Term 2 unit 1

Week 1

Last week marked the beginning of the term with the start of the new unit on explorations. In order to allow everyone to access the unit, learners were asked to write about their most memorable journey. The objective behind was to get learners to express how curious they were and what they did to find answers to their questions. In this context, journey was quite wide, as it comprises of visiting places, learning to play a new game or exploring new things. After a class discussion about exploring, learners shared that actually explorations can happen inn many fields of study and this was recorded for later use. The pre-unit assessment helped to understand that some learners had a limited understanding of what explorations are and when they occur. Moreover, no one had a clue about the motivations for an exploration as well as its impact on the environment and the world at large.

Then we went back to what was said about the different possibilities for explorations and learners were able to list some areas that they were interested in. eventually they signed up for an exploration that they wanted to look into more closely. They crafted questions on the 8 key concepts to be able to collect some data about the exploration avenue they have chosen.

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| **Art**AdvayJaanviAnyaAryana | **Music**RahulAmyKeaira | **Marine life**KyashaMatheo | **Football**EvansShivamHeimiJiya | **Games**SelvanTheoAgastyaShayan | **Space**KrishnaIsheSanidhya | **Plants**Shivani | **History**Deron | **Science**Yalva | **Superheroes**Gibraan |

For the coming week, learners will carry out some research using their questions from last week to get a better understanding of the field of study they have chosen. At the end of this week, they will synthesize a text to share their understanding of the exploration they have chosen before looking at famous people who were/are engaged in this field and they will start gathering information on their motivation and eventually the impact of their discoveries had on the environment and the world at large.

**Reading**

Reading went very well last week. Two stations were set up to enable children to work in small groups and to receive teacher’s attention. Since learners are working back to back French and reading there are about half the class reading when half is doing French and after 40 minutes they change. So the two reading stations are as follows: the one which is linked to the unit is to read a non fiction text and to observe how it is written, what the pictures accompanying the text are, the purpose of them, the use of signal words such as although, nevertheless, in addition… The station as stand-alone was a text where learners were expected to read the text and answer comprehension questions based on bloom’s taxonomy of questioning. Since it was the first time that this methodology is used to approach reading, learners took some time to adapt and hence were not able to complete their engagements. Therefore, the engagements will be kept this week whilst others are added for those who complete their tasks are not left without anything to do.

**Writing**

Writing was a fruitful engagement last week. Learners were given part of a narrative and they were requested to complete the story. All of them jumped to write a short paragraph which was very superficial and uninteresting. Then, they were given the end of the story as imagined by the author and learners identified the techniques used and these were using adjectives, showing and not telling, use of dialogues, conflicts and resolution as well as describing the setting. Allowing the author to lead, learners went back to take another look at their ending and to use the strategies identified to improve their ending. Since they did not have time to complete, they will be revising and editing their story before publishing it.

**Maths**

Stations set up proved to be successful last week. All the learners were busy on their tasks and little time was wasted. However it was observed that they struggled to adapt to this way of working and hence took more time that expected. Since it is now week 2, learners are now more aware of the maths strategy used and they are expected to be more focused and more committed to finishing their work within time limit.