



BRITANNICA

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, SHANGHAI

NEWSLETTER

15th December 2017
Week 16

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



DAVID GOODWIN
PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents,

Our weekly special activities continue right up to the very end of term. I have just passed two classes of very happy (if a little wet from the rain) Nursery parents as they return with their children and their teachers from attending their year group visit to EDay Town, which is a fun activity centre especially designed for younger children.

Last night we were treated to some excellent onstage performances from our senior musicians in the final Winter Concert show. It was wonderful to see how much these students have progressed over the last few years in their music and most certainly it was the best ever performance from our resident rock band 'The Shadows' and our now infamous 'Drumline'. There were also some super individual performances from students that reflected good musical talent and development. As always, our EYFS and KS1 charmed us with their onstage 'cuteness' during their performances.

Next week parents can expect to receive the end of Autumn Term report, which will comment on student progress and inform our next steps with your children.

We close for the winter holiday at 12:00noon on Friday 22nd December. As always at this time of year, we have to say goodbye to families who are leaving Shanghai because work contracts are finishing. To those families, we thank them for the commitment they have made to the school during their time with us and the support they have given both their children and us. We will surely miss you all!

Enjoy this week's collection of articles and photographs.



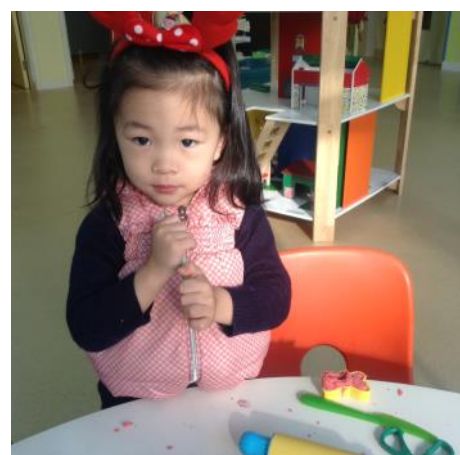
Week in Pre-Nursery

This week, Pre-Nursery enjoyed singing and learning new words related to the Winter. Children happily and confidently sang along to our new song, 'Snowflake, Snowflake' from Super Simple Songs. In arts, we got messy exploring sponge painting and mixing paints to make sky blue shades. Children delighted in the silver glitter and were amazed at the stencil application to create snowflakes!

All of our children engaged confidently in public speaking exercises during carpet time, standing in front of classmates and greeting them all with a "good morning everybody!", a few pictures of this important personal, social and language development exercise are pictured below.

We had a lovely time celebrating Eason's birthday and look forward to cake on Friday in celebration of Angel's birthday.

We explored items of clothing we wear in winter to keep warm; our jacket, hat, gloves, and scarf. Children played guessing games with the IWB during our Winter Power Point programme and enjoyed another new song from Super Simple Songs, 'Put on Your Clothes!' A rhyme encouraging self-help and regulatory skills.





Week in Nursery

It's the most wonderful time of the year! We hope you all enjoyed the Winter Concert as much as we did rehearsing for it! We are very proud of the children and we can see that they have come on by leaps and bounds in their personal, social and emotional skills since starting Nursery earlier this term.

We are currently reading 'The Jolly Postman' and learning about how a Postman helps us. The story has lots of different stories and rhymes characters which is exposing the children to elements of the traditional stories that we will be reading next term. This week, we have been making letters, playing with shapes and playing imaginatively in our class role play areas.

We have loved the letters and drawings we have received so far and we welcome any letters that you would like to write to us. Please just pop them in the red post box outside of Nursery and we will endeavour to reply to you and your child before the end of term!

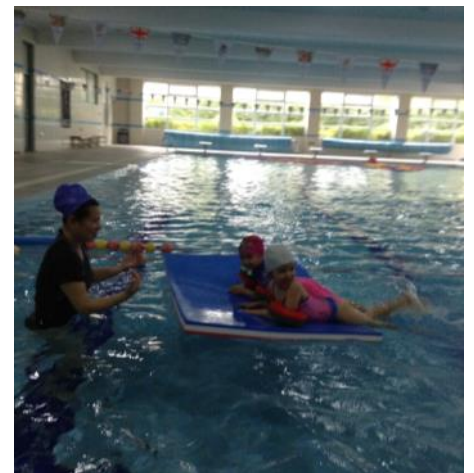
We are also still focusing on shape and numbers, doing our cosmic yoga, dressing up as doctors and creating artwork, please enjoy our pictures.

The Nursery Team





Week in Nursery





Week in Reception

This week, Reception explored the continent of Africa. During our Literacy lessons we have been reading the book 'Handa's Surprise' and found out all about the wild animals and exotic fruits that come from this part of the world. We even had blindfolded fruit tasting to see if we could use our developing language to describe the different flavours and textures.

In Numeracy we have had lots of fun learning how to tell the time. The children have been using sand timers to measure short periods of time; they have made their own paper plate clocks and have been reading and making O'clock times.

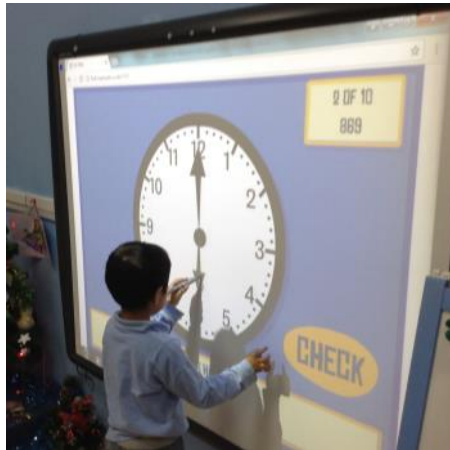
We would like to praise the children one more time for their fantastic performance in the Winter Concert on Monday. We are all incredibly proud of them and thought they were amazing.

Well done Reception!





Week in Reception





Year 1

As we come towards the end of the term, Year 1 have been very busy! The children practised very hard for their Christmas concert, and on the day sang wonderfully and remembered all their dances. They thoroughly enjoyed making cookies for their parents, although some of them did find their fingers got a little bit sticky! We have continued on with our sequencing activities in English and the children are now able to be more independent when completing this. In Maths, they are working hard on improving their speed at single digit addition and I am seeing fewer fingers being used to count!



Year 2

Last Friday, Year 2 had a golden ticket to the incredible Zötter Chocolate factory. At the top of the 'to do list' was eat chocolate and we were truly successful! The children were able to share all their knowledge from what they have learned from food and farming in topic. Thanks to Zötter's policy of bean to bar, we were able to see for ourselves the cocoa bean's journey from the tropical environment to the factory and inevitably becoming the delicious chocolate treat that we will no doubt be devouring over the festive period!

Not all the chocolate was as enjoyable as we were expecting, cocoa is very bitter sweet! Just look at the faces, it is hard to believe that was a spoon full of chocolate!





Year 3

This week, Year 3 have been having lots of fun learning! In Computing the children learned how to create their own programs, getting the sea creatures to move in different ways. In Science, the children explored how light is reflected; working with their partners, using a mirror and a torch to develop their understanding of how light travels. The children then tested a variety of materials to see which reflected light whilst developing their scientific vocabulary!





Year 4

This week in Year 4 we have been working extremely hard. We have been focusing hard on the topic of time within Maths sessions, using the mini-clocks to help us understand different word problems. Children have confidently been able to translate time from a.m./p.m. to 24 hour digital time. It has been amazing to see the speed at which the pupils have been able to understand this complex life skill.

Within our English sessions, we have been working hard on sentence and grammar skills, whilst drafting a range of different types of poetry. In Internationalism, Year 4 have been indulging in the topic on Christmas, looking at how this is celebrated the world over, with a specific focus of Britain. Both classes continue to read each night and are rocketing through our Year 4 flag reading scheme-with children enthused and driven to get the next flag. We continue to thank parents and friends for their support with everything!



Year 5 and 6 Trip

On Wednesday, Year 5 and 6 visited the Shanghai Natural History Museum to consolidate their learning in different areas of their biology units.



Some students have shared their favourite moments from the trip:

Min Jong : "I knew bacteria could survive in extreme conditions, but I didn't think they would survive in acid".

Min Jong: "It's pretty amazing how animals change to survive in their conditions."





Year 5 and 6 Trip

Jerold: "I liked the part where we found out that honey badgers are immune to any venom."



Kai: "I had never been to the Earth's treasure exhibits. I was surprised at how many different types of rock are there."

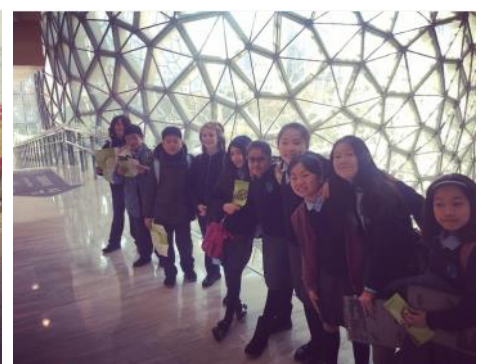
Kai: "I was surprised that walrus use their tusks like pick axes to make holes in the ice."



Matthew: "I enjoyed the animal survival exhibits because it was fun and it linked to my science work."

Jacky: "I enjoyed everything. We got to see some amazing things."

Sylvie: "I thought it was very cool to see how the animals adapted to survive, like opossums that pretend to be dead and pangolins which curl up into a ball."





Good News from Mandarin

Our students recently participated in a Chinese poetry competition, which was organized by a High School affiliated to Fu Dan University. Competing with many native students from other international schools, they did a great job of showing their understanding of Chinese poetry.

Joining in this competition, John, Francis and Ryunosuke in Year 10 were relaxed and performed *The Mid-autumn Festival Tune: 'Prelude to Water Melody'* really well. It is a classic masterpiece of Chinese literature.

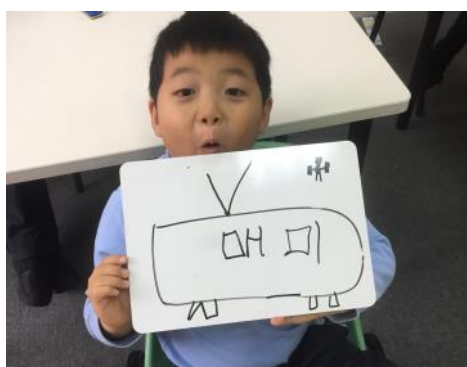
The audience enjoyed the performance and complemented the boys, who won third place. Izabella, Year 9, also tried very hard and received an Encouragement Prize.



Quiz Competition—Knowing more about Korea

Last week, my lessons focused on helping our young Korean students understand more about Korea. The students took part in 'A Quiz Competition to know more about Korea.' Many of our students have lived in China and away from their home country for a long time. They have not had many opportunities to study much about Korea. The children thoroughly enjoyed taking part in the quiz and it was conducted in the form of an exciting game. The students were very competitive and tried hard to win.

There were twenty questions per year group and the subjects ranged from spelling and Korean culture to economic understanding and history. Some questions were very difficult, but students tried their best to solve the problems in every single area. Every time they answered the correct answer, they couldn't hide their joy. **Jin Won Lee**





Japanese

In Japanese lessons over the last few weeks we have been learning about Waka (Japanese poetry). Students have enjoyed reading and discovering the meaning of these very traditional Japanese poems as well as learning about the authors of these poems.

Waka is a form of Japanese traditional poetry comprised of just five lines with a total of 31 syllables grouped in lines of 5, 7, 5, 7 and 7 syllables. The first three lines, composed of 14 syllables, are called "kaminoku", and the final two lines, composed of 14 syllables, are called "shimonoku". These groups of lines create a beautiful rhythm.



Student profile

Hello, my name is Lynn. I am a new student at Britannica this year and I am really enjoying coming to this school. There are lots of things that happen every day. Each day is like an adventure for us. All of the subjects help us to learn new things and have fun at the same time. There are lots of students that I can mix with and everyone is super nice, especially the girls in my year, who are all willing to help me when I need to ask for help. The boys in my class are nice too, although sometimes they can be very annoying!

We get a lot of homework from our classes, but the teachers always offer help if it is needed. There are loads of choices for After School Activities and they are all really fun. Some help us gain knowledge and others help us improve our leadership skills, whilst others are just really fun! **Lynn, Year 8**



Swim Meet



The Britannica dual swim, which met last Saturday, was a true success, with our swim squad facing a really good Concordia team. Britannica's swimmers did incredibly well as they all beat their personal best time at least once.

On the bright sunny day, the swimmers arrived early and were determined to show the audience that their hard work and training over the last few weeks paid off. We started with relays where our young ones, such as Jamie and William (Year 2) were raring to go and show their improvement in freestyle. The first highlight of the day was the 100 metres medley where some of our most ferocious swimmers challenged themselves: Amiel and Noe (Year 6) tried this event for the first time and respectively performed a promising 1'53" and 1'41".

In the meantime, many swimmers under ten achieved their first 25 metres butterfly race. A special mention must go to Jules, Ryo, Charlotte, Leonardo and Fletcher who maintained great form and style throughout the race.

We then moved on later to the more conventional swimming styles (breaststroke, backstroke, and freestyle) where swimmers showed the application of their skills in mastering these strokes. Turns are more efficient and their streamline position appeared to be an element they kept in mind during their swim.

At the end, everyone enjoyed the competition in a friendly and cheerful ambiance, where all swimmers had opportunities to compete and win heat winner ribbons.

We would like to send a huge thank you to all the parents who came along to help out and ensured that this event ran smoothly. We can be sure your commitment went a long way to make the very first swim meet at Britannica a great success.

You can already save the date, as our next invited school YCIS will visit our school on the 21st April 2018 for another exciting Britannica dual swim meet.



Winter Concert Week

This week, Britannica held four Winter Concert performances from EYFS through to Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4. Every student had an opportunity to perform with their class and all of the music ASAs were featured, including Rock band, Britannica Orchestra, Britannica Voices 1 and 2, as well as Drum line, and Marimba club. A special thanks goes out to all of the parents who provided costumes from home and came to watch performances. There was also a guest performance by Jun Jun from The W.I.L.L. Foundation, one of Britannica's affiliated charities, who was kind enough to perform on the piano.

We would like to send our thanks to everyone who took part, contributed, or supported the event in any way.

We wish you all the best this festive season!

Miss Churchill and Miss Owens





Winter Concert Week





Winter Concert Week





BRITANNICA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, SHANGHAI

Poetry Competition

'Through the Looking Glass'



Are you a budding poet?

Get your thinking caps on, and your best pens out, to write a poem with the theme of *'through the looking glass'* for your chance to win a prize and have your poem printed.

Submit entries in electronic format to you class teacher.

Deadline for entries—Wednesday, 31st January 2018.



2017 – 2018 AUTUMN TERM BRITANNICA SCHOOL CALENDAR



December 2017

Wednesday, 20th December – Reports Sent Home

Friday, 22nd December – Last Day of School (school closes at 12 o'clock)



★ Parent Event All School EYFS Primary Secondary School Holiday Other

ALL DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

BRITANNICA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, SHANGHAI

An Orbital Education School

1988 GUBEI ROAD, SHANGHAI 201103 CHINA

Tel: 021 6402 7889 Email: admissions@britannicashanghai.com

Web: www.britannicashanghai.com