

MGS ECHO

Matrix Global Schools Weekly Newsletter

CAMPUS PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



THIS WEEK'S TOPICS

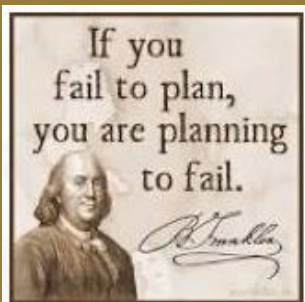
MIEY Online Learning

Locomotor Skills in MPS PE

MIEY Book Character Day

MPS Book Tasting

Inquiry - Discovery Learning in MIS Science



- Benjamin Franklin -

(founding father of USA, a polymath, inventor, scientist and politician)

Although the closure of schools in the Seremban area, announced on the evening of 24th October 2020 by the Ministry of Education was very sudden, it is something that we have been expecting and hence we are better prepared this time. We have been planning for the teaching and learning processes to be conducted with the same rigour as on-site teaching and learning.

The upper primary and secondary levels in both MPS and MIS will be taught according to their class time table from 8.00 am to 3.15 pm. However, for the lower primary and preschool, their timetables will be adjusted so as not to overtax these younger students with too long exposure to the harmful effects of the blue light emitted from the computers.

For the older students working on their computers, we hope that they will follow the 20-20-20 rule advocated by eye specialists i.e. for every 20 minutes spent looking at a computer screen, they have to look away at something that is 20 feet away for a total of 20 seconds. Children do not typically notice eye strain as much as adults and thus we advise all parents / guardians to monitor their children/wards and to remind them on the time spent doing online work.

This is another trying period for all of us. While there might be other matters that we also need to attend to, parents and guardians can be assured that the school will put in our best for our students. They will always be our main concern and they deserve the best from us. With your support and assistance at home we will help ensure that our students do not miss out on their learning. Together we will prevail.

MIEY ONLINE LEARNING

We are better prepared to conduct online classes during CMCO this time. Materials to be used in classes were prepared for parents to pick up. The Early Years has kicked off online learning and it will carry on for the next 2 weeks. Lots of preparations are in place so that every student gets the best experience at home! We may not be able to physically meet in school but we make sure it's just as effective! With face to face online lessons, we could see how excited the children were to see their friends on screen and they kept on talking as though they were in a classroom environment. They have grown mentally to accept the situations.



Parent collecting the materials prepared



On-going online classes



On-going online classes



CAMPUS PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE TRANSLATED

虽然教育部突然于2020年10月24日傍晚宣布芙蓉的所有学校必须停课两周，但这在我们的预料中，我们为此已作了更好的准备。我们已规划了一套与在校学习相同规格的网络教学计划。

本院校（私立部和国际部）的小学高年级的学生和中学生的上课时间是从早上8点至下午3点15分。小学低年级的学生与幼儿园学生的课程表则将会做出调整，以免他们长时间暴露在电脑屏幕发出的蓝光下而影响了视力。

针对需要长时间对着电子屏幕的学生们，我们鼓励他们遵从眼科专家提出的20：20：20原则，即当我们看了电脑屏幕20分钟后，就要看20尺以外的景物，看约20秒，让眼睛里的肌肉休息。孩童们一般上不会察觉他们用眼过度，希望家长能提醒孩子们注意用电脑上网课的时间和练习这20：20：20的原则。

对我们所有人来说，这是另一个艰难的时期，虽然校内还有很多其他事情需要我们处理与关注，但家长和监护人可以放心，校方会尽最大的努力，保证学生得到最佳的照顾。学生永远是我们最关心的，他们值得拥有最好的教育。我们希望在家长 and 监护人的支持和帮助下，确保学生们跟上学习进度，只要我们携手相伴，就一定能成功。



Walaupun pemberitahuan penutupan sekolah-sekolah di daerah Seremban seperti yang diumumkan oleh Kementerian Pendidikan pada petang 24 Oktober 2020 adalah agak mengejut, ini adalah perkara yang telah kami jangkakan akan berlaku dan kini lebih bersedia untuk menanganinya. Pihak sekolah telah mengatur rancangan untuk mengendalikan proses pengajaran dan pembelajaran dengan semangat dan usaha yang sama seperti di kampus.

Di MPS dan MIS, kelas-kelas Tahap 2 (peringkat atasan) sekolah rendah sehingga ke peringkat menengah akan dijalankan mengikut jadual waktu kelas dari pukul 8.00 pagi hingga 3.15 petang. Manakala di Tahap 1 (peringkat bawahan) sekolah rendah dan prasekolah, jadual waktu mereka telah diubahsuai supaya pelajar-pelajar kecil ini tidak didedahkan terlalu lama kepada bahaya pancaran cahaya biru daripada skrin komputer.

Bagi pelajar-pelajar yang lebih remaja, diharapkan mereka mengikuti peraturan 20-20-20 yang disarankan oleh para optometris iaitu setiap pandangan yang difokuskan pada skrin dalam jangkamasa 20 minit perlu diikuti dengan lemparan pandangan sejauh 20 kaki selama 20 saat. Kebiasaannya kanak-kanak tidak menyedari ketegangan mata sebagaimana orang dewasa. Oleh itu kami ingin menasihatkan para ibu bapa/penjaga untuk mengawasi anak-anak / jagaan mereka dan mengingatkan mereka akan masa yang digunakan bagi tugas atas talian.

Sekali lagi, kita berdepan dengan waktu yang sukar. Walaupun terdapat hal lain yang perlu juga ditangani, ibu bapa dan penjaga tidak perlu khuatir kerana pihak sekolah akan memberikan yang terbaik bagi setiap pelajar. Mereka akan sentiasa menjadi keutamaan kami dan mereka berhak untuk mendapatkan yang terbaik daripada kami. Dengan bantuan dan sokongan dari rumah, kami akan memastikan para pelajar MGS tidak akan ketinggalan dalam pelajaran mereka. Bersama, kita akan berjaya.

LOCOMOTOR SKILLS IN MPS PE

Students perform different locomotor skills in lower primary PE class. The locomotor skills include: walking, running and jumping. Students are learning these skills and it could take lots of practice to develop the skills necessary to complete all of the locomotor skills.

Students need to learn and practise these basic skills before combining them to play more complex games and sports. Refining skills increases students' motivation. This approach takes more time and planning. However, as a result of these efforts, students will become more successful in physical endeavours and find physical activity more enjoyable.



Students performing different locomotor skills

MIY BOOK CHARACTER DAY

Dressing up and role playing is more than physically wearing a costume. Role playing encourages children to "think outside the box" as they imitate their characters and create their own special traits. We do that in the Early Years in the form of Book Character Day. They go through a series of activities such as art & craft, little chef plus show & tell! Specific to this year, we are aiming for a theme where the 3-4 year olds are in 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' storybook and the 5-6 year olds are in 'The Bucket Fillers' storybook.



Happy students dressed in the attire of their favourite book characters

MPS BOOK TASTING

Book Tasting is a low-budget, high-impact event that engages students in a fun activity while introducing them to a wide array of books. A café themed classroom was created for the duration of the Book Tasting. Students walked into a different setting to carry out the activities. The tables were arranged in 'stations' where each station had books of a specific genre for them to read. Students also had to complete a simple graphic organiser as they read the books from each genre. It gives them a "taste" or exposure to books they may not have selected for themselves. This time around, the genres chosen were 'realistic fiction, fantasy, adventure and graphic novel'. There was also a 'station' where students' own stories were displayed and other students could read their work. The purpose of the Book Tasting is to encourage, excite, and motivate students to become active readers.



Student reading from e-book



Students reading at realistic fiction station



"I enjoy reading Fantasy genre because it's interesting and I can learn new words as well."

- Posh Mark, Standard 6M

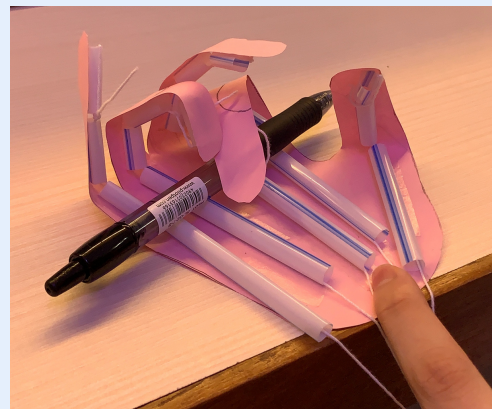
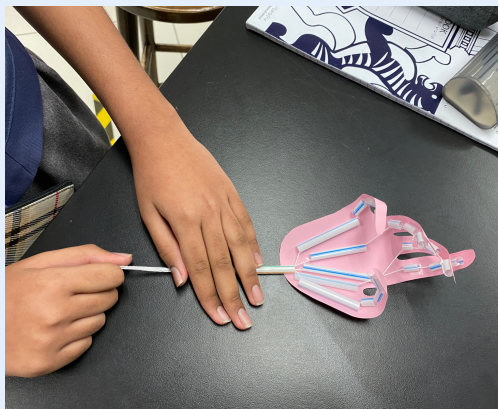


"I like the graphic novel genre as the short stories make are easy to read and understood and beautiful photographs capture my interest."

- Muhammad Hafizuddin, Form 4A

INQUIRY-DISCOVERY LEARNING IN MIS SCIENCE

In Year 7, students learned about muscles and movement in Science. The students were provided with a piece of paper, tape, some straws and string to create a robot hand. When the strings were pulled, it demonstrated the contraction of muscles causing the movement which they were able to relate to the movement in real human hands.



Sharvanii Devie learning about the movement of muscles

In Science, MIS Year 10 students learned about the effect of osmosis on plant and animal cells in different solutions. Students were given starter activities to predict the appearance of plant cells in different solutions.

Learning activity 1: Students were asked to view the microscopic slides on an Elodea plant leaf soaked in pure water and in salt water. Students looked for the differences in the appearance of the cell and recorded them in their notebook.

Learning activity 2: Students learnt the experimental analytical skills for the experiment entitled 'Effect of different concentrations of sugar solution on potato cells.'

The skills that the students learned:

Skill 1 : Finding the variables (a paired activity)

Students actively discussed with their learning partners and identified the independent, dependent and control variables in the experiment.

Skill 2 : Methodology in the designing experiment

Students were given information on the Marking Scheme (MS) for designing experiment questions in IGCSE Biology paper 6. Students were encouraged to use the scheme to design the methodology for this experiment.

Skills 3 : Tabulation of data

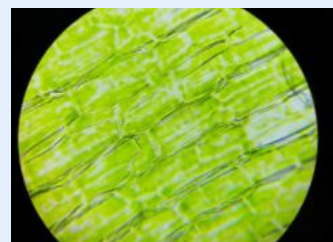
Students actively measured the final mass that changed in the potato cells and tabulated their data according to the scheme that was taught to them.

Skill 4 : Discussion and conclusion on the result obtained

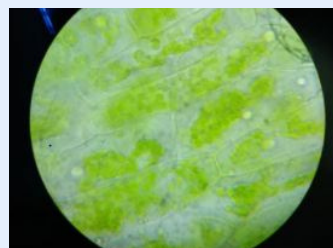
Students collaboratively discussed their findings for this experiment using proper scientific terminology.



Ee He Xun observing cells through a microscope



Elodea in pure water



Elodea in saturated salt water

"It was an exciting lesson, and I saw the effect of plant cells immersed in pure water and in concentrated salt solution under a microscope. I managed to link up with the theories I have learned about osmosis. The teacher also gave me the opportunity to try and test the experiment at home with 3 gummy bears. I experimented with the gummy bear, and I produced an explanation video of it. The teacher has given me a '5' for Attitude to Learning (ATL) as I have shown resilience and reflectiveness in my learning.

- Stanley Ng Wei Shian, Year 10

"I really enjoyed this lesson. Although we did not get to set up the experiments by ourselves due to SOPs, we still got to see the details of plant cells in pure water vs salt salt solution. It was really interesting as we were able to investigate and conclude as to why the cells turned out this way when put into different solutions. I managed to gather more information about osmosis through this lesson.

- Lee Xin Tian, Year 10