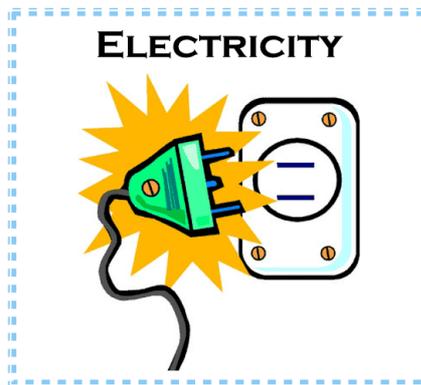




WEEKLY PARENT NEWSLETTER – Reception Cubs 3 March 2014

Learning Theme of the week

Last week the children were asking the question “What happens in a castle?” They discovered that there were lots of people who lived and worked in a castle and what their jobs were. They also noted similarities and differences between life then and now. They were particularly interested in the castle’s great hall and the feasts that would have taken place there.



**The children noticed that castles didn’t have electricity so this week’s big question is...
“What do we need electricity for?”**

Most importantly we will talk about safety and being careful with electricity; always asking a grown up to help us and never touching switches or sockets!

The children will experience a “power cut” on Monday and they’ll have the opportunity to find out what requires electricity to make it work e.g lights, computer, water cooler etc. This will enable us to investigate different uses for electricity each day. Electricity for cooking, electricity for lighting, electricity for communications, electricity for heating/cooling. None of this was available in a castle long ago!

Tuesday is pancake day so we will use electricity to help us cook our pancakes. The children will see changes taking place and then sequence these changes ie pancake powder-batter-pancake; noticing changes in colour, state and temperature. Electricity makes all this possible!

We will also investigate electricity for lighting by looking at torches and making simple electrical circuits. The children will see that batteries have stored electricity and we can use electricity to provide light. We will see that electricity allows us to communicate over distances by computer and phones. We will practise our speaking and listening skills by making a phone call and a “facetime” or “skype” message to each other’s classrooms.

In numeracy we will continue our work on subtraction using opportunities that arise during the day e.g register and lunch choices as well as independent activities and games

Some of the main learning intentions taught and explored will be:

Communication, Language and Literacy

- Children use their phonic knowledge to write words in ways which match their spoken sounds. They also write some irregular common words. They write simple sentences



which can be read by themselves and others. Some words are spelt correctly and others are phonetically plausible.

- Children speak using past and future forms accurately when talking about events that have happened or are to happen in the future.
- Children will give attention to what others say and respond appropriately

Mathematics

- Children will continue practising their counting; reading and writing numbers.
- Children will begin to use the vocabulary involved in subtraction and record using marks that they can explain
- Children will begin to identify mathematical problems

Expressive arts and design

- Children explore a variety of media, experimenting with colour design, texture, function and form

Understanding the World

- Children know about similarities and differences in relation to places, objects and materials
- Children know about similarities and differences between themselves and others

Physical development

- Children show good control and coordination in large and small movements

Phonics

This week all groups will have child friendly assessments to ensure the children are in the correct groups and that they know and can use the letters and sounds taught.

All groups will continue to review and learn tricky words.

Mandarin

This week the children will be learning about the animals live in the sea. We will introduce the names of some sea animals and do some fun activities. We will learn a new song which is called '小鱼游啊游'(xiao yu you a you)

Vocabulary: 鱼 (yu) fish, 鲨鱼(sha yu)shark, 大海(da hai)sea, 海龟(hai gui)sea turtle, 海马(hai ma)sea horse.

Dutch

Deze week staat het boek 'Sammie eet je bord leeg' centraal. Naar aanleiding van dit verhaal hebben we vele nieuwe woorden geleerd en hebben we gelet op de klankzuivere uitspraak van de /ui/ en /eu/. Ook hebben we het liedje 'Zeg weet je wat ik lekker vind' gezongen. Met dit liedje hebben we allerlei samenstellingen gemaakt; appel-taart, citroen-schil, spaghetti-sliert etc..

Tevens is er veel aandacht geweest voor rijmen en het verdelen van woorden in klankgroepen.

THE BRITISH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Puxi, Shanghai



NORD
ANGLIA
EDUCATION

HELPING OTHERS
TO BE THE BEST
THEY CAN BE

Can you help?

If anyone has an old phone or small electrical items that you no longer need could you please send them in for the children to investigate? It would also be useful to have some battery operated toys or games. As always thanks for all the boxes you have sent in! Keep them coming!

Please let us know if you have any questions or comments.

Many thanks again.

The Reception Team.