



THE BRITISH SCHOOL
OF GUANGZHOU
A NORD ANGLIA EDUCATION SCHOOL

Newsletter

Issue 4 | 2016/17



6 of our students will travel to MIT in America next month, after winning a competition to hack a deck of cards. They will attend special workshops led by some of the world's top academics.



MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents,

We are very pleased to be able to announce that Edward Pearce has been promoted to Principal of the British School of Chicago, one of the Nord Anglia family of schools in the USA. This is a wonderful opportunity for Edward and his family and we wish him every success in this promoted position. He is tremendously excited about this move and we wish him well for the future.

I can also reveal that we have now appointed Christopher Wathern, to succeed him, as our new Head of Primary. Chris' qualities shone through during the interview process and during his presentation to SLT he came across as thoughtful, analytical, strategic and most importantly very child-centered. He also performed well with other interview groups who noted him to be reflective, calm, confident and inspiring. The SLT were united in feeling that, at this stage in our school's development, there was an advantage in appointing a successful UK Head to ensure we stay up to date with UK practice. I would like to thank our Primary Support Group volunteers who also interviewed Chris. Fortunately they also noted Chris' qualities and made him their first choice candidate.

As well as being a successful Head of 8 years, Chris brings his experience as a mentor to aspiring Heads and as the chair of a multi academy trust which provides education to around 3000 students. Chris will bring lots of new and innovative ideas to our school but was keen to emphasise that he will be reliant upon our staff to support him in gaining an understanding of the challenges involved in delivering an academically strong education within an international context.

Chris will be joined by his wife Selina who is an experienced teacher and by their two boys, Theo and Rory who will enter Y1 and Y4 respectively. I was also delighted to find out that Chris is a keen musician who, in his spare time, has had a role as Musical Director and for the last 3 years has led 400 students from 17 schools in putting together a musical concert in Cornwall. I am sure John Wright (our Director of Music) will be delighted to hear that he has a fellow musician within the SLT.

We have had a very successful recruitment campaign this year and all overseas positions have now been filled. We look forward to giving you more information on new teachers soon. In the meantime I am sure you will all join me in congratulating Chris and in offering your support in his transition to his new role within Guangzhou.

Kind regards,

Mark Thomas



Juilliard Parent Workshop Success

Juilliard alumnus and trumpet specialist Liam Day, along with his accompanist Conor Hanick, visited BSG this month. The New York duo delighted students and parents with workshops before performing to a packed theatre.

From Gershwin to Star Wars, it was a fantastic musical experience on Monday 13th March, with many students hearing the versatility of the trumpet for the first time.

Liam and Conor spent the morning providing tuition to our young musicians, with parents invited to enjoy a coffee as they watched. Liam also performed to staff, students and parents in the theatre, wowing the audience with a great selection of music that covered classical, popular culture and even children's TV.

We would like to thank both Liam and Conor for visiting us. They left with this lovely message to our community:

“We would like to express our sincere appreciation for your warm welcome, hospitality, open ears, thoughtful questions and plentiful smiles during our visit to your school. It was a true pleasure sharing our music with such an engaged and appreciative community. What a joy it was to perform at a school that places such value in music and the arts. With so many students learning instruments and music, the buzz on your campus is truly unique. Thank you again and we hope that we can share and explore music with you again soon.”

Our collaboration with The Juilliard School, New York, continues to give us access to professional musicians and opportunities for students to learn from one of the best performing arts curriculums in the world.



A man taught his dog to play the trumpet on the London Underground. He went from Tooting to Barking!



Charity Report

Target: 250,000 RMB

Money Raised: 235,696.45 RMB

Hopeful Hearts

218,237.25 RMB

Hopeful Hearts is a non-profit charity based in Nanjing, Chengdu and Guangzhou. Their mission is to raise money and fund life-saving heart surgery for children of low-income Chinese families. They donate a maximum of 30,000 RMB to each family based on the level of financial support required. With the amount raised so far we are able to fund the surgery of a minimum of 5 children.

<https://hopefulheartsguangzhou.shutterfly.com/>

What have we done?

4515 RMB - Primary “Spooky Movie Week”

Primary students were able to pay a donation of 10 RMB to watch a spooky cartoon throughout the week leading up to Halloween.

2194 RMB – Early Years Foundation Stage “Halloween Dress Up Day”

EYFS students donated 10 RMB to come to school wearing a costume for Halloween.

1748 RMB – Secondary “Halloween Dress Up Day”

Secondary students donated 10 RMB to come to school wearing a costume for Halloween.

163,000 RMB – “International Day 2016”

International Day is held each year as a celebration of the multiculturalism within our school community. Its aim is to offer guests a relaxing day of fun activities, music, prizes and great food & drink! The event is aimed not only at our school community, but locals and other expatriates who are all invited to attend.

1252.7 RMB – Primary Parent Support Group “Christmas Stall”

Parents joined forces and sold various Christmas novelties to students and staff.



4983 RMB – Primary and Secondary “Christmas Non-Uniform Day”

Students donated 10 RMB to come to school wearing their own clothes for the last day of term.

1694 RMB - Early Years Foundation Stage “Christmas Non-Uniform Day”

EYFS students donated 10 RMB to come to school wearing their own clothes for the last day of term.

1000.10 RMB – Secondary Student Christmas Card Sales

Secondary students sent in a number of Christmas card designs and 2 were selected to go on sale in the lead up to Christmas.

2823 RMB - Early Years Foundation Stage “Christmas Charity Stall”

Various Christmas items were on sale in the lead up to Christmas.

86.4 RMB – Jiaos handed in by a member of staff

11,239 RMB – Money left over from what students raised for Tanzania.

6637 RMB – Y2 Calendars and Christmas Sing Along

1408 RMB – Anonymous Donation from Term 1

17007.05 RMB – Family Christmas Lunch

British Legion - Poppy Appeal

1065 RMB

The British Consulate sent in a number of poppies to go on sale at school for students, staff and parents to purchase. Various donations were made in exchange for a red poppy in the month of November. All money raised helps to provide thousands of modern veterans, Service men, women and their families with vital advice and support.

<http://www.britishlegion.org.uk/story-behind-the-poppy/>

November – Prostate Cancer UK

16,394.2 RMB

Members of staff grew their facial hair or gave something up throughout the month of November. Various students versus staff sports events were organised e.g. netball, football, basketball and badminton in order to raise funds and awareness for this worthwhile cause.



Hopeful Hearts

By Gemma Campbell

We are pleased to announce that we are the primary partner and sponsor for Hopeful Hearts Guangzhou. In addition to this they are now able to allocate our funds to specific cases. Here are 3 cases that the funds raised by the British School of Guangzhou have helped to support:

Lu Le – 5-year-old boy

He was first diagnosed with heart disease immediately after he was born, but doctors thought it wasn't urgent to operate at that time. At 5 years old he began to develop a fever and was admitted to hospital. It was recommended he receive heart surgery to prevent a life threatening condition in the near future. The family were struggling to make the payment and were very desperate to help their child. Hopeful Hearts accepted this case and Lu Le received his surgery and is recovering well.

Jiang Zi Sheng – 1-month-old boy

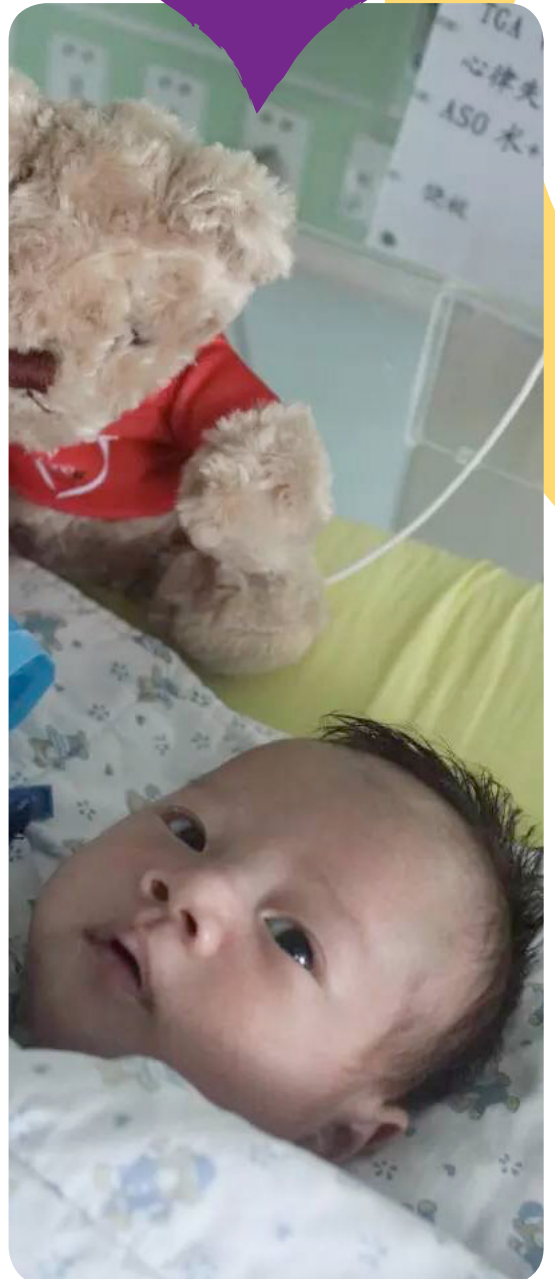
Shortly after birth he was diagnosed with pneumonia. Once in the intensive care unit it was found out he had a heart defect. The family had used all of their funds to treat the pneumonia and were unable to raise the full cost of the heart surgery. He is recovering well after a successful surgery and his family were extremely pleased to receive the help of Hopeful Hearts and BSG.

Zheng Zi Hao – 1-year-old boy

This case was very serious. He was born with his heart on the right hand side instead of the left and had many other complications. He had already received one heart operation and now needed a second one. All of the family's funds had been used to cover the costs of the first operation. Thankfully we were able to support this case and he is recovering after an extensive 10-hour surgery.

We wish all of the families the very best of luck and a healthy future. Let's continue working together to help keep young hearts beating

Thank you!



Outstanding Contribution Award

By Yvonne McKenna

Hopeful Hearts Guangzhou presented BSG with the award for Outstanding Contribution, which also included special mentions to 3 students: Michelle Son, Kitty Su and Grace Xie.

Hopeful Hearts Guangzhou raises money to provide vital life-saving heart surgery for children who need it. The British School of Guangzhou continues to support this fantastic charity in their important work, and so far our running total in 2016/17 is over 235,000RMB!

As a school we are very proud to receive an award like this, but more importantly, we are happy that our community has worked together to donate the funds required to help individual families through difficult times.

A huge congratulations must go to these students: Michelle, Kitty and Grace. They have received awards for their outstanding contribution to Hopeful Hearts Guangzhou. Together, they have helped to raise money towards heart surgery for children, followed up on individual cases and supported local hospitals in their care for young patients.

BSG recently visited baby Zheng Zi Hao to see how he's getting on after receiving a 10-hour heart operation last week. He's recovering well and the family are very happy. Thank you to everyone who has donated.



5 Questions With Sophie Corr

By: Gemma Campbell

Meet Sophie Corr, our cheerful Deputy Head of Early Years. Sophie has taught at the school for 7 years and was instrumental in the launch of our Toddler programme two years ago. We sat down for a quick chat about her experiences as a British teacher living in Guangzhou and her thoughts on bringing a love of learning to the youngest students attending BSG.

What inspired you to become a teacher?

There is quite a big age gap between my two younger siblings and me so, growing up with two parents who were often at work, I looked after them quite a bit. We enjoyed spending time together and the older I became, the more I seemed to be drawn towards discovering about early childhood development in greater depth and what really ignites a young child's learning or growth. After leaving full-time education in the UK, I trained as a Nursery Nurse for two years and then went on to qualify as a Montessori teacher working in an international school. This gave me a glimpse into the larger world of teaching but I felt my true interest was in the English National Curriculum, so after gaining valuable TESOL qualifications and experience, I studied for a Post Graduate Certificate in Education through Buckingham University and jumped at the chance of teaching overseas when it came.

What do you enjoy most about teaching toddlers?

I love seeing them happy and all our children develop so so fast! After spending pretty much all of their lives at home, it's a big move for a 1 or 2 year old to join a new environment, especially in a school setting with so many other children around. After a few weeks assimilating, each child is full of smiles and they really enjoy coming to school to see friends and of course us, their teachers. We watch students learn their first words, take their first steps



and sing their first songs. Everyday we see new 'little people' become more confident as they grow and those little happy faces or hugging arms are more rewarding than any teacher could ask for.

What do you do when you get homesick?

My family and myself have lived in China for so many years now that I really don't get homesick or miss too much from the UK. Taobao is a consumer trap but one I am happy to fall into as it allows me to acquire many of the small things from the UK that I enjoy; simple things like Robinson's squash or pickled onion Monster Munch crisps can really make a difference to a London girl like me! Guangzhou is also such a diverse and modern city that it too offers much of what is available in the UK and an awful lot more in many cases. It would be nice to see my family and old friends living in the UK more often but with direct flights and good holidays available to me as a teacher, the world seems to be becoming smaller and smaller each year. We really are one of those British families who feel a little out of place in the UK and look forward to getting back 'home' to Guangzhou when we travel.

How do you relax and spend time with your family in Guangzhou?

We do lots of things as a family. Cinema, shopping, sports and restaurants would certainly be up there but our biggest love is probably exploring the Guangdong countryside. Mao Feng Shan is so close and such a lovely place to experience. We often take our dog for walks and the kids enjoy picnics, strawberry picking or just playing around in rivers and the greenery we find. Delicious roasted ribs, fire chicken and green vegetables picked directly from the ground are also never too far away, which always helps! Some of the places we visit even have hammocks where you can relax and read a book or just have a snooze in the warm afternoon sun. The many hot spring resorts that can be found in and around the Conghua area are also a particular favourite of ours. Spending a few hours driving north of the city brings the reward of stunning mountains, cleaner air and some of the most beautiful scenery you can image. The GZ Opera House and Canton Tower are great places to see but I'd advise anyone visiting China to not forget how beautiful and diverse the countryside can be.

Why do you like teaching at BSG?

The team that I work with are colleagues but also friends and I love this family feel. I come to school happy and generally leave feeling grateful each day. Not only am I rewarded by the smiles of fabulous children but I have had time with people I learn from each day and genuinely enjoy being around. Not a bad way to spend your time from Monday to Friday, eh. I have also really embraced the school's core values. They sum up how I feel we should all treat each other and I really love that my children are going to a school where these values are taught each day through some of the best teachers I have ever had the pleasure to know.



Name: Sophie Corr

Country of Residence: China

Country of Origin: UK

Subject: Early Years Foundation Stage

Year Group: Toddler

Places Lived: London, Beijing & Guangzhou.



UN Sustainability Goals

By Marc Tillotson

Nord Anglia have been in discussions with the United Nations to create a partnership between the UN and schools. This will involve an annual undertaking by schools within the group. The UN has identified 17 goals to target worldwide to improve the lives of people. The partnership will involve schools establishing projects to address these goals together with an opportunity to visit and address the UN in future years. This is a huge project and could appear quite daunting so to help schools tackle it the goals will be split up so they are tackled step by step until 2030.

This year's goals are:



Students were encouraged to apply for a place on the committee to plan our project. The students involved are from both primary and secondary and are listed below:

Primary	Secondary
Preston Zhong	Aarav Patkar
Siyeon Son	Sean Wang
Rouyu Yap	Jasmin Dewar
Ryan Leung	Aditi Telang
Leelam Zang	Sitara Bhojwani
Sian Morgan	Princy Gompa
Maggie Su	Marlie Greenhill
	Angel Lee
	Karina Chiang

I look forward to updating you on our progress with this ambitious project.

Ready Steady Cook!

Get two teams, add two tantalising recipes and set the challenge of tickling the tastebuds — that’s what Year 5 students were tasked with!

BSG’s catering company, Chartwells, presented a special version of Ready Steady Cook to teach students about the importance of healthy eating and keeping a balanced diet.

The red team had to whip up an Italian pasta dish, while the green team tackled a traditional Indian delight. It was a fast-paced, exhilarating challenge led by Chartwell’s chefs and really caused a stir!

The green team ultimately won the audience vote and were crowned winners, but it was a fantastic morning, which also proved we already have some really healthy eaters in Year 5.

A huge thank you to the chefs, Darren, John and Vezir, for making it a really fun morning for our students.



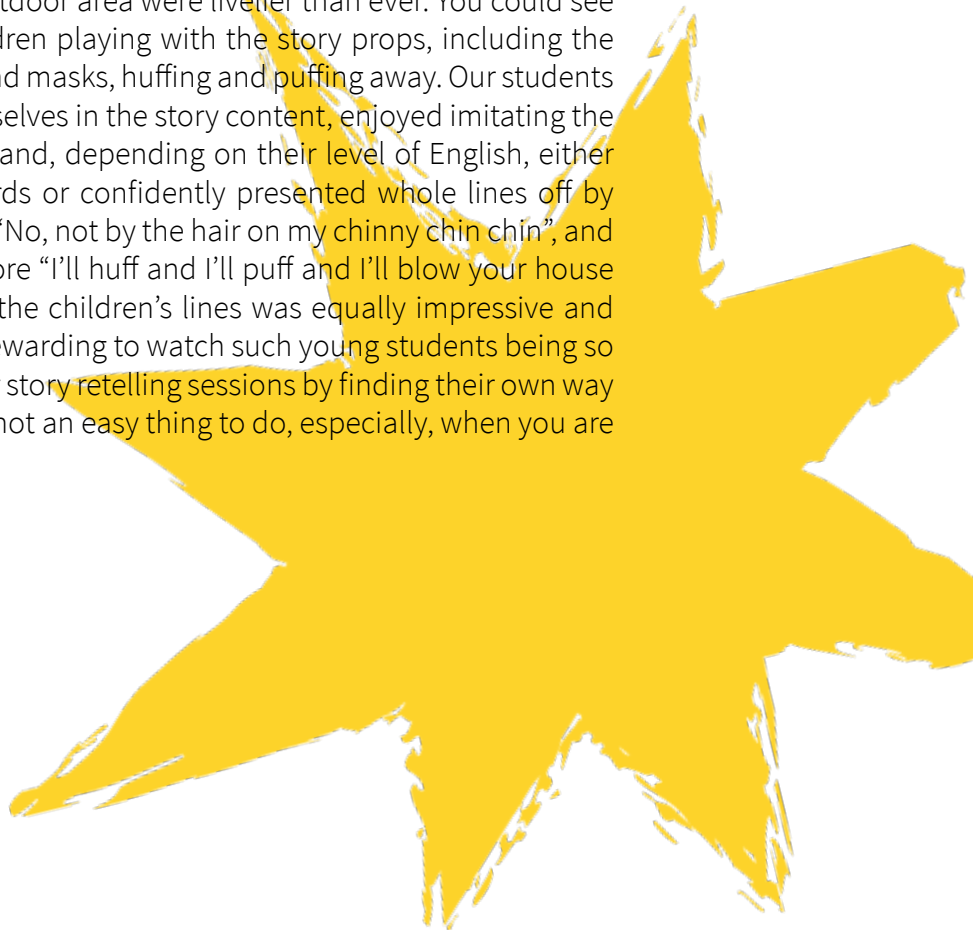
Huff, Puff And All That Stuff

By Iwona Jezierska-Krasa

Knowing how much storytelling magic enhances children's oral language, the Pre-Nursery teachers enabled their students to experience 'the magic' wholeheartedly by introducing one of the most popular traditional tales, 'The Three Little Pigs', as a thrilling opener of the Spring Term. The story brought much excitement to our unit and it was amazing to see all young students being so engaged in learning. To our delight even our linguistically shy children found their way to actively participate in our topic-related activities.

Hands-on learning is a must in Pre-Nursery, therefore we started off with creating our own class-customised houses. The Pandas, Monkeys and Ladybirds were busily involved in the 'building' of the three houses, painting the cardboard boxes, sticking straw, lollipop sticks and tissue-box bricks, as well as cutting out a door and some windows. The children bustled around accompanied by a pleasant tune of 'Who's Afraid of the Big Bad Wolf', frequently joining in with its rhythmic refrain. Finally the houses were ready and that was when the true magic began.

Once the idea of enacting the story was engrained in our students, the classrooms as well as outdoor area were livelier than ever. You could see groups of vivacious children playing with the story props, including the three houses, puppets and masks, huffing and puffing away. Our students willingly absorbed themselves in the story content, enjoyed imitating the voices of the characters and, depending on their level of English, either filled in the missing words or confidently presented whole lines off by heart. There was a lot of "No, not by the hair on my chinny chin chin", and "Let me in", and even more "I'll huff and I'll puff and I'll blow your house down", but each one of the children's lines was equally impressive and pleasing. It was deeply rewarding to watch such young students being so keen to participate in our story retelling sessions by finding their own way of acting it out, which is not an easy thing to do, especially, when you are 3 years old!



We had incredible two weeks with 'The Three Little Pigs'. It was fun, engaging and extremely productive. Learning was incidental, which proved the true magic of storytelling. The story was definitely an effective vehicle for acquiring language and allowing our Pre-Nursery students to become more confident speakers. 'The Three Little Pigs' with its appealing story line, repetitive sentence patterns and rhythmic refrains provided a rich context for learning, encouraging all the children to participate fully and fulfill their own individual potential as learners.



A Pet-tastic Week!

By Marianne Neel

In Nursery we have started learning a new topic all about animals. In our first week we concentrated on house pets. We read 'Dear Zoo' by Rod Campbell and thought about which creatures would make good animals to keep at home. We quickly realised that an elephant, lion, camel or a giraffe were not ideal house pets.

A dog would make a great pet and we were lucky enough to have 3 special dogs visit us. Miss Liz brought in her 2 small dogs Peppa and Tilly and Miss Vivian also brought in Duoduo for us to meet. We noticed that dogs were definitely not all the same, they come in different colours and sizes and behave in their own unique way, just like us! Miss Emma was also kind enough to bring Ben and Pip her lion-haired rabbits into the EAL classroom for the day. Don't worry the rabbits weren't part lion, just very hairy. The children were delighted to meet the rabbits who were super cute; we all wanted to take them home. Our Lakefront resident pet, a chinchilla named Bubbles was not forgotten and we all admired her new pink home which sprawls over four floors and even has a rooftop swing.

Nursery children are developing their maths knowledge and especially enjoyed the spotty dog game; rolling a die, counting the spots on the die and drawing them onto our brown dog mats. Some children made a paper plate pet craft whilst others were busy creating tally charts of favourite pets.

We decided that all pets require lots of looking after. Apart from feeding, washing, grooming and exercise they need love, care and vast amounts of attention. We reflected on our school-wide Core Values and how respect, responsibility and commitment are all necessary attributes in order to keep a pet.

It really was a pet-tastic week!



100th Day Of School

By Deborah Fineberg

On Wednesday 15th February Reception celebrated their 100th Day of School. It was a time for celebration which marked 100 days of accomplishments since the start of the school year. All of the children were very excited and as they ticked off the numbers on their hundred square each day the excitement grew.

Everyone in Reception came into school dressed in clothes that somehow celebrated maths. We had all kinds of costumes from super heroes to items of clothing with 100 items stuck to them.

The day was choc-a-block full with loads of maths activities. There was no stopping the children as they proved that they could count to 100 again and again and again. Treasure hunts, number lines, board games, iPads, construction activities and creative activities were all bundled in. It's a wonder that we had any time left for pizza making and cupcake decorating. Ruzgar from the Rabbits class commented: "The cakes were delicious and we put 100 things on the pizza. It was yummy." Everyone had a lot of fun, and we were all thoroughly exhausted by the end of the day!



Year 1 Discover New Species

Amazing discovery at Nanhu Lake as Year 1 scientists find new species!

Year 1 are assisting BSG's very own Dr. Marc Tillotson to rescue Bog Baby eggs discovered at Nanhu Lake.

Having investigated further our Year 1 children have realized there are not one, but three species of Bog Babies: arctic, desert and pond. Our challenge is to help this animal survive and protect it's future by giving it a secure home in Guangzhou Zoo. However, the zoo needs information about the kind of habitat they should create for their new residents.

The children have explored habitats on a virtual zoo tour with the guidance of Dr Tillotson's special assistants, the Year 10 Biology IGCSE students. They have read non-fiction texts to help understand what animals need to survive and our young scientists have transferred this information into written fact files for the zoo.

Our next steps are to visit Guangzhou zoo to stimulate discussion and evaluation of habitats for our bog babies. We will also be creating 3D models of the perfect habitat for the zoo to ensure the happy and successful transference of our bog babies to their new home.

Find out more in the next issue!



Carry On Camping!

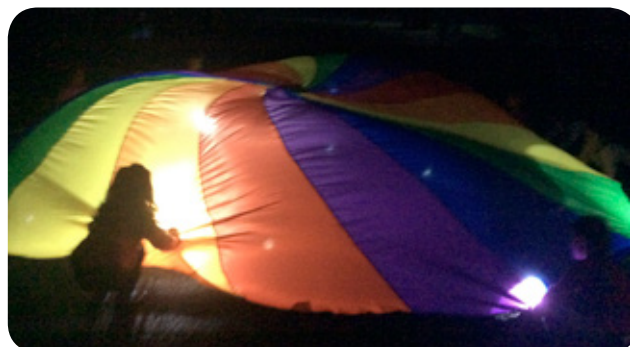
By Michelle Roux

On a crisp Friday afternoon, the Year 2 students gathered in the gym with bags the size of German shepherd dogs. This could only mean one thing – it was time for the annual camp out! The atmosphere was thick with excitement as the students pitched their own tents and readied themselves for the all-important, long-awaited afternoon games.

Team building, parachute-a-hoot and d-d-dynamite dancing was sufficiently exhausting to whet our appetites for a delicious barbeque. And after dinner came...mints? No! It was time once more for games, and the night games proved to be the ultimate highlight of the entire event. With our flashlights cum light sabres we hunted for treasures in the playground, played picture-perfect-parachute, and sat wide-eyed in the tree house whilst listening to some thrilling bedtime stories.

But a camp without a campfire is like a dog without a bone, and so, to top the day off perfectly, we roasted marshmallows around the campfire and enjoyed hot chocolate in the canteen before it inescapably became time to go to bed. With nothing but a flashlight and a friend, the children settled into their temporary canvas sleeping quarters (or simply 'tents', for those of us lacking a Shakespearean disposition). The muted chatter and giggles that rose up from the tents died down slowly, and eventually a peaceful quiet descended over our little tented village.

Our tired, but happy campers woke up before the rooster even had a chance to say good morning, and after a queakfast (a quick breakfast) we packed up our camp and prepared for the inevitable. We returned home with contented hearts and more stories that could ever fit into even the biggest of suitcases. Congratulations to everyone involved in such a successful camp!



Easter Island Explorers

By Matthew Preston

The Moai of Easter Island have been the subject of careful scrutiny by archaeologists for many years. But they have never been so closely regarded as just recently as Year 3 donned their fedoras and examined these magnificent stone sculptures.

Despite not visiting the remote Easter Island, Year 3 took part in an exhaustive study, utilising the Internet and video research to obtain information about them. We identified the areas of Easter Island that were manmade and those that were natural. We assessed how we knew what was manmade and what was natural and identified that the Moai were manmade statues. The children, also, hypothesised how the statues were moved around the island.

Using their extensive research the children created their own models out of air-drying clay. They painstakingly modelled the clay using their hands and clay tools in order to create the right result. These models were a challenge to create but the effect was worth the effort. Some classes even examined the scale of the Moai yielding some impressive and surprising results.

The Moai research was a culmination of the work that Year 3 had completed on both Fossils and Myths. The children found them fascinating and the mystery of how they were created and why they are so beguiling.



PRIMARY

Walking, Talking & Performing Egyptians

By Russell Phillips

Ancient Egyptian fever has taken over Year 4 this past term. Beginning with our wow day, the children (as well as the teachers) dressed up as Egyptians and attended work shops across the year group ready for our exciting topic.

The children have been really busy linking mathematics, literacy and history to create their Hair raising Horrible Histories videos. During this process the children have been able to write their very own explanation text and turn their excellent writing into scripts ready to get on the stage for an Oscar worthy video full of humour and fascinating Egyptian facts.

The finished videos will be shown in a special red-carpet Year 4 Oscars ceremony, where the children will get dressed up in their finest clobber. Let's hope their performances please the many Egyptian gods and more importantly the Pharaoh like teachers that roam the Year 4 corridors.



Conflict Corridor

By Richard Marwood

This is the question our Year 5 children have been busy investigating this term in all of our learning. After initially discussing how a conflict could just mean war, we agreed that actually there were lots of different types of conflict all around us – choosing what to have for lunch can be seen as a conflict! In our PSHE lessons we thought carefully about how we can use listening skills to show respect for other children in class and then developed this further by reading, and then creating, some conflict resolution strategies ourselves. The children couldn't wait to put these to the test!

In history we looked at some famous conflicts through time, including World War 2 and even the recent presidential election. We showed off our creative sides by building 3D timelines and artistic propaganda posters linked to these areas. Equally artistic has been the stunning artwork the Year 5 children have created with Miss Slaughter, our art teacher, where photo editing was used to create an incredible, thought-provoking piece showing inner conflict.

After we had learned all about conflict the Year 5 teachers gave the children a challenge – to create their own 'Conflict Corridor' based on a conflict of their choosing. In groups of four the children planned, managed and organised their own time and chose which conflict they would research into and present to all of our parents, as well as Mr Pearce and Mr Thomas.

To help give us inspiration for creating our own conflict corridor, Year 5 packed up their bags, boarded buses and visited Guangdong museum. We were amazed by the scale of the items on show – the dinosaurs being a particularly favourite – and also the information available. In groups the children took photos and wrote down any interesting and unique ways of presenting information to an audience that they found. What a brilliant way to help get our creative brains going!

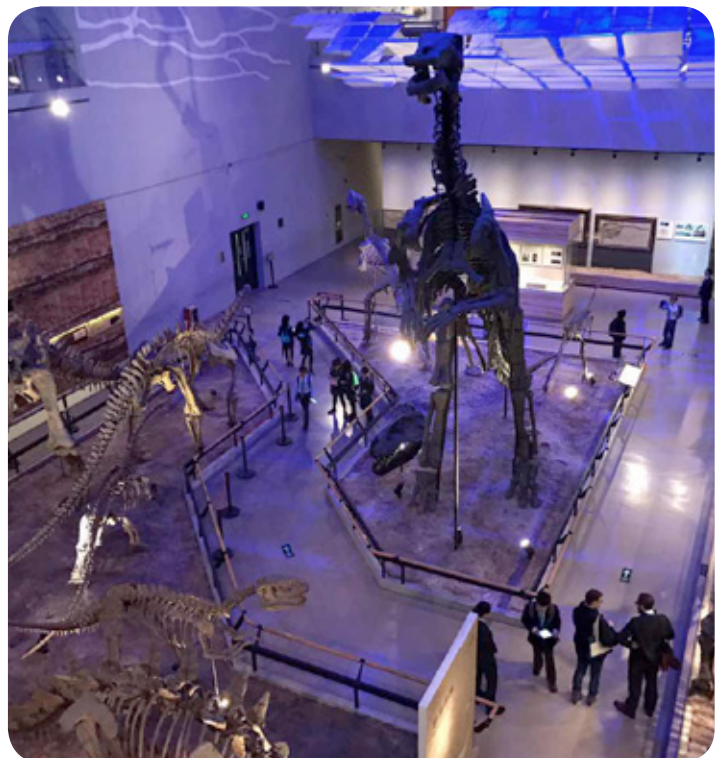


Did you know?

In World War II, British soldiers were only allowed 3 sheets of toilet paper a day!

Back in class, now the hard work really began. By applying all of the skills the children had been taught, they were now tasked with choosing their own conflict and creating a presentation based on this including timelines, propaganda posters, balanced arguments and much more! This work was all completed independently and the children largely managed their own timetable while working towards our end goal. At the time of writing this, our children are putting the finishing touches together for their work, which will go on display on Thursday 23rd March to a host of proud parents and teachers.

So if you bump into one of our Year 5s in the corridor – be sure to ask them what the word conflict means to them.



Awesome Dance Showcase

By Federica Yee and Maggie Su 6C

A very successful dance showcase occurred on Thursday 9th March, planned by Mrs Robb. Each student had worked hard to produce an outstanding collection of dance performances.

Year 3 blasted the performance off with their theme of School Life. We had a range of dances from a group of tigers and fairies to a day in the life of a normal student. Year 4 came next with one of the most popular themes: Movies! One especially funny dance was on 'The Minions'. In Year 5, they had an enjoyable group of dances based on different countries. Many talented students performed stunts like cartwheels and splits. The theme Superstars was performed by the Year 6s, some making us cry, some making us laugh.

Here is what three teachers thought of the dance showcase:

"I thought it was a great celebration of dance. It was fantastic that every single pupil in Primary was performing and it was also great to see that staff and students that weren't comfortable with dancing learnt to build up their confidence."

-Mrs Robb

"It was great. There was a good range of different styles of dance. It was nice to see every Primary student performing as well as Primary staff."

-Ms Troughton

"I thought it was excellent! I was really impressed with the students' dances, and the teachers' dances were hilarious."

-Mr Follows

We would like to thank the PE department for putting together and organizing this brilliant performance, the parents for coming to watch their children's dances, and most of all the students themselves, who brought this whole showcase to life with their efforts, hard work, and talents.

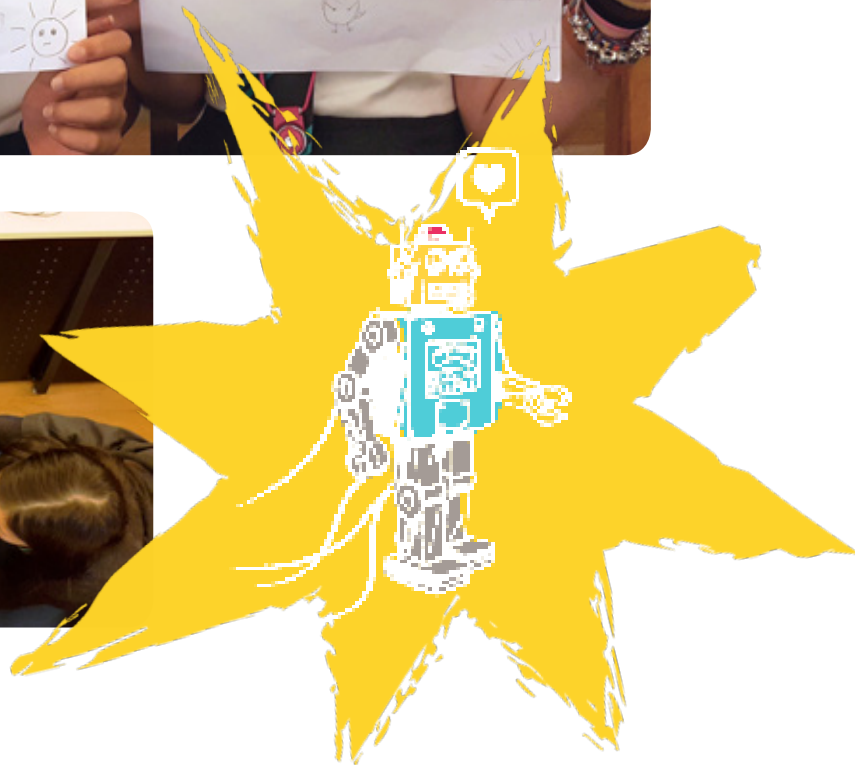




The Art of (Accurate) Algorithms

By Nicolas Ng

Take a piece of paper, draw a circle and now add some eyes, a nose and a mouth. Did you end up with a face? So would most people since I mentioned facial properties after the circle. Realistically, you could have drawn the eyes, the nose and the mouth anywhere on the page. This was the dilemma our Year 7s experienced when writing their algorithms. In pairs, they had to produce a piece of artwork and explain to their partner how to recreate it. And they had to do this whilst sat back to back! In the end, the pupils realized the importance of giving clear and concise instructions, coincidentally exactly what a computer needs when we are programming them too!



Year 7 & 8 Artist Research Projects

By Penelope Wright

Over the past few months, Year 7 and 8 have been working exceptionally hard on creating and presenting their Artist Research projects. Their combined work showcases a wide range of art including pop-up books, paintings, pastel studies, pencil drawings and critical analysis, from the classical to the contemporary!

In lessons Year 7 have been learning about observational work, looking at the artist Paul Cezanne to help develop their drawing skills, painting with control and understanding colour theory. Their independent task linked to this is using their new knowledge to research the work of other still life artists, creating their own copies and personal responses to the work.

Meanwhile, Year 8 have been developing their awareness of facial proportions, creating their own self-portraits in lessons. Naturally, their research project focused on portrait artists, looking at a huge range of styles and art movements over time.

The students have worked incredibly hard, producing some outstanding and wonderfully personal projects.

Year 7

Akimi Liu – Acrylic paint

KingFu Chiang – Water colour paints and pencils

Nathan Yap - Acrylic paint

Siwoo Yoon – Colouring pencil

Year 8

Jacky Guan - Acrylic paint

Siena Piggott - Acrylic paint

Sphoon Kim – Pen and colouring pencil



Akimi Liu



Siena Piggott



Book Week

By Aidan Edmanson

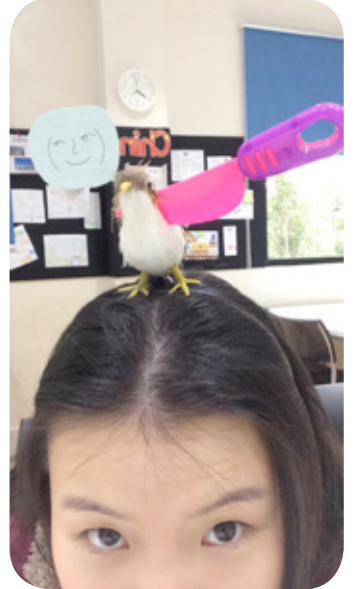
“Reading is like a key to infinite other worlds: it is a powerful tool that can be harnessed to reach anywhere and anything.”



From 27th February to 3rd March everything in Secondary this week has had a literary focus, as Book Week 2017 hit BSG. 8B, the victors of our ‘Reading is like...’ simile competition, summarise it perfectly in their simile above. However, there were a number of activities running across the course of the week such as a Creative Writing Workshop, the ‘Big Book Week House Quiz’ running in English lessons, and ‘Guest Reader’ lunchtimes in the library. We even had our first student ‘Guest Reader’ as Agatha from Year 12 shared her favourite book, ‘Catcher in the Rye’. It was utterly inspiring, and humbling, to watch one of our students articulate their own opinions, and reflect on their own reaction to a text, with such maturity and passion. As well as this there were a number of competitions running across the week. Ellis Langford and Jasmin Dewar wowed their peers with their fantastic Extreme Reading Photo entries, whereas Juni Zhang showed artistic flair with her winning entry, reinventing a book cover for ‘The Apothecary’ by Maile Meloy.

Furthermore, for those staff and students lucky enough to witness it, some of our brave teachers astounded onlookers on the Thursday with their poetic prowess, as they took part in a special Busker’s Corner: The Poetry Slam! Here, staff took well-known lyrics and, competing against one another, dramatically performed them as poetry. It was certainly entertaining, yet it also turned out to be highly thought-provoking as staff opted for some hard-hitting, philosophical lyrics. It ended with Mr. Dodds being victorious! Will he defend his crown next year?

Finally, the week culminated in the Book Week assembly. This was a great forum for sharing the events and successes of the week, as well as witnessing the unveiling of the Secondary Reading Domino. This involved the entirety of the Secondary school, with both students and staff reading a much-celebrated extract from William Golding’s novel ‘Lord of the Flies’. The end product was a highly moody and atmospheric video that illustrates the power of literature. Additionally, it was absolutely fantastic to see so many of our students dressed for the occasion, and unequivocally embrace the dress-up day. We had a whole host of literary works represented from ‘Pippen Longstocking’ and ‘Peter Pan’, to ‘Animal Farm’ and ‘To Kill a Mockingbird’. Likewise, thanks again to our fabulous staff for taking the fancy dress on wholeheartedly. Yet again, the Mathematics department demonstrated their solidarity, this time coming as a collection of ‘Where’s Wally’s’



BSG Times

By Claire Walsh

The BSG Times online student magazine has continued to grow over the past few months. We now have almost 30 students involved and contributing regularly. Our newest section is the 'Creative Corner' where students can submit their own creative work for publication. Our Global Campus competition winners, May Hewitt (Y10) and Nicole Xie (Y7) are featured here as well as a number of year 9 poets. Another great addition are the novels submitted in weekly instalments by our year 7 students Audrey Schmuelling and Angela Leung.

Another development has been the 'Reviews Forum' and the 'Book Blog' pages - here we invite students to share their experiences and views on books they have read, movies watched, games played, music listened to and even their favourite foods/restaurants! Two of our most avid readers, writing under the pseudonyms of Book Phoenix and Book Bear, are writing regular blogs about reading and books in general.

Finally, the students will be setting up an 'Agony Aunt' advice page, where students can read articles about and responses to issues they may be facing and ways to deal with them, such as revision stress, exam pressure, social anxieties or friendship upsets.



Holocaust Memorial Day

By Charlotte Giles

In the first week back from Chinese New Year, the Secondary School commemorated Holocaust Memorial Day by creating their own memorial tree outside the Secondary building. Every student researched an individual who lost their life in the Holocaust, or another genocide. Students were also encouraged to research an individual who had meaning for them, with some looking at the Nanking Massacre and others choosing to focus on the Korean War. The students then wrote details about the life of that person on a piece of colourful paper, and attached this to the tree in the style of leaves. The students took the creation of this memorial very seriously, and have produced a beautiful testament to people who lost their lives due to genocide.



BSG Sport Success

By Andy Dean

This year has been a remarkable year so far: we have entered 3 teams at U14 level and 2 teams at U19 level for the first time which really sets up the school for more success in future years. In addition we are entering more and more different sports including newcomers for BSG - Table Tennis and Badminton, and fully expect to start to develop success over the coming years. Primary sports teams have also been super-active - sports competition has kicked off this year with Athletics, Swimming and Football so far!

This really is a great time for sport at BSG, as can be seen by the results table below, and next year promises to be even better. Huge congratulations to all who have taken part in BSG Sports, not only the winners!

Gold: 1 st place	Silver: 2 nd place	Bronze: 3 rd place
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PRC HS Girls D3 Basketball Tournament • Invitational GZ Tee Ball Competition • Invitational Y5/6 Quad Kids • PRC U14 Boys D1 Football Tournament • PRC U14 Girls D3 Football Tournament • PRC U14 Boys D3 Football Tournament 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • U19 GISAC U19 Girls Volleyball Tournament • U19 GISAC U19 Girls Volleyball League • PRC U14 Boys Touch Rugby • GZ Cup U14 Boys Volleyball • GZ Cup U14 Girls Volleyball • PRC U14 Girls D1 Volleyball • GISAC U19 Girls Basketball League • GZ Cup U14 Girls Football League • PRC U14 Girls Football Tournament • GZ Cup U14 Boys Football League 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SDRC U14 Boys Touch Rugby • PRC U14 Girls D3 Volleyball • GISAC U19 Girls Basketball Tournament • PRC U14 Badminton Competition • Invitational Y5/6 Quad Kids • PRC U11 Girls D1 Football Tournament • PRC U14 Boys D3 Football Tournament







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