



BRITANNICA

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, SHANGHAI

NEWSLETTER

27th September 2017
Week 7

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.



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DAVID GOODWIN
PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents,

Thank you to those parents who provided feedback on last week's Open Morning. We were delighted to hear of the positive experience that parents had and we will happily pencil in an additional opportunity for parents to do the same next term. Meanwhile, many events are now appearing on the calendar which will further enable parents and friends to join us at the school. Nursery parents will be joining us for a 'Teddy Bear Picnic' on the first Tuesday after the national holiday, which I am sure will be much fun. The following week will be punctuated with various House Sport events happening during After School Activity time, which parents are welcome to watch. On the Wednesday of that week, we will also be holding our Parent-Form Teacher Meetings from 3:30 pm to 6:30 pm. A letter will be sent home today, asking you if you would like an appointment. The week after we will be celebrating the United Nations and the important role they play across the world. This will be a great opportunity for a flag parade and for us all to dress up in our national costumes, which I know many children (and parents) enjoy! And then on Wednesday, 25th October we have our annual Britannica's Got Talent contest, which I am sure will be well supported as always. For parents who wish to help us in our community events, our newly formed 'Friends of Britannica' group are working with school staff on organising this year's Pumpkin Palooza, which will take place on Wednesday 1st November. There will most definitely be 'something for everyone' during the three weeks of October and we very much look forward to you joining us at the school at one or more of these events.

Enjoy reading about this week's activities.



Week in Pre-Nursery

As we come to the end of our first topic, 'All About Me', in Pre-Nursery I would like to provide a summary of the books and songs we have covered this half term. Please continue to support our Pre-Nursery children's learning through play with these resources: Eric Carle's books 'Brown Bear, Brown Bear' and 'From Head to Toe' and book, 'Silly Willy' by Maryann Coeaa-Leffler. The songs we sang were Super Simple Songs 'The Jump Song', 'Baby Shark', 'Heads, Shoulders, Knees and Toes' and the finger rhyme we enjoyed was '1,2,3,4,5 Once I caught a Fish Alive'.

During our final week we explored and named our emotions and through drama play, children developed an appreciation for communicating emotion. Children were eager to demonstrate their understanding of words such as happy, sad, surprised and angry through their mark making. During this activity, we also practiced our three-point-grip! Never too young to learn!

Children in Pre-Nursery have been working on action based, teamwork activities and this week these skills came together when they were asked to find a partner and hold hands for morning dancing. It was special to watch as they practiced moving carefully together, hand in hand and placing well-balanced steps. The children's smiles and enthusiasm demonstrated how much they felt the effectiveness of their newly learned physical, personal and social skills.

Mandarin teacher, Miss Yoko, took centre stage with our children this week with a wonderful presentation and song about Mid-Autumn Moon Festival. The delightful story captivated our young learners.

Enjoy the holiday period and we look forward to beginning our next topic with children after the break, 'My School'.





Week in Nursery

A short and sweet week, the children are recapping their learning from, 'All about me,' encouraging their vocabulary and social skills throughout this topic. We have also talked about Autumn festival and why we are going on holidays this week. The children have made moon cake pictures in Mandarin and playdough mooncakes in class. It has been a wonderful first half term and already the children have taken great steps in their first few weeks of nursery. Please continue encouraging them over the holidays with routines and independence. We look forward to seeing you on our return for another fun-filled term.

The Nursery Team





Week in Nursery





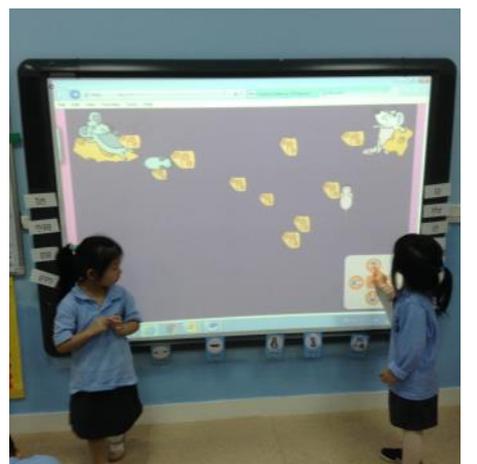
Week in Reception

This week, Reception have gone Technology crazy! We have been busy learning how to programme and control Bee-Bots, complete a programme on the i-pads and interact with lots of different games on the white board that involve positional language, directions, and instructions.

We listened to the story 'Were going on a Bear Hunt' and had a go at some tricky Yoga poses that focused on moving under, over and through.

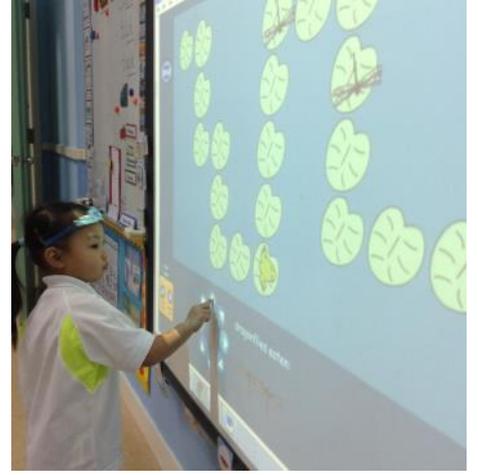
We have used this week to recap all of the phonics we have looked at this half term and we have also been learning some 'tricky' words such as 'the' and 'to'.

The Reception team would like to wish all of the children and their families a restful and relaxing Golden week. We look forward to seeing you refreshed and ready for the holidays, where we will begin our new topic 'Opposites'.





Week in Reception





Year 1

In Year 1, we have been reviewing letters and sounds. We have enjoyed rotating our activities. We take it in turns to practice writing letters using the correct formation, reading stories to our teachers, writing sentences about what we did at the weekend and using Phonics Play to complete sound games. We have had fun over the last few weeks talking about and incorporating 'The Big 5' into our writing. The Big 5 are using capital letters, full stops, remembering to use a finger space between each word, re-reading our work and checking it makes sense.



Year 2

Year 2 have been finishing their long-term learning of 'We are Going on a Bear Hunt' projects. The final part is to create their own story book where they go hunting for a mermaid, snake, diamond or even chocolate! We look forward to the published copies after the holidays.

Class 2C deserve a special mention for an outstanding assembly to the entire Primary school; a full rendition of 'We are Going on a Bear Hunt' with acting, actions and superb sound effects. The entire theatre was rocking to 2C and Michael Rosen!





Year 5 Science

In science, Year 5 began their Biology unit by defining what it is to be alive and identified the seven characteristics of living organisms. They continued by categorising animals into classes such as Mammals, Reptiles, and Crustaceans according to their physical features. Using ICT, students were able to research a wide range of animals and could then organise them to show whether these were Producers, Primary Consumers, Secondary Consumers or Tertiary Consumers. The class used this information to construct their very own food webs to demonstrate how energy is passed from one life form to another.



Year 6 Art

Year 6 have been producing some Pop Art pieces. Pop Art is an art movement that emerged in the mid-1950s in Britain and the late 1950s in the United States. The movement presented a challenge to traditions of fine art by including imagery from popular and mass cultures, such as advertising, comic books, and mundane cultural objects. In keeping with the topic of Creative Minds, the children were inspired by the work of Italian Renaissance artist Leonardo da Vinci and used his Mona Lisa portrait to create their pop art. It has been described as 'the best known, the most visited, the most written about, the most sung about, the most parodied work of art in the world'. The Mona Lisa is also one of the most valuable paintings in the world. It holds the Guinness World Record for the highest known insurance valuation in history at one hundred million dollars in 1962.





Saturday School

I am so happy to announce that Saturday School welcomed a record number of students this term. I was so pleased to welcome both Britannica students and some other children from the wider Shanghai community.

Our current students have been excellent ambassadors for the school welcoming both new students and parents. We have welcomed students from Years 1-6 to take part in a 14 week English and Sports programme and it is so good to see our students working so hard at improving their English skills while meeting new friends at the weekend.

If you would like to register for Saturday school then please email saturdayschool@britannicashanghai.com. Places are limited and subject to availability.

Thank you for your ongoing support

Mr Donald



Korean Class - Drawing posters to celebrate 'Hangul Day'

This week, in Korean class, we decided to hold several events to celebrate Hangeul Day on 9th October. Hangeul Day is a holiday set in commemoration of the creation of Hangeul, a Korean alphabet, in 1446. Year 1 and Year 2 students have learned the importance of our alphabet while watching a video about Hangeul. From Year 3 to Year 6, we held a small poster contest to celebrate Hangeul Day and promote the excellence of 'Hangul'. Children's works were full of personality and imagination. There was a piece of work that made me laugh and there was quite a wonderful piece of work as well. A student said, "I realized how important it was to deliver messages effectively". "I was pleased to learn the importance of our own letters", said another student. Fortunately, through making the poster about Hangul Day, the children seemed to feel how wonderful it is to have our own letters and felt proud of it as well.





Student Profile

After completing my AS examinations the past Summer, I was excited to come back to a year full of a renewed sense of accomplishment, looking forward to the many challenges for me to conquer and towards the future, as I will have completed our A-level course over this final year in school.

Being a student in the final year of schooling is a daunting experience, as we have to start making decisions about our future that hold much more weight than we can fully comprehend. I'm full of nothing but excitement for what life holds in store for me, and aim to spend the remainder of this year on bettering myself across the subjects I take- English Literature, Biology, and Psychology.

In all honesty, it was a very different experience coming back this year- all but one of my teachers were new, and I had to say goodbye to teachers I had already formed bonds with and gotten used to, but I feel so blessed and fortunate to be able to form new bonds and build new relationships with the new teachers in the school.

The subjects I have taken encourage me to push boundaries and set new rules in fields as I explore them, and so far, this year especially, I can feel myself grow as not only a student but a person as well. (Conrad Year 13)



Year 7

Our Year 7 students were engaged in the analysis of the cell parts this week; known as the 'organelles'. Our scientists compared a plant, animal and bacteria cell and then made a model of a cell. They selected items to represent the various cell structures and justified their choices of how the items they have chosen represent the actual part of a cell. They brought outstanding models back to school on Wednesday and I am proud of all students for their effort and creativity.



**Got a talent?
Think you've got what it takes
to share it with a live audience?**

Well now is your chance!



★ BRITANNICA'S GOT TALENT

Wednesday October 25th

All talents will be considered!

**Juggling; performing a magic trick; singing a song; dancing; snapping;
speaking in different languages; solving difficult equations quickly...**

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Auditions to be held in the Music room
Auditions Start: Monday, Sep 18th
Competition: Wednesday, Oct 25th
**Information and registrations
for auditions: Contact Ms Owens**



2017 – 2018 AUTUMN TERM BRITANNICA SCHOOL CALENDAR



October 2017

Monday, 2nd October—Friday, 6th October—National Day Holiday—School closes

Tuesday, 10th October — Nursery Teddy Bear Picnic

Wednesday, 11th October — Secondary trip to Shanghai Rolex Masters Tennis

Monday, 16th October — Friday, 20th October—House Sport Week

Wednesday, 18th October — Parent- Form Teacher Meetings

Tuesday, 24th October — United Nations Day

Wednesday, 25th October—Britannica's Got Talent

Friday, 27th October — Key Stage 1 Maths Day



November 2017

Wednesday, 1st November—12:00noon to 3:00pm Pumpkin Palooza

Monday, 6th November—Friday 10th November—Anti-bullying Week

Wednesday, 8th November—Pre Nursery + Reception Parent Event

Friday 10th November—School closes at 4pm for mid-term break



ALL DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

■ All School ■ EYFS ■ Primary ■ Secondary ■ School Holiday ■ Other

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