Dear Parents: It has been a very exciting week in secondary. Many students visited **Masdar City**, reputedly the world's most eco-sustainable 'city' in the world, and were driven in an electric car. They also visited Al Bateen airport and saw the world's first solar plane to fly day and night over 26 hours and learnt about the next exhilarating quest: to fly around the world in 5 days! We learnt lots about sustainable energy sources. Additionally, members of the **Dresden Philharmonic Orchestra** visited and ran a workshop for secondary students on Wednesday; watching world class musicians perform was wonderful!

Curriculum News: We hope that the following gives a flavour of some of this week's studying:

Arabic: Non Native -Year 7 studied 'What is in your room?' Madha fie Ghorfatek? ماذا في غرفتك Years 8 and 9 studied ' At the airport' - Fi al matar في المطار

Art and Design Technology: In art we have been inspired by Masdar to design our own ecofriendly city. Watch this space!

Business: Classes are planning to deliver for 'Pi Day' next month - an international celebration of the mathematical ratio 'pi'.

Computing: Year 7 continue with 'Spy School', linking with 'Stormbreaker' in English. They will be learning about spreadsheets, formulae and code breaking. Exciting times! Year 8 spent this week putting together their technology projects ready for final submission. Some great work has been produced concerning the history of computing. Year 9 – gentle reminder for students: Lake Garda projects need to be submitted by next lesson.

Drama: Year 8 created the final scene in their slap stick comedies while Year 9 produced a comic scene from 'Romeo and Juliet'.

English: Year 7 worked on writing to argue and this week, exploring the differences between fact and opinion; they also created their own spy gadgets! Year 8 are learning how to sell a given product as a TV advertisement. They have also begun reading their set text: 'Chinese Cinderella'. Year 9 have completed their 6 Thinking Hats Essay and will be moving on to study the play version of 'War Horse'.

French: Year 7 wrote extended passages about their houses and bedrooms. Year 8 developed their knowledge of the 'Perfect tense' and of transport in relation to a virtual trip to Paris. Year 9, meanwhile, have just completed their unit test and are now beginning to learn to talk about how they feel and which part of them hurts in case they need to visit a French-speaking doctor or pharmacist!

Geography: Year 7 have been studying Glacial Erosion and Deposition. Year 8 have been looking at rain and cloud formation for weather prediction. Year 9 are finishing their African development project research and are moving on to study about China.

History: This week Year 7 have begun examining life in a medieval Islam city, Year 8 have been studying the effects of the Agricultural Revolution in Britain and Year 9 have been examining the causes and effects of the Wall Street Crash of 1929.

Islamic Studies: Year 7 studied interacting with Al- Qur'an; Year 8 studied Luqman ui- Hakim' - more wisdom from Luqman; Year 9 studied some rules and ethics of giving out Zakah and Sadaqah.

Maths: 7 Aloe completed work on algebra, including solving equations with unknowns on both sides. 8 Jasmine completed their statistics module and have revised for a test. Year 9 continued with volume of 3D shapes. From Monday, 7 Aloe and 8 Jasmine will be with Ms Mason and 7 Cinnamon and 8 Orchid will be with Mr Turner for their next module.

Music: Year 7 finished presenting their Power points to the class and compiled a list of Instruments from around the world. Year 8 continued with Theme and Variations; they all finished their own compositions were able to recorded them. Year 9 completed the first 30 seconds of their music for a cartoon clip and some groups performed their ideas.

PE: Students have been practicing their track 600m and 300m for sports day next Thursday. Girls are having their jump off for High Jump to be scored for Sports Day. **Next Thursday students need to bring their PE kit and a Top in their House Colour for Sports Day.**

Science: Year 7 are studying variation and classification, including investigating differences between inherited and environmental variation. Year 8 have completed their Heating and Cooling topic with an assessment. Year 9 continue studying 'Inheritance and 'Selection'. Students have collected and analyzed a number of biometric data points with the aim of recognizing patterns and trends.

Swimming: Boys have been tested for their 12 minute Endurance Swim Test, practicing Diving, calculating their Critical Swim Speed and looking at Video Analysis. Girls have been focusing on stroke technique and improving their swim fitness.

Social Studies: Native - Y9 الملاح الطبيعية لقارة أوروبا Y8; تصميم شجرة الدولة الاموية والعباسية مع التحديات التي واجهتهم Y7; أنماط من الأنشطة الاقتصادية

Secondary students explore Masdar City . . . Thank you Mrs Morgan for organising this for us!



Competitions for students:

Build Your Own Minecraft Weather Satellite – www.l.zone.info/minecraft-competition2015 Outdoor Photography Competition, have your picture on the front of an Ordnance Survey Map – www.os.uk/photofit

Year 9 Parents – Options Interviews next week.

Thank you for your continued support – it's appreciated.