



# Blossoms



No 4– 2018/2019

Abuja Preparatory School

25th September 2019

## FORGET ME NOT

Mon 30 <sup>th</sup> Sept	-	Independence Day Celebration
Mon 14 <sup>th</sup> Oct	-	Prep Talk
Fri 18 <sup>th</sup> Oct	-	Cultural & International Day
Mon 21 <sup>st</sup> - Fri 26 <sup>th</sup> Oct	-	Mid –Term Holiday

### House Point Totals of the Week

	Eagles – 124
	Falcons – 84
	Hawks - 139
	Ravens - 139

Dear Parents,



“What happens in Class stays in Class”...

I have heard this statement countless times from children around the school. As a parent, hearing this for the first time got me wondering about sooo many things. I wondered if my child was being bullied at school. I wondered what the class teacher may be hiding. I wondered about a lot more than I could ever write down here. It was a lot of wonderings.

I am sure these thought and more would trail your minds if you heard the same phrase from your child. As a teacher, I have come to understand that it is a good thing to build valuable relationships with the children in the class and provide an environment where they are free to express themselves in happy, sad or even confused emotions.

Our class schedules start with a circle time. This is when children are given a forum to talk freely about school, friends, family and much more. This cuts across all stages-EYFS, KS1 & KS2. It is called the Circle of Trust. During such times, the teacher takes centre stage and opens the floor to all children to speak freely. They also iron out all previous misunderstandings and come up with better ways of dealing with issues in their classes. At the end of such conversations, the children feel lighter and are usually in a better mood as earlier bad feeling are all cleared. The phrase ‘what happens in class...’ is mentioned so no one goes back to the previous drama or ill feeling.

Now I ask, is it appropriate then for your child to come home and tell you the personal feeling and pronouncements of other children presented during the Circle of Trust? Has your child broken the rules of Circle Time?

In Abuja Prep School, the teacher plays 2 roles.

1. The professional role of teaching your child, modelling your child into a fine product to the society and informing you of every little progress your child has made. Remember your children spend 3/4 of their time in school as such, teachers take their roles seriously.

2. Teachers also become family to your children as they provide a safe and secure environment where your children are able to express themselves freely. The classroom provides the avenue for interactions that make children from diverse family backgrounds become lifelong friends.

Both roles mentioned above interplay everyday...the Professional Teacher and The Family member.

Please be reassured that our teachers will ALWAYS immediately inform you of any sensitive matters that require your attention.

Never forget that your child is in good hands as we work together to build a very confident and well balanced child.

Have a lovely week.

Juliet Goje



## CODING AND ROBOTICS

In Year 5 wolf, we built a moving solar panel car this week. It is a project we have been working on for the past 2 weeks. We found out that the solar panel car only worked if the sun reflected on it. We were divided into groups, each group had one part to build and at the end we all finished our parts and we all put the Solar Car together. We all went outside to have the car tested.

While testing it, we figured out that if the sun wasn't reflecting on the solar panel, the car didn't move. But when we placed the car directly under the sun, the wheels began to rotate and the car moved at a reasonable speed. This term has been amazing with coding and robotics. We hope to learn more things in coding and robotics as the term progresses. Written by **Miguel Agbogo**. For Year 5 Wolf



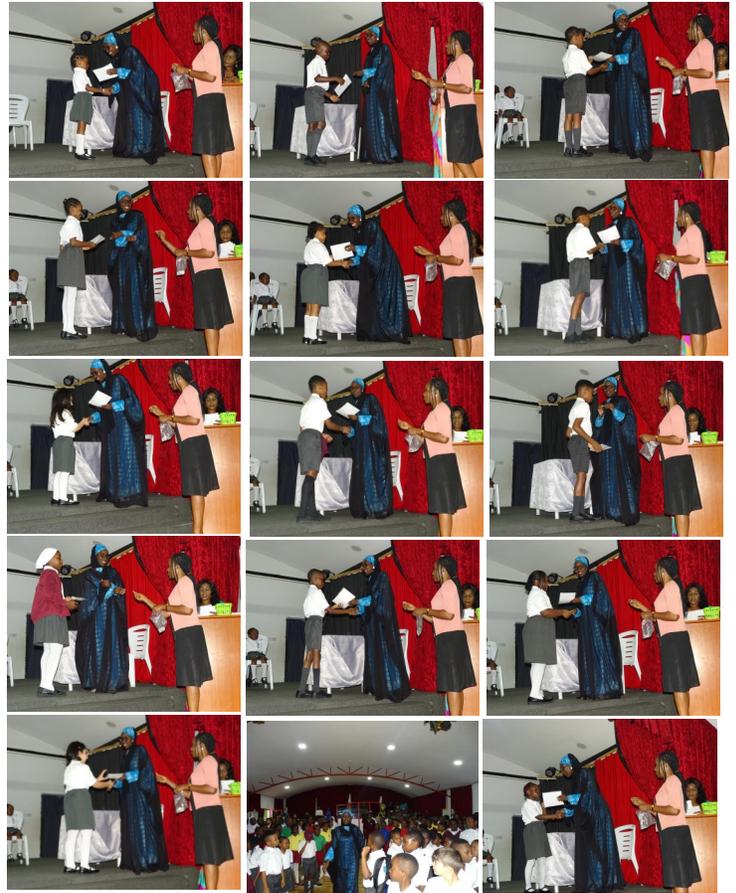


YEAR 1 SQUIRREL	Sasha Adimoha
YEAR 1 SQUIRREL	Chukwubuikem Nwodo
YEAR 1 SQUIRREL	Zoe Alexander Momodu
YEAR 1 RABBIT	Demilade Falade
YEAR 1 RABBIT	Mohammed Arzika
YEAR 1 RABBIT	Maryam Umar
YEAR 2 ORCA	Rahma Ahmed
YEAR 2 ORCA	Khadijah Mohammed
YEAR 2 DOLPHIN	Shawn Osokogu
YEAR 2 DOLPHIN	Mayowa Oguntoye
YEAR 2 DOLPHIN	Maryam Ibrahim Gumi
YEAR 3 GIRRAFE	Jediah Adetola
YEAR 3 GAZELLE	Channah Yunusa
YEAR 3 GAZELLE	Isa Arzika
YEAR 4 HIPPO	Oghenevoke Harold
YEAR 4 HIPPO	Khalifa Umar
YEAR 4 HIPPO	Temitope Sadipe
YEAR 4 ELEPHANT	Kwame Ampomah
YEAR 5 WOLF	Serin Dayekh



## PUPIL COUNCIL INNAUGURATION

Our Pupil Council Inauguration for the 2019/2020 Academic session took place on Friday. The chosen students took the oath of office and were sworn in by Justice Hajara Ibrahim of the Abuja Prep Supreme Court. They have promised to uphold their responsibilities with dignity and respect through the session. The event was well attended by their parents and relatives. Find below the list of members: President: Christein Iweze. Vice President: Hafsat Bello Mohammed. Khadijah Yahuza Kassim: Year 6. Mohammed Musa Yusuf: Year 6. Jamal Ahmed: Year 5. Abdallah Hussaini: Year 5. Maimuna Ibrahim Mohammed: Year 4. Sreen AbouHassan: Year 4. Adekanmibi Akinlade: Year 3. Mohammed Abdullahi: Year 3. Emmanuella Olujinmi: Year 2. Aline AbouHassan : Year 2. Olubunmi Dosunmu: Year 1. Porsche Okafor: Year 1. We thank Mrs Stella Ejezie for putting this all together. Congratulations and Good luck!



## Emotional Development of Children (Young Children & Pre-teens: 4-11years)

I believe a lot of parents can identify with this stage of emotional development. This is the stage where everything matters. Your child begins to get aware of their emotions and engages in a lot of social network gatherings. They begin to have a best friend, want to have play dates and also go for sleepovers.

I have 2 children in this category that are different from each other. One is a little Diva (As her grandma calls her) and the other a complete gentleman. Limie is 8 years old and Moses is 10. I have also taught a lot of children in this age category and I have found this stage of life as the most important stage which forms a lasting impression on a child's life.– Mrs Goje

### So, what do children this age want?

#### They need to feel included

Children in this age category tend to make plans on their own before informing their parents. I have been placed in the uncomfortable position of explaining to family friends why I have to decline some invitations because the decision was made by the children. Most times, children this age would like to be included in plans made within the family. As little as; where should we go for a summer holiday? What should we have for dinner this evening? If we were to move house, where would you like to stay? When we include them in our plans, they feel a sense of importance. Their decisions might not be taken into consideration most times, but the fact that they were asked in the first place goes a long way in building a line of communication that will never be broken.



#### They need to be shown interest

My children would be in my face until I acknowledge their work or whatever they have to say. If drawing is the most important achievement your child has achieved in the last hour, please acknowledge it. Showing interest in your child and their achievements regularly, is an extension of demonstrating your understanding. Everything they have to say is of the utmost importance to them at that very moment – even if it's extremely inconvenient timing for you. The best solution is not necessarily to drop everything you're doing to listen but to always follow up afterwards and make time when you can, so that you're able to pay full attention to what your child has to say.



#### Clear boundaries

Children are not born with the knowledge of right and wrong. It has to be taught and practiced. This is something we often forget when our 'intelligent child' makes a seemingly obvious glaring error. My oldest child has suffered the **'Why did you do that? You are not a child anymore'** statement. It's obvious to us as adults but not your child. Shouting that something is wrong is a sure-fire way of getting a child to become anxious about your reactions, without actually guiding them on what the problem is. Give your child a clear, calm explanation of exactly why walking out into a road made you seem angry, and teach them why they shouldn't do it again.



TO BE CONTINUED...

# Q & A CORNER

*In this segment, we will be answering a few questions asked at our recently concluded Parent-Teacher Meetings.*

## 1. Why is there no formal Reading in the Reception Classes?

Reading starts from the very beginning of a child's life— from recognizing his parents' faces and voices, to expressing himself through crying when hungry or uncomfortable. From reading his parents expressions while reading or telling him a story , to even attempting to retell stories and recalling past events and even just laughing at funny facial expressions. These are all forms of Reading.

In Abuja Preparatory School, our Reception group prepares your children for Reading Readiness. However they are exposed to the Wordless Oxford Reading Scheme which serves as the formal start to reading. They are taught Comprehension skills; where they are able to identify titles, make predictions and show an understanding of what the story might be all about. If a child presents the ability of being able to blend letters into sounds and even shows some comprehension while in the Reception class, the teacher will extend the child by offering more challenging reading materials.



More questions will be answered next week...



Ravens are House Point winners for the week. Captain Cuddles is seen here with Mrs Ibrahim, Ms Irene and Ms Cynthia supporting the Ravens

*Go Ravens Go Ravens Go!*



# UNIFORMS REMINDER!

This is the 4th week since school resumed and some students are still arriving to school wearing the wrong clothing items. We kindly ask that parents purchase all school uniform items from the school shop as they are readily available. Starting next week, students who are not dressed in their proper school uniforms and shoes will lose valuable House Points.



**HAIR EXTENTIONS ARE NOT ALLOWED IN ABUJA PREPARATORY SCHOOL!!!!**

	BOYS	GIRLS
<b>Main Uniforms</b>	<p><b>Nursery and Reception</b>                      Abuja Prep School grey shorts                      Abuja Prep polo shirt                      Abuja Prep maroon pullover                      Long grey socks                      Plain black sensible black shoes (no logo) <b>no canvas shoes, no trainer style shoes.</b></p> <p><b>Key Stage 1 and 2</b>                      Abuja Prep School grey shorts                      Abuja Prep white shirt                      Abuja Prep maroon pullover                      Long grey socks                      Plain black sensible black shoes (no logo) <b>no canvas shoes, no trainer style shoes.</b></p>	<p><b>Nursery and Reception</b>                      Abuja Prep Gingham dress                      White socks or tights                      Black shoes</p> <p><b>Key Stage 1 and 2</b>                      Abuja Prep School grey skirt                      Abuja Prep white blouse                      Abuja Prep Maroon cardigan                      White socks or tights                      Plain black sensible black shoes (no logo) <b>no canvas shoes, no trainer style shoes.</b>                      A white hijab may be worn by our Muslim pupils – This is optional</p>
<b>PE Uniforms</b>	<p>Abuja Prep maroon shorts and house T-shirts ( RED, YELLOW BLUE AND GREEN). Trainers are the ONLY shoes allowed at PE. FOOTBALL cleats are NOT allowed.</p>	<p>Abuja Prep maroon shorts and house T-shirts ( RED, YELLOW BLUE AND GREEN). Trainers are the ONLY shoes allowed at PE. FOOTBALL cleats are NOT allowed.</p>



# STAFF TEAM BUILDING WORKSHOP

Our recent team building workshop was centered around getting the entire staff to work as an entity as against individual successes. We looked at how our collective efforts can lead to the success of the whole school. We brainstormed on ideas of how we can work as an effective team to achieve the vision and mission of the school.



## WHEN I GROW UP, I Want To Be...



I would like to be the first female president of Nigeria. This is because I believe that women can do whatever they set their minds to. I do not believe that certain roles should be left alone to men. I want to be part of the decision making in Nigeria one day—  
Omo'ojo Peters. Year 6 Lion



I would like to become an Artist when I grow up. I love to draw, paint and create very beautiful works of Art. I would like to sell my painting in several cities around the world.-

Osese Onoise. Year 6 Lion

## WORLD DEAF DAY

World **Deaf Day** is celebrated every year in last week of the September to draw the attention of the general public, politicians and development authorities towards the achievements of **deaf** people as well as **deaf** people in our communities.



Throughout the celebration of the event, all the deaf people organizations worldwide are encouraged to fulfill the demands and needs of the deaf people as well as increasing their rights all over the world.



### Barack Hussain Obama

**Born:** August 4, 1961 in Hawaii.

**Education:** Harvard Law School. USA

**Best known for:** He was the 44th President of the United States of America. He is also the first black person to serve in that capacity.



#### QUOTE OF THE WEEK

*"If you want to achieve excellence, you can get there today. As of this second, quit doing less-than excellent work"-*

**Thomas J Watson**

## ENJOY YOUR WEEK!



## Simple Rice & Beans Recipe

### Ingredients

- 1 Cup Beans
- 2 Cups Rice
- 1 small Onion diced
- 6 to 7 Cups of water

### Instructions

- Pick your Beans to rid it of any dirt and soak it in enough water to totally submerge the Beans and leave it for a minimum of 3 hours on the counter-top or leave it overnight in the Fridge. Soaking your Beans might be a good idea because according to studies, it helps reduce the gas-producing properties of the Beans and it shortens the cooking time for a little bit. However, if you don't have any problems with gas, you can simply cook it directly without soaking it.
- Rinse the Beans and transfer it to a Pot, add the Onion and Water, cover it up and leave to cook for about 50 minutes or until you can easily crush it with your fingers.
- Rinse the Rice thoroughly until the water comes out clear. Stir in rice and Salt with the Beans, add Water if necessary.
- Return to a boil, reduce heat to medium-low, cover and cook for 20 minutes without removing the lid.
- Fold the Rice and Beans together gently and serve with your desired Sauce or Stew.

Enjoy your Nigerian Rice and Beans!

<https://cheflolaskitchen.com/rice-beans-recipe/>

