



Friday 17th April 2015

Early Years had fun on SportsFest Day...

PARENTS, PARENTS, AND MORE PARENTS!

By Christine Armstrong, Deputy Headteacher

What a busy week it has been here at BSB Sanlitun. It has been lovely to see so many parents in school for different events. We had the Reception Pastries with Parents followed by the Reception Sports Day. The children were so excited to have mums and dads in school for breakfast and to watch them demonstrating their sporting prowess. It was a beautiful warm morning for it and everyone had a fantastic time. Our Key Stage 2 children invited their parents to breakfast on Wednesday and we had a well-attended Pastries with Parents, at which we enjoyed the company of parents from year 3, 4, 5 and 6 alongside their children. If that wasn't enough parents for one week there was even more excitement to be had! On Thursday we had our Early Years Campus SportsFest. This fun event enabled our youngest children to show us the great body control they now have and all of the skills they have developed this year in movement and physical activity. All of this was topped off on Friday with our parents from Year 1 Lions who were invited to watch the class assembly, in which the children shared with us all the exciting things they have been learning, and the skills they have been developing.

It is always lovely to see so many parents in school and we hope to keep building opportunities for parents to share in school life; thank you for continually supporting us.

With all the events of the last few weeks, and still more to come, I would like to thank Rachel Spencer and Harry Brookfield for all of the work they have put in to our sporting events. Similarly, thank you to Daisy Zou and Angela Xu in our office, for organising all of the logistics for the multiple Pastries with Parents we continue to run in school.

It looks like summer has just about arrived, so I wish everyone a very enjoyable, and hopefully warm and sunny, weekend.

UPCOMING EVENTS

18th April
FOBISIA U₉/U₁₀/U₁₁
Swimming @ 10am - 12pm

20th - 24th April
Year 5 Residential to Xi'an

20th April
FOBISIA Athletics
U₉/U₁₁ 3.30pm - 4.30pm

22nd April
KS1 Pastries with Parents
8.15am - 8.45am

27th April
FOBISIA TBall U₉/U₁₁
3.30pm - 4.30pm

Final KS1 Swimming Lesson

28th April
KS2 Swim Gala
9.30am - 11am @ Shunyi

29th April
'Art Theme Dress Up Day'

No KS2 Swimming

30th April - 1st May
School Holidays

4th May
School Resumes

5th May
PA Meeting
@ Primary Campus

WAKE UP! SHAKE UP!

By Paul Gildea, Year 6 Eagles Class Teacher

This week Year 6 got Key Stage 1 and 2 moving as they taught us all about the heart and lungs and how they work.

We learned about the different parts of the heart and lungs, and what happens when blood is pumped from the heart to the lungs and back again.



Year 6 teaching a great lesson



Year 6 taught us 2 new words to describe blood – oxygenated and deoxygenated. We learned how important it is to stay fit, and Year 6 explained how different sports such as swimming, kendo and hiking can help to increase lung capacity and lower heart rates.

They then led us in a work out session to test the difference between our resting and active heart rates. A great way to start the week!

THE FUTURE OF ASSESSMENT

by Lisa Milanec, Principal

As many of you may be aware, the British government introduced a new English National Curriculum in September 2014. Along with many schools back in the UK, at BSB Sanlitun we also spent the year reviewing the changes being made and began to adapt our curriculum to include these changes. Being an international school we are able to create a curriculum to ensure it meets the needs of our international cohort of students and are not restricted by the requirements made by the UK government, but at the same time we also want to ensure we are covering all the necessary skills, knowledge and understanding of the ENC with further enhancements.

With the new English National Curriculum, the UK government also announced that the method of assessment that had previously been in place (levels 1 to 8), would no longer continue. However, they did not replace it with a new assessment system and during this academic year, a number of schools across the UK were funded to conduct research into various forms of assessment to compliment the new curriculum. This is also something that we have been looking at as a group of Nord Anglia Education schools, as for those following the English National Curriculum, we need to ensure we can benchmark ourselves against UK standards. I have been fortunate to participate in the working party who have been discussing assessment and this week I have been in Dubai with Heads of School from a selection of our schools as well as our central Education Team.

During this week we have agreed on an approach to assessment that will be used by all schools in the Nord Anglia Education group, as well as a set of principles all schools will adopt when implementing any assessment practises. We evaluated a number of models that other schools have been trialling to use alongside the new curriculum and identified aspects of these that could be used in our schools. Whilst all our schools will have autonomy to create their own assessment practices, there will be a set of criterion which all schools will need to include to ensure that as a group we can ensure a high quality of education is being provided to all our students and which can be benchmarked with UK national and/or international standards.

Further work will now take place in each of our schools to establish a preferred method of assessment which encompasses the principles of assessment that have been agreed. As any changes are made to our assessment practices at BSB Sanlitun, we will of course keep our parents updated with as much information as possible.



FLOWER POWER!

By Libby Henderson, Year 1 Leopards Class Teacher



Last week the Year 1 classes began our topic 'Honey I Shrunk the Class' by visiting the flower market. They bought flowers to draw, using chalk pastels. This week we looked closely at Vincent Van Gogh's famous painting called 'Sunflowers.' The Year 1 teachers were very mean and only provided the children with the primary colours; red, blue and yellow as well as white. The children were artists and did a great job at mixing the paints to create the colours they needed.

Later in the week we were scientists as well as gardeners! We followed step by step instructions to plant our seeds in petri dishes and tissue. We conducted some tests. We want to find out if seeds need sun or water or both to grow into healthy, strong plants. We decided to plant 4 seeds; one will be in the dark with no water, one will be in the dark with water, one will have sun but no water and one lucky seed with have sun and water. We can't wait to find out what happens! We will be keeping a plant diary so record how they change!



FOOD FROM AROUND THE WORLD

By Laura Hugo, Year 2 Alligators Class Teacher



As part of our new topic 'We are what we eat' the children in Year 2 all wrote up a recipe for a food dish from their home country. The children shared some fantastic sounding food recipes such as: Red bean rice cake from Taiwan, Grilled fish from Burundi, Sausages and Mash from England, Kim Bap from Korea and many more mouth-watering dishes.

In the last couple of weeks some of the children have been working at home with their parents to cook these delicious dishes and bringing them into school for others to try. It has been a great experience talking about what is in the different dishes and the children have enjoyed having the chance to taste new and exciting foods that they haven't heard of before.



LET'S KEEP MOVING!

By Claudia Valdes, Pre Nursery Tadpoles Class Teacher

From sitting up on their own to throwing a ball, children gradually develop the physical skills needed for their adult lives. Physical development includes both growth and the ability to use muscles and body parts for particular skills. Both gross (large muscle movements) and fine (small movements) motor skills contribute to physical development, and children often learn a set of skills by a certain age

In infants and very young children, being physically active strengthens developing muscles and bones and helps develop coordination and movement skills.



In children, taking part in a variety of physical activities helps maintain healthy weight, improves self-confidence and social skills and can provide opportunities to develop friendships.



Being active in childhood means children are more likely to be active later in life and so is an important part of developing a lifelong healthy lifestyle.

A VERY ACTIVE SPORTING WEEK AT SANLITUN!

By Rachel Spencer, Head of P.E.

This week has been the Reception Sports Day and the Early Years Sports Fest.

On Tuesday, Reception had their annual Sports Day. The event was a combination of competitive and non-competitive games including; football goal shooting, quoit relay and a throwing to a target activity. The children competed in their school houses and worked hard to show off the skills they have been learning and practising during their PE lessons. We were extremely fortunate with the weather, it almost felt like we had a mini heat wave! The scores were very close with only 1 point ensuring the red house taking the lead in the final result.

1ST PLACE: 104 POINTS – RED HOUSE, 2ND PLACE: 103 POINTS – BLUE HOUSE,
3RD PLACE: 96 POINTS – YELLOW HOUSE, 4TH PLACE: 88 POINTS – GREEN HOUSE



A VERY ACTIVE SPORTING WEEK AT SANLITUN! CONTINUED...

By Rachel Spencer, Head of P.E.

On Thursday, Early Years had their Sports Fest held at the Early Years Campus. Again, we were very lucky to have such beautiful weather after sandstorms and pollution hit the previous day. The event involved the children working their way around 7 activities in their classes. The activities included; parachute games, an assault course, football goal shooting, playing circle games and reading books. There was a huge turnout from parents which was fantastic to see. It was a brilliant morning jam-packed with lots of games, energy and smiles! And even a very well deserved picnic afterwards.

I would like to express my thanks to all of the teachers, teaching assistants and the admin team for all of their help and organisation in making the events a success.

