



BRITANNICA

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, SHANGHAI

NEWSLETTER

20th October 2017
Week 9

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.



DAVID GOODWIN
PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents,

We have been pleased to see many of you this week around school, at either our Parent-Teacher meetings held on Wednesday or at one of our open house events. This morning the Year 4 corridor and classrooms were packed with enthusiastic parents enjoying morning tea, while listening to their children's Little Miss/Mr Britannica stories, which they have been making as part of their English studies. A few very eager and athletic parents also joined us this afternoon for the last session of our inter-house sports events for this week. Today's events were some very exciting tug-o-war competitions between the various year groups, with parents and staff verse the secondary pupils in the last event. Congratulations to all pupils for their House contributions. As always, the small school allowed us to be fully inclusive in this week's House Sports. Next week is the much anticipated annual Britannica's Got Talent competition. If parents have yet to book their tickets, we suggest you quickly do so. The week after sees the arrival of Pumpkin Palooza, which I am sure is already firmly highlighted in your calendar for attendance. This year's event looks like it will be our best yet. All of these activities only happen because of the dedication of individual teachers to the school and this week therefore provides me with another great opportunity to thank them for that commitment and the loyalty that they show to the school in enabling it to always punch far above its weight in terms of the extra opportunities, activities and events that we provide for the benefit of pupils and parents.

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Week in Pre-Nursery

This week our Pre-Nursery children ventured out of the classroom to visit our garden area of the school and observe the seasonal changes that come with Autumn. We had much fun collecting Autumn leaves, buds and twigs of all shapes and colour and used them to complete our group art project now on display.

Pre-Nursery children proudly watched themselves on the big screen in class in a social story of themselves carrying out daily routines and class tasks. This exercise was all part of our learning topic, 'My School'. By observing a visual display of daily class routines, children develop a sense of independence and are able to better manage change and regulate their emotions during transition times. Children excitedly pointed to themselves and watched each other in action, highlighting their growing skills, competences and independence. A visual display of our busy Pre-Nursery school day is now featured on our display board for parents to enjoy.

Children visited the school library this week in effort to broaden their sense of belonging in the wider school community. They were thrilled to meet our Librarian, experience the library room and explore the many books available to them. Children left with a sense of wonder and a renewed enthusiasm for books. We aim to develop positive learning dispositions in our children and this sort of experience assists in setting the foundation for future language and literacy learning.

I enjoyed meeting with parents this week, appreciate the time you made to speak with me and thank you for your feedback and ongoing support. **Miss Rachael**





Week in Nursery

We have introduced our topic of 'Senses' this week, starting with 'Touch'. We have used our hands to collage a hand print, using lots of different materials. We have been describing the materials with words such as bumpy, rough, smooth, hard, soft, spikey, sharp, warm and cold. We have been talking about what we use our hands for, such as for cutting, building towers and making patterns. The children have had a go at making a pattern with two colours using objects in the classroom.

This morning, Ananya and Dhruva's Mummy came into Nursery to talk about Diwali, the Festival of lights. The children listened carefully as Gayathri talked about Diwali and shared with us how she celebrates at home with her family. The children then had a go at making their own 'Diva lamps', using their hands to carefully mould the clay into a bowl shape. The morning was rounded off by Gayathri sharing her home made Diwali cakes with us. The children enjoyed learning about another family's traditions and a different way of life, which is an enriching part of our British Early Years Foundation Stage framework. We hope you enjoy our photographs from this week.

The Nursery Team





Week in Nursery





Week in Reception

The boys and girls of Reception have been exploring light and dark, shadow and shade this week as we continue with our topic of 'Opposites.' Using torches and lamps, the children experimented with the effects of light as they manoeuvred their way around the classroom using different objects to observe shadows. We also had great fun making stick puppets and using these to create entertaining storylines for our shadow puppet theatres.

The children enjoyed taking part in Sports Week and with much enthusiasm they competed in relay races, throwing games and jumping activities; a strong sense of competition and team spirit could be felt amongst our youngest Dragons, Lions, Phoenixes, and Tigers. Our next big event is United Nations Day on Tuesday and we are looking forward to seeing the children dressed in the colours and costumes of their country.

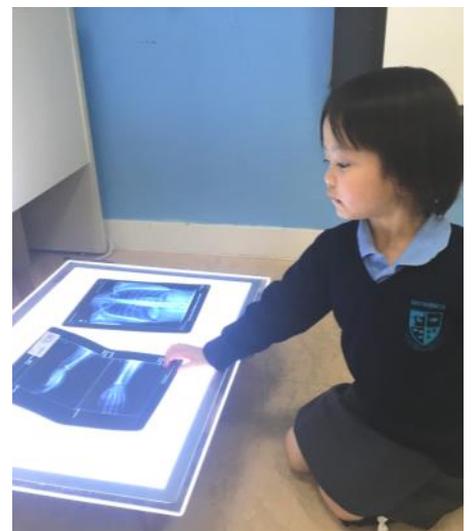
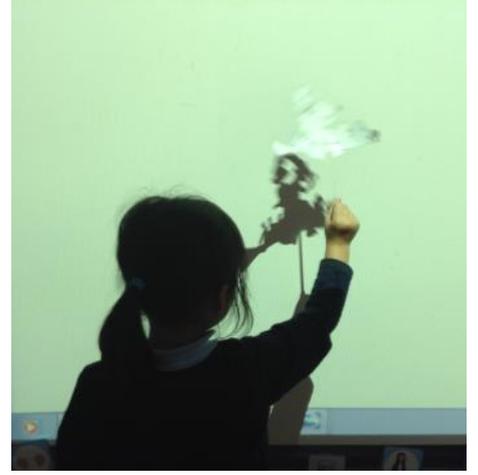
We wish you all a pleasant weekend,

The Reception Team





Week in Reception





Year 1

What another wonderful week we have had in Year 1! The children have been learning all about 'Light and Dark' in their topic lessons. This exciting unit of work began with the investigation of different light sources and developing our understanding that objects cannot be seen in darkness. Our super scientists used a dark box to shine their torches through to investigate which objects and materials reflect light. The children demonstrated excellent scientific skill by giving well-structured explanations in their predictions and they were able to articulate and justify their answers and opinions.

In our English lessons, we have been adding adjectives to our sentences based upon the story of 'Billy's Bucket by Kes Gray'. Billy has a magical bucket that holds an entire ocean of sea creatures and we used our imagination to think of 'WOW words' to describe the creatures. Unfortunately, some of the creatures escaped so we created wanted posters to try and find the animals – look out for that gigantic, pale blue, strong and friendly whale!

Our mathematicians have been practising their counting on and back in 1's, 5's and 10's from single and double digit numbers. We have also been consolidating our knowledge of doubles and halves by sharing amounts. We discovered that we can share even numbers but cannot share odd numbers.



Year 2 'No Weigh! I don't believe it!'

This week, Year 2 has been full of enthusiasm for all their subjects! In English, they have been reading a number of different fairy tales and trying to identify key components in them. All the teachers have been very impressed with how well they have been able to do at this and how they have used their adjectives to describe the settings.





Year 2 'No Weigh! I don't believe it!'

In Maths, Year 2 have been busy comparing different objects to see which ones were heavier or lighter. The children also had the chance to weigh themselves as well as their teacher!



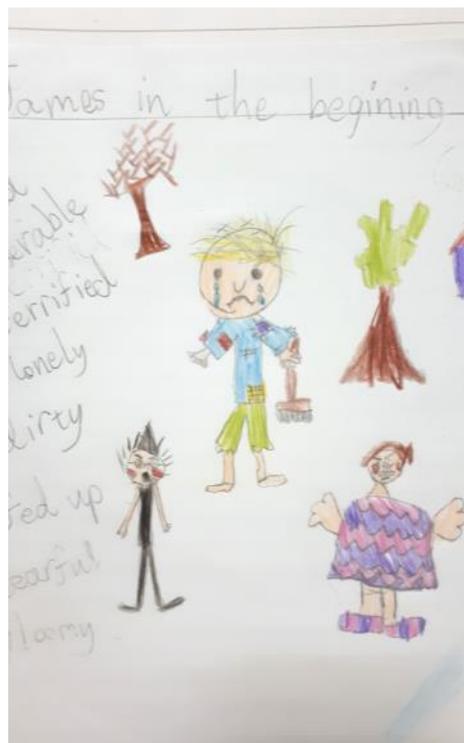
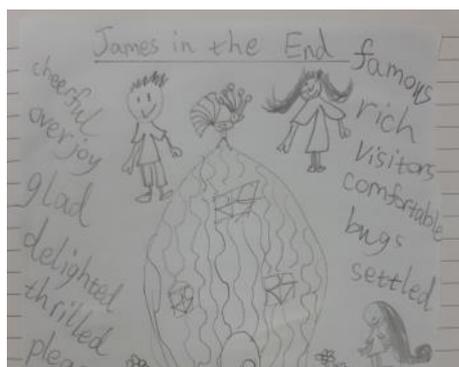
We have not let the rain deter our topic lessons this week and the children have been busy sorting out the equipment and then planting their seeds in the classrooms. Everyone was very serious about the planting and the children are now eagerly waiting for something to happen. One child noted that it was quite good that it was raining this week so we would not have to water them!





Year 3

The fun just never stops in Year 3! This week we have FINALLY finished reading 'James and the Giant Peach' and were impatient to find out how the story ended. We thought about our main character, James, at the beginning of the story and now at the end and used these ideas to write a diary entry of how this amazing journey has changed him. In Science, we are investigating what plants need to grow. For our experiment, we planted different seeds with no sunlight, no soil, no water or no fresh air. We will check each day to see how they progress and to discover what plants really need in order to grow. In Topic we are continuing with our balloons paper-mâché and hope to show you our giant peaches soon!



Year 4

What an exciting week it has been in Year 4! First of all, the children thoroughly enjoyed taking part in the inter-house sports week and cheered their houses on with great pride. Also, we had some visitors in school on Friday. Thank you to the parents who came in for the Year 4 'Tea Party'. Children had the opportunity to showcase their work from the first half term, and made party hats and sandwiches to add to the celebratory atmosphere. In Maths, we continued with our work on fractions. Some children worked at finding fractions of number, while others tackled multi-step word problems. In English, children continued to draft their adventure stories, creating exciting characters and settings. Our class leaders really impressed us this week, and excelled in their roles of line monitors, ensuring children were facing forward and quiet whilst walking through the school.





Year 5

Over the past few weeks, you may have seen Year 5 carrying in lots of scrap material. Wonder why? Well, in Geography, Year 5 has been learning about settlements (a place where people live). First, they used the question sheets to work out some basic features of the settlement, such as a forest and rivers. Then they had to decide what function the settlement would have, for instance, a market, port, industrial, tourism and the most important one – residential. As you can see from the photographs they have really enjoyed working collaboratively to create their own settlements.



Year 6

Year 6 enjoyed researching a range of fables in order to find features that are present. They were able to identify the moral of each story and could explain how each animal learnt their lesson. Both classes were able to retell the story in their own words, either orally to the class, or recorded for others to listen to on the iPads. The next stage is for children to begin to plan and produce their own fables using ideas gained from these texts. In Science, students are continuing their biology unit, and are now able to identify the various parts of plants and explain their functions. They are also learning how to classify plants, which is much trickier than it sounds, and will now move on to looking at ways they reproduce.





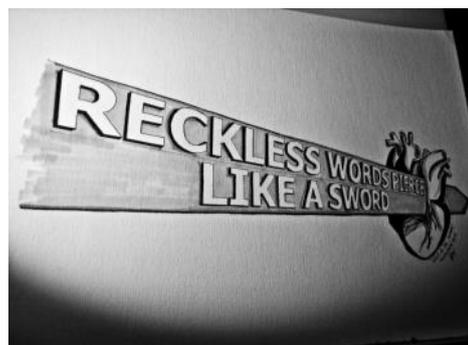
Year 12

In October, I started my A level Chinese studies in Britannica. In the first lesson, I helped my Chinese teacher to carry books from the library and I saw piles of different genres of Chinese books. I felt very nervous. A lot of books are to be read and films are to be watched in a very short time for me. It's very challenging for me. In the past, I thought I knew a lot about Chinese. However, now I think a series of activities in the future can open many windows for me. For example, in understanding Chinese customs, I have a deep understanding of Chinese festivals. I also learned about the differences between the north and the south culture of China. It's unbelievable. China is so big! I am now looking forward to researching more about Chinese culture and know more about Chinese traditions.



InkTober

It's not too late to take part in the InkTober Challenge!



Come claim your prize....



Can you guess correctly which ink drawing belongs to which Art Teacher?
Mr. Palmer or Ms Leong?
Winners get a Stabilo Fibre nib pen!



Secondary Swimming

Last week, Year 7 started their swimming block which will last for 6 sessions. During the course, students will assess themselves against two different tests.

They will first swim over 50 meters applying different motions and techniques based on the requirements of the English National Curriculum.

Using peer assessment, students will design their own objectives by identifying areas they need to develop. Then, students will be driven to work on different skills, such as diving, gliding, flutter kick and treading water in order to achieve further attainment.

Furthermore, students will work on their stamina in order to complete a 12 minute endurance test. At their age, developing aerobic capacity is really important and students must be able to maintain their effort to swim for a long time. They will learn to observe the effects of exercise on the human body. **Mr Chevier**



Student profile

Hello, my name is Christopher and I'm in Year 8. I am 12 years old, mixed American and Chinese... and a little bit British. I like to play games on my iPhone and my computer at home. I have the highest amount of House Points in the secondary school and this week I received my Bronze award for getting over 50.

I was glad to meet back up with my friend Kia-Heng at the start of the year and it's been a fun start to Year 8. At break time and lunch time, I like to spend my time in the SLC, either reading a book or catching up with my friends in different years of the school. My favourite subjects are Maths and Science. I like them because they are related to each other. **Year 8, Christopher Hoeflin**



United Nations Day – Tuesday 24th October 8:40am – 9:20am

On Tuesday 24th October the school will be taking part in the United Nations Day. The world celebrates United Nations day every October 24th to honour the interstate organisation promoting human rights, social progress, and world peace. We would like to invite both students and parents to dress in their Countries national dress or colours that represent their Countries flag.

 **United Nations Day**



Pumpkin Palooza

Well done to Britannica for raising 25,000 towards our 100,000 RMB goal. Almost there guys! **Mr Botha**



House Sport Week

This week at Britannica has been active and fun-filled for students of all ages. The PE department prepared and planned a whole range of sporting events for pupils to take part in during their ASA time. The week started slowly with bad weather forcing the activities inside, but we completed basketball matches for Secondary, swimming events for Year 4 and jumping events for Year 1. The students tried their best to win points for their respective houses in all the events! At the end of Day 1 Green Dragons were just in the lead. With the weather improving, Day 2 saw a full schedule of activities taking place. Students from Reception to Year 13 took part in events across 8 different areas, including javelin, shot put, relay races, Frisbee, basketball and more! At the end of Day 2, the Blue Lions edged in front. Day 3 was another big day of sports with lots of points being awarded to the various houses. At the end of Day 3, Red Phoenix took the lead. So with a really tightly contested week of sport behind us, it really was all still to play for on the final day. All houses and age groups competed so well in their tug of war events, and with the final points added up, we can announce that the winner is the Red Phoenix! Congratulations to the Red Phoenix for competing so well. Congratulations also to everyone who earned points for their houses this week!





House Sport Week



**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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Book your ticket now by contacting
Britannica's main reception on
(+86) 021 6402 7889.

**Tickets are free of charge and are available
via reservation only.**



PUMPKIN PALOOZA

WHEN

WEDNESDAY
1st NOVEMBER
12Noon — 3PM

WHERE

BRITANNICA
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
1988 GUBEI ROAD
NEAR WUZHONG ROAD

• Raffle Prizes sponsored by



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SPORTS MEDICINE
INSTITUTE





2017 – 2018 AUTUMN TERM BRITANNICA SCHOOL CALENDAR



October 2017

- ★ **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
 - ★ **Monday, 6th November**—Reception Parent Event
- Friday 10th November**—School closes at 4pm for mid-term break



ALL DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

★ Parents Event ■ All School ■ EYFS ■ Primary ■ Secondary ■ School Holiday ■ Other

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