



# BRITANNICA

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, SHANGHAI

# NEWSLETTER

9th June 2017  
Week 36

Britannica International School is a British school located in the heart of Shanghai, providing a British style education to international families with children aged 2 to 18.



1988 GUBEI ROAD, SHANGHAI 201103 CHINA

Tel: 021 6402 7889

Web: [www.britannicashanghai.com](http://www.britannicashanghai.com)



**DAVID GOODWIN**  
**PRINCIPAL**

**Dear Parents,**

This week we completed the final draft of our Year Book for 2016-2017 and will be sending it to the printers on Monday. Not only is the Year Book a fantastic record for all pupils of the events, activities and classes in which they have been involved, but it is also a record of success and achievement for staff and for the school. Our leaving staff this year will be able to carry this book with them to their next teaching post with pride, just as I have done from my past schools. I have lost count of the number of yearbooks on my bookshelf that record my time in education, but they do make excellent mementoes of happy and successful times from the past and record my own personal journey through my profession.

All of our school community are of course on a journey, whether it is a journey growing as a student or as a teacher or even as a parent. As we plan and look forward to the times ahead it's important to reflect back and think about the journey we have already taken and the experiences we have had so far and what we can learn from them. Teaching staff are currently in the process of their appraisal. An important part of this is the self-reflection tasks that they have been asked to carry out. In light of these, they will set targets in agreement with their line-manager for their continued professional and personal growth. Our Pupil Mentoring in Secondary this year has achieved very similar aims, where pupils are encouraged to take more ownership of their own appraisal and personal target setting. It is important in our busy lives to take time to be reflective, take stock of where we are and to make sure that the path ahead is clear and appropriate.

Along these same lines, I have been doing just that this week with the School Development Plan and I will be sending the first draft off to Orbital next week for their observations and comments. Our CIS Staff/Parent self-study groups have provided good reflective feedback to help inform the School Development Plan. This feedback along with staff and parent surveys from this term will ensure that the agreed way ahead for Britannica in 2017-2018 is the right one and has ownership of the majority of the school community.

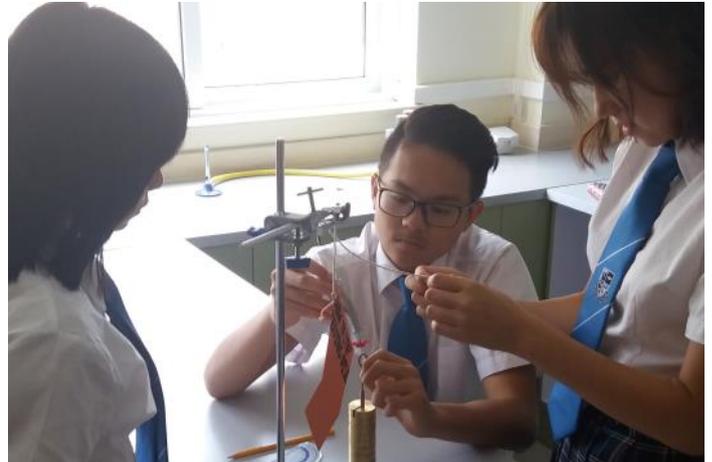
For students in Years 11 and 12 it is currently the end of one leg of their journey, with the final IGCSE and A Level exams having taken place this week. It would be amiss of me to not congratulate all of them on their excellent behaviour, dedication to study and excellent perseverance, through what undoubtedly has been a challenging two months of examinations. We very much look forward to finding out what they have achieved in late August when the results will arrive.

Enjoy reading this week's newsletter and finding out what else has been going on at Britannica.



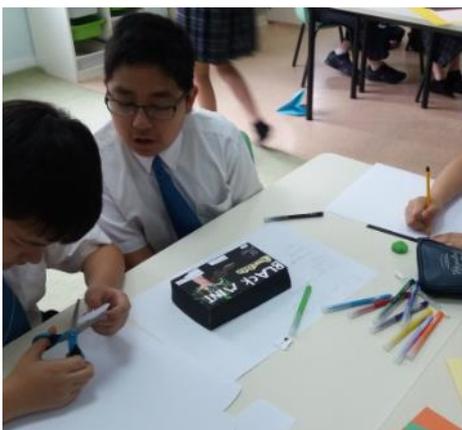
## Year 10 Physics

In Year 10 Physics class we are looking back at some of the topics we studied in term one and working on adding layers of difficulty and detail to them. This week, we completed two experiments to review how to find the centre of mass of objects and also looked at how force changes the extension of a spring in a theory called "Hooke's law". We evaluated our methods and were able to apply the laws studied to GCSE exam questions.



## Year 7 English

We have had a busy week in Year 7 English as the students started their new unit of work on advertising. The class were split into teams and given a target customer for which to design a chocolate product, taking into consideration the use of colour, font, and images to appeal to their customer. The students will next move onto thinking about how to advertise their product via posters and radio scripts, which will require lots of persuasive language.





## Year 3 Adventure to the Shanghai Museum of Glass

Last Thursday, Year 3 ventured out to spend the day at the Shanghai Museum of Glass. This not only linked with this term's Science topic on light, it also gave us an opportunity to work collaboratively as a much larger group and mix with some of the peers and teachers that we would not ordinarily work with.

Before the trip, the children were very excited and kept thinking about all the interesting things they might see.

The first area we visited was the children's zone. All the pupils were given a scratch card. They needed to collect all the letters of the alphabet, for example, T was for transparency. The children could push a button and change the glass from transparent to clear.

We then moved on to the maze. The children (and staff) had to find their way through and collect nine stamps. It was dark and all the walls were made of glass, which made it tricky to find the correct path. Many of the children ended up walking into the wall! Eventually, we all made our way through and it was only Mr Doohan who got lost and took ages to find his way out!

Finally, the children visited the main section of the museum. There were lots of interesting objects made of glass. This included a fairy-tale castle, a lobster and a bicycle. The part most of the children enjoyed the most was the light wall. As they moved in front of the wall it lit up with different colours and followed the shapes they made with their arms and legs.

All the children had a super trip to the Museum of Glass and found lots of great things to see and do.





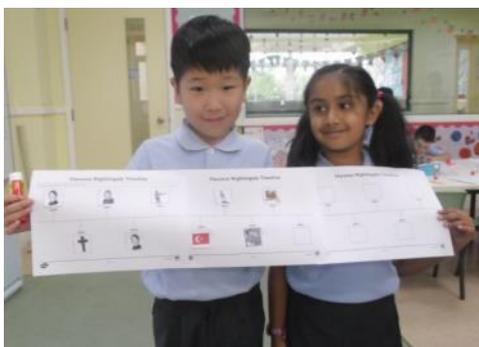
## Year 1

The children in Year 1 all had a fantastic time on Tuesday morning at the Key Stage 1 Swimming Gala. Everyone got a chance to show off their techniques by swimming on their front and then by swimming on their backs in a healthy competition. The races were then made a little more fun by swimming with a mat. All the children did a great job and it was nice for the teachers to see how well our children can swim.



## Year 2

This week, in our topic lessons, Year 2 have been learning all about the life of the famous nurse; Florence Nightingale. We have been finding out about the important work she did during the Crimean War and the changes she made to hospitals. As a class, we have been able to create a timeline of her life and compare this to another famous nurse, Mary Seacole, who we have also been learning about. The children have been fascinated by the work of Florence Nightingale and have been full of inquisitive questions.





# SUMMER • FAIR •

OPEN TO ALL FAMILIES AND FRIENDS

## WHEN

FRIDAY  
JUNE 23RD  
11AM — 2PM

## WHERE

BRITANNICA  
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL  
1988 GUBEI ROAD  
NEAR WUZHONG ROAD

- FEATURING VENDORS, HOUSE STALLS FOR CHARITY, FORM STALLS WITH ACTIVITIES, SPORTING COMPETITIONS AND MUSICAL PERFORMANCES

ENTRANCE IS BY FREE TICKET ONLY, WHICH MUST BE BOOKED IN ADVANCE BY CONTACTING [MARKETING@BRITANNICASHANGHAI.COM](mailto:MARKETING@BRITANNICASHANGHAI.COM) OR BY TELEPHONING

BRITANNICA'S MAIN RECEPTION ON 6402 7889

CURRENT BRITANNICA PARENTS DO NOT REQUIRE TICKETS TO ENTER



# Swimming Gala





# Swimming Gala





## Week in Pre-Nursery

This week, we have had lots of fun doing many activities to do with our current topic, Transport. Children have been continuing to bring in different items related to transport from home and they have been enjoying showing and speaking about these in front of their peers. We have spent some time focussing on different emergency vehicles and the children have been particularly interested in ambulances. This has led a lot of children to role-play Doctors. We were also very lucky to have a visit from some firemen with their fire truck this week. The children enjoyed taking it in turns to go inside the fire-truck and get a closer look at the uniforms and equipment. This week, the children have also been reading lots of stories about trains and many children created their own train during outside play time and took it in turns to be the driver. We hope you enjoy looking at the photos of these and some of the other hands-on activities we have been doing in our class this week.





## Week in Nursery

This week in Nursery we have started our new topic of 'Under the Sea'. We have begun to explore children's interests and have been teasing out the children's prior knowledge about the sea. Children have shared their ideas about what they would like to learn and have made suggestions about what they would like to create, build and learn in these last few weeks of the term; we have loved hearing their ideas and have been impressed with their creativity. We have been focussing on our class role play areas this week and sparking their interest in the topic. Children have made resources and have been developing their vocabulary by learning new words and phrases linked to pirates and ships. We have even been learning some pirate songs! We hope you enjoy looking at our photographs from this week. It has been lovely to see such excitement for learning!





## Week in Nursery





## Week in Reception

Fire is magical to children. It emits warmth and light and is used in many types of celebrations around the world. However, fire also has a scary side. It can be dangerous when it is misunderstood or used inappropriately. For these reasons, children need to learn at an early age that fire is not for play. They also need to learn how to protect themselves if they come into contact with fire. In line with our current topic, Community Helpers, and Emergency Workers, Reception was very fortunate this week to have had a very special visit from the local fire department. They shared some of their resources and introduced the children to the benefits and dangers of fire. They further provided us with numerous child-friendly safety tips and loads of information about fire-fighters and the important work they do. They even brought one of their fire engines with them which made for great excitement and inquiry for all in Reception.

Swimming is an excellent activity for children's evolution, with a lot of health benefits. Keeping this in mind, Britannica organised its annual Reception Swimming Gala on the 8<sup>th</sup> June. The reception students have been eagerly practicing all year for this event. On the day the students were buzzing with excitement to get into the pool and exhibit their swimming talents. The children were encouraged and motivated by the constant cheering from their parents, peers, and teachers. The event gave the children the opportunity to learn about team spirit and develop water confidence. Well done to each and every one of you!



A great dancing duo!



Almost there



Cheering on our friends!



Architects at work



Before the race



Doing my best



Inside a fire engine



Inspecting the firetruck



## Week in Reception



Learning about fire safety



Having a look inside the firetruck



How quick can you get dressed



It is so big!



How quick can You get dressed



Safety helmets are heavy



Reception's little chef



Reception C enjoyed learning about fire engines



The Days of the Week



The Reception shop is open



## 2016 –2017 SPRING TERM BRITANNICA SCHOOL CALENDAR



### June 2017

Monday 12th June — Parent Class Link Meeting

Wednesday 14th June — Teacher Appreciation Day

Tuesday 20th June — Summer Term ASAs finish

( Monday 26th June special catch-up ASAs)

Friday 23rd June — Summer Fair 11:00am to 2:00pm

Friday 30th June 12:00 noon — End of Term



**ALL DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

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