

Eton House®

International Pre-School Bahrain

‘Discoverers’ Class – September 2018.

A warm welcome to our new families and a big ‘welcome back’ to our returning families.

What have we been learning?

We have had a very busy month in the Discoverers class. The children have been busy getting to know the teaching team, settling into their new environment and the new routines.

This month we have been focused on the children settling into the class as seamlessly as possible. We have encouraged the children to follow their interests in the classroom, play in ways that spark new ideas and foster a sense of belonging within the class.

The Discoverers have done very well with becoming comfortable in the class this month. I am observing a happy, healthy and inquisitive class daily!



What will we be learning next month?

Now that the children have all settled into the classrooms we will be focusing on our sensory learning and our unit of keeping ourselves organised. Sensory activities such as sand, paint, playdough, dry rice and bird seed all facilitate children’s exploration and naturally encourage children to use scientific processes while they play, create, investigate and explore. Having these activities available are all very important for their brain to make connections between their senses which links their worlds together.

With this in mind, please be aware that you child may come home covered in all different kinds of mess. Please kindly make sure that your child has a spare change of clothes and remember that mess is the aftermath of a good days learning!

“Shaping the Future Through Education”

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Classroom schedule:

Please note that during the time that we are looking for another teacher, I will be planning the lessons and assisting the team in the Discoverers room. I have arranged for the class to come into the Explorers class (adjacent to Discoverers room) twice daily for me to support lessons and document learning. The Discoverers will come into the Explorers class from 8 – 8.30 (flexible, depending on the day) and from 10.30 – 11.30 (also flexible).

During this time that the babies are in the older class, half of the older class will be taken out for an activity in a different room. This is to ensure the class is not over crowded, and the experience is enjoyable for all children. We will engage in small group activities; circle times and the children will have the chance to play with the older class.

If you have any questions about this please do not hesitate to email or ask me.

KeptMe.

If any parents are having trouble with the KeptMe App or have any questions about how to use it, please come in and talk to myself or Ms Drayzelle in reception.

What's coming up?

October 1st – 4th International Week.

Tuesday 2nd October – Dress up day and shared snack.

I would like to invite any families that are available into the class to share something about yourself, your home country, stories, customs and celebrations with us. Time allotted for sharing will be approximately 20 minutes each family on any day of this special week.

Some suggestions are: stories, photos, music, food or any special artefacts that would be age appropriate to share with our class.

Please email me or come and talk to me in the class about what days and times you will be available to come in and celebrate your country with us.

November 4th - Halloween.

Please remember that we are a school with a focus on sustainability and recycling. If you can please make your child's costume out of recycled materials for our Halloween celebration, that would be appreciated. More information will be sent out in the following weeks.

Teachers: Carmen, Grizzle, Alyssa (Special mention to Gloria, Drayzelle and Hazel for all your help too!)

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‘Explorers’ Class – September 2018.

We would like to give a big welcome to all of our new families and a big welcome back to our returning families! Over our first few weeks we have seen the Explorers settle into their class, gain confidence and make some new friends – what a busy time we have had!



Expressing ourselves.

This month has been about settling into our classroom, getting to know each other and having fun!

I am pleased to see how quickly the children have settled in, made friends and begun expressing themselves in their own unique ways.

I have seen a magnitude of creative imaginative play, artwork, dancing, storytelling and sculpture in our classroom. I love seeing the different ways ideas can be shared!

Unit of Inquiry – What will we be learning?

Our unit of inquiry that we will be focusing on this term is ‘Expressing ourselves and our feelings’. We have begun by exploring all the different ways we can express ourselves and how that can relate to the feelings we have. We will continue next month and engage in further in-depth conversations about self-expression, feelings and what that means for us. We will include all areas of learning into our unit through games, activities, artwork, music and stories.

KeptMe.

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Classroom schedule:

Please note that during the time that we are looking for another teacher, I will be planning the lessons and assisting the team in the Discoverers room as well as the Explorers room. I have arranged for the Discoverers' class to come into the Explorers class twice daily for me to support lessons and document learning. The discoverers will come into the Explorers class with their teaching team from 8 – 8.30 (flexible, depending on the day) and from 10.30 – 11.30 (also flexible, depending on the day).

During this time that the babies are in the Explorers class, half of the Explorers class will be taken out for an activity in a different room with Ms Hazel. This is to ensure the class is not over crowded, and the experience is enjoyable for all children.

If you have any questions about this please don't hesitate to email or ask me

What's coming up?

October 1st – 4th International Week. Schedule as follows:

Monday 1st- Artwork and stories based on the idea of peace and unity.

Tuesday 2nd – Dress up day.

Thursday 4th- Shared lunch and circle time at 11.30. (Explorers class only)

Parents are welcome to come along and be involved as little or as much as you would like.

November 4th - Halloween.

Please remember that we are a school with a focus on sustainability and recycling. If you can please make your child's costume out of recycled materials for our Halloween celebration that would be appreciated. More information will be sent out in the following weeks.



Thank you all for making this first month at Eton House so special!

Teachers: Carmen and Hazel. With special thanks to Grizzle, Gloria, Drayzelle and Alyssa for your help and support.

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'The Creators' Class - September 2018

I would like to welcome you all and your children to our school. This is my first newsletter for this academic year for the 'The Creators' thus all the achievements so far are always so special.

The children have had an exciting few weeks in their new educational setting or those children who have come up from Ms. Carmen's class. They have been settling into their daily class routine and understanding the buzz word of being "caring" towards their friends in the school. In addition, they have been enhancing their communication towards all their friends here at Eton House.



Our inquiry of investigating Friends and Family is proving popular. The children are learning about different emotions we see every day. The children have enjoyed short discussions during our Circle Time about the importance of friendships, how we demonstrate helping one another and how special we all are. The children have been singing the song 'Friends, Friends 123'. I am sure they would like to do sing and tell if you ask them.

The children are enjoying learning about families and who we are. We have a family board, we have been discussing how people are related as family or friends. They have identified how many people are in their family and their extended family. They have created various art associated with the UOI. The children are enjoying sharing their family pictures with their friends.



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In Literacy, the children have been learning about colours and have produced a bright and interesting display of skills. This 'Creators Tree' has become a central focus of their creativity.

They are developing pre-writing skills through imitating vertical and horizontal lines using various writing tools. The children are developing matching the letters of their name and beginning to trace some lines for letters of their name. The pictures on the right was drawing a fish, in which the children expressed their own ideas. You can see the outcome displayed in our foyer.

Our Math focus is the number 0 – 5, basic shapes and patterning. The children are enjoying using materials for counting, matching and hands on creativity.

Our PE sessions have commenced every Wednesday and I have also started a session in our Atelier. Once the weather becomes cooler they will be held outside.

Our up and coming event is the International Week commencing 1st October – 4th October. I will look forward to sharing with you our program and further details on what 'The Creators' will be doing.

As you are aware we are always on the lookout for recycled items. This month we have decided that any scraps of old material and cardboard would always be so greatly appreciated.

If at all you have any questions about your child, please do not hesitate to call me or just ask if you require further information.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Happy Days,

Ms Kay



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'The Thinkers' Class - September 2018

Dear Parents,

It is a privilege to have your family join the Thinkers' Reception class and it is a delight getting to know your children.

The children are all settling well and are quickly learning the daily schedules, class rules and routines. I often call these the original 3r's, rules, routines and relationships. For some of the children this is very familiar because they were here last year and for others it is a time to adjust.

Our focus for the coming weeks is developing independence and helping the class to learn how to problem solve where they are able. This might include taking responsibility for their possessions, taking care of opening lunch boxes, small snack packets and drink bottles, cleaning up play equipment and learning to use words to ask for help if required rather than crying or getting frustrated.

You can promote this independence by encouraging your child to carry their own bag, unpack it each morning, take out their home reading book daily, and library book.



We are inquiring into our identity or who we are in our family, school, country of Bahrain and country of origin.

The children will be part of an International Postcard Exchange with ten Pre-Schools from around the world. We will prepare material for these classes and have a field trip to Budaiya Post Office in mid-October, to send our letters and goodies to other classes. It is very exciting for the children, waiting and then receiving mail from children around the globe.

We have started to become familiar with the name and sound for the letters, s, a, t, p, i, n.

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We use the Jolly Phonics approach which focuses on the sound, an action, lower case letters and blending the most common letters into words from the very beginning. Thus, having learnt these letter sounds we can stretch the sounds to make words e.g. pat, sat, pin, nip, an, at, in, ant etc. We have also been looking at high frequency words and making small sentences.

We have reinforced counting collections up to 10 and 10-15 for some children. We are learning the days of the week, counting to 100 by one's in a daily fitness routine, learning to write our names and recognize classmate's names. We are counting daily towards 100 days at school for our celebratory party.

The class have been enjoying learning lots of songs and games that are reinforcing key concepts while encouraging turn taking, group work, sharing and cooperation.



Home Reading

I will be endeavoring to send home a new early reader each day. I am giving a short book orientation for your child and practice the sentence structures that can mostly be remembered with the support of the pictures. Please encourage your child to be as independent as possible. Let them do the things they can do. Put the book up the right way, identify the front, hold the book, find the title, turn the pages by themselves and use their reading finger to match one to one the words they are reading. Use language of the text to ask questions of the text and the pictures to help them e.g. "Where did the children go? They went to the park".

I will ask them to practice and re-read books they have had earlier in the week as easy books as well as the new book they have received that day.

I will also encourage them to take home a book for you to read to them. The more literary language they are exposed to the easier it is to predict and cross check texts as well as to know concepts about lots of different subject areas.

Numbers are Everywhere

As part of our work with numbers the children are going to be given a small project each week, to collect information on a given number and present it to the class in a short presentation.

For example, your child might be given the number 5. They can show pictures of where they have seen 5, present a coin with a five on it, cut out a supermarket catalogue with a 5BD sign, find it in a book, show a picture of a birthday cake, bring in 5 favorite objects, show it in a mobile phone number, tell us the number before or after the number 5: show where our body has five parts, have 5 small objects for each class member to count and show how we can break and remake 5.



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Keep it fairly simple for the first few goes and the children can add to their presentations as they become more confident.

International Week



Please join us on the morning of 2nd October. Children are asked to come with their family if you are able to in your national costume or countries colours. A flag would also be fantastic. Later we will undertake some activities in class. If you have a simple idea for an activity from your country of origin please share it with me. To conclude we will have a shared International morning tea from our home countries in our classroom.

After school activities

Please consider the offerings for our after-school program. While we know we are late we hope that as the year progresses you will add these into your children's extracurricular activities. Siblings and friends are warmly invited and all activities will be run by our staff or familiar staff e.g. Coach Amr. A number of my class are taking his session on a Thursday afternoon and I would suggest this is a great opportunity if your child is free as he is extremely popular with the children.

Halloween

Please start thinking about the upcoming Halloween event, scheduled for 4th November. Costumes are encouraged to be made from recyclables and sustainable products.

Please feel free to contact me at any time if you have anything you would like to discuss or need clarifying.

Teacher: Ms Lynn

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