

Friday 28th November 2014



THE BRITISH SCHOOL
OF BEIJING, Sanlitun

Christmas Cracker 2014



11am to 3pm, Sunday 30th November

The British School of Beijing, Sanlitun, No. 5 Sanlitun Xiliu Jie

THE COUNTDOWN TO CHRISTMAS

By Lisa Milanec, Principal

Preparations are now in earnest for the countdown to Christmas. With only two weeks left of term our students are busy planning for Christmas performances, looking forward to end of term parties and I'm sure, looking forward to the forthcoming holidays.

We begin the countdown to Christmas with our much awaited Christmas Cracker, which will take place this coming Sunday from 11am to 3pm. We have changed the format of this event this year and made it child centred, with the usual teachers' games in the gym, but rather than vendors' stalls in the hall, you will find an array of different types of activities for the children to enjoy.

We haven't forgotten the adults of course and there will be plenty of different food vendors placed in the playground as well as our PA International Bar who will be selling a variety of drinks from various parts of the world - a great place to relax and socialise while the children are busy creating!

We hope you are all able to come along with your friends and family!

Before you explore this week's newsletter, I want to reiterate the 'thank you' that Mrs Armstrong makes on the next page, and thank all our parents for coming along to our Parents Evenings this week, as well as for your involvement in our many events that we have recently had at school. We are able to achieve amazing things when we work together and ensure that our students have the best possible memories of their time here at Sanlitun.

UPCOMING EVENTS

2nd December
PA Meeting
@ Primary Campus

2nd December
Santa's Secret Shoppe
@ Primary Campus
9am - 3.30pm

3rd December
Santa's Secret Shoppe
@ Early Years Campus
9am - 11am

4th December
Reception Christmas Show
@ Primary Campus Hall
9am - 9.45am

5th December
Nursery Visit to Fundazzle

6th December
BSB Choir
@ Adventure Zone

7th December
BSB Choir
@ Westin, Financial Street

9th December
Years 3 & 4
Christmas Show to Parents

10th December
U11 Handball
10am - 2pm @ Shunyi

PARENTS IN PARTNERSHIP

By Christine Armstrong, Deputy Headteacher

It was lovely to see so many parents in attendance at our Parent's Evening this week. Not only was it great to see what a keen interest the parents have in their child's learning but also to see how enthusiastically both teaching staff and parents were talking about learning and pupil progress. As I wandered around the corridors, seeing staff and parents deep in conversation or sharing a piece of work or in some cases a video, it struck me that we are developing an excellent partnership between school and home. Of course there will always be ways to improve the partnership and we are constantly looking for opportunities to do this, and Parent's Evening is just one way we collaborate with our parents.

We spend a lot of time thanking the pupils within our school for their collaboration with us, as they travel on their learning journey. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all the parents for their support, involvement and enthusiasm for the learning in our school too. The best learning takes place when it spills over into home and vice versa; so to everyone involved, we thank you.



International Day - an excellent example of how parent support makes a difference

MATHS IS FUN

By Jonathan Dove, Pre Nursery Seashells Class Teacher

The children in Pre-nursery recently enjoyed a maths focus week, through our Christmas celebration topic. Mathematical development is extremely important for children from a very young age as it begins to teach children the importance of timing and routine, for example, being able to anticipate soon it is snack time, play time and so on...

We use maths so much in everyday life, even as adults, to calculate finances, projects and everyday chores, such as, cooking and shopping. Therefore, if children start early with a positive attitude to learning maths then it is far more likely they will find problem solving, reasoning, number concept, making comparisons, shape, space and measurement more enjoyable later in school and life!

The children have looked carefully at circular shapes and practiced making snowmen with play dough, counting the number of buttons. We noticed how many sides a triangle and square have and matched them onto the correct shape holder. It was great fun painting triangular reindeer faces and sticking on a shiny red circular nose.



Snowman Button Counting (Starfish)



Counting on Fingers (Tadpoles)



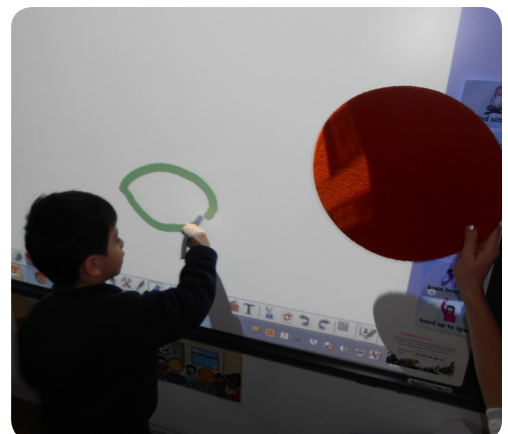
Jigsaw Fitting (Tadpoles)



Early Pattern Work (Seashells)



Counting the Animals (Seashells)



Circle Drawing (Starfish)

YEAR 3 TRY THEIR HAND AT MUMMIFICATION

By Michael Aryiku, Year 3 Toucans Class Teacher

This week has seen the Year 3 pupils become experts in the process of mummification.

Already enthused by our current topic –Walk like an Egyptian, the children learnt the precise way in which the ancient Egyptians would mummify the bodies of the rich.

Ms. Ros, who is somewhat of an Egyptologist herself, prepared and made a body complete with organs to allow the children's experience to be as similar to those of the Egyptians all those many years ago.



With the body lying on a table, the Year 3 children shared what they already knew about mummification before each taking part in the mummification process.

After cleaning the body with natron salt, a small incision was made in the left side of the body, after which the organs were removed and stored in the canopic jars. As part of the process the children even got to remove the brains through the nostrils, something they strangely enjoyed!

After performing the mummification process and retelling the process to their Talking Partner, each of the children then wrote their own instructions for someone else to follow. Having learnt the features of instructions, the children used time connectives and imperative verbs to write the process of mummification in detail.



It was fantastic to see so many of the children enthused by their learning, albeit slightly gruesome.

“My favourite part was taking the brain out of the nose” Bella, Toucans Class.

“I liked it when we cleaned the body using the natron salt” Marco, Parrots Class

Could we have some future experts in the process of mummification? I think so...

YEAR 5 DEVELOPING THEIR GEOGRAPHICAL SKILLS

By Elizabeth Jurgensen, Year 5 Pelicans Class Teacher

The children in Year 5 have been studying coastlines in Topic this term. After looking at the structure and features of coastlines around the world, they found out the lengths of the countries in the world with the longest coastlines and compared this with data about the area of land and the population of the country to see if there was any relationship. They then found out details of their home country coastline and created a tourist brochure outlining the key uses of the coastline.



Year 5 learning about coastlines



A WONDERFUL WEDDING

By Roxanne Wood, Year 1 Lions Class Teacher

Over the last few weeks Year 1 has been learning about weddings around the world. This week we performed our very own class weddings to the parents.

Panthers decided they would like a beach wedding as they liked the photos a lot. To prepare for this they made an arbor for the bride and groom to stand under on the beach. Here you can see the class constructing the piece from polystyrene and decorating it with ivy, white paper and silver cloth.



Junk Modeling



Mapping our way to the bakery



To learn about the different types of celebration cakes all the Year 1 classes visited the bakery. We mapped our journey to and from the bakery and plotted some of the objects and buildings we saw along the way. The children really enjoyed the activity and had a great perception of where to place the objects.

After our trip we decided to make our own junk modelling cakes for the wedding. In groups the children chose from a mountain of junk to construct the cake while other groups made bouquets; cameras and even rings for the big day.

To bring the wedding to life we even baked a cake in our classes. We mixed the sweet ingredients together and watched it bake in the oven ready to enjoy at our wedding reception today.

We all had a fantastic time at the weddings today and I think you'll agree they have learnt a lot during this celebration focus.



Cake baking

Christmas Cracker 2014



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★ Christmas crafts and activities including:

Bouncy Castle; Cake Decoration; Snowflake Making;
Christmas Card Crafts; Make your own Christmas Tree Decorations;
Novelty Christmas Photos and a range of games for children of all ages to enjoy

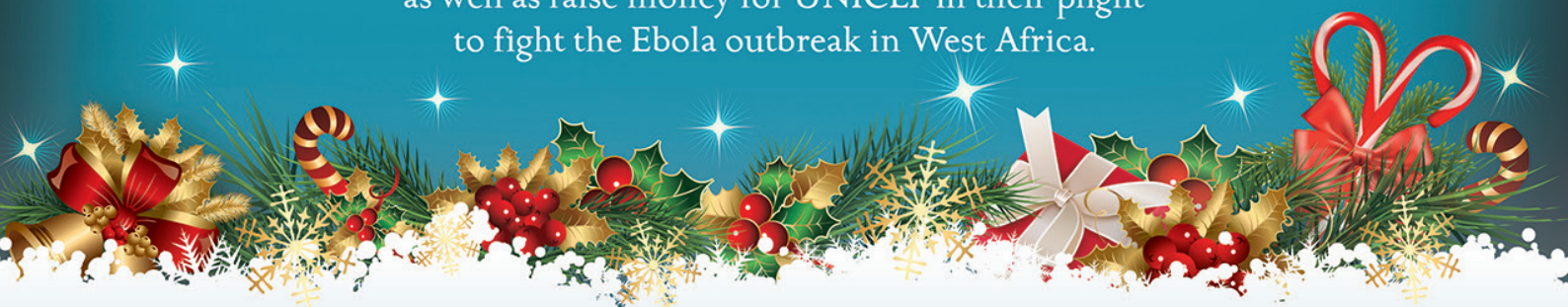
★ International bar for adults and tasty treats and meals for all the family

★ Raffle with super prizes to be won

★ Performances from the Sanlitun School Choir and Music Department

★ **Plus, a special appearance by Santa Claus**

★ Help us support our Global Classroom challenge 'Make it Right,' working with Oxfam to defend the rights of children all over the world, as well as raise money for UNICEF in their plight to fight the Ebola outbreak in West Africa.



BEIJING SCOTTISH SOCIETY PRESENTS...

ST ANDREW'S BALL 2014

SATURDAY 29TH NOVEMBER

6.30PM - 2.00AM

 **SCOTLAND**
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叫板!比萨

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China World Hotel
BEIJING
AT CHINA WORLD TRADE CENTER
A SHANGRI-LA HOTEL



Ticket

RMB 1000

DRESS: BLACK TIE

**LADIES: BRING ADDITIONAL
FLAT DANCING SHOES**

Venue

**SHANGRI-LA
CHINA WORLD HOTEL
BALLROOM
GUOMAO**

Reserve tickets: Email beijingcaledoniansociety@gmail.com

Payment: Cash only at dance practices.

Tickets include: 5 course dinner, Live Ceilidh band, Drinks (Whisky, Wine, Beer & Soft drink), Dancing, Midnight snacks, Breakfast & 4 Free Dance practice: **Nov 6th/13th/20th/27th - 7.30pm @ Capital Club Athletic Centre (+86 10 8486 2225).**