



# Year 5 Curriculum Newsletter

February 2015

Dear Parents,

Kung Hei Fat Choi! We hope you have had an enjoyable Chinese New Year break and are ready for the new term.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

As the weather has turned wetter please ensure that all jackets, coats, fleeces are labeled so we can return any lost items to the right child. We would also like support in enforcing our uniform policy. Children are starting to bring brightly coloured trainers into school. We have been reminding the children that they need plain white trainers for PE days and black shoes at all other times. We would really appreciate your support with this. Please remember we have a 'no hat no play' policy all year round so ensure that your child continues to bring their named hat.

Also a polite reminder that NAIS is a nut free school. Please ensure that this is strictly followed for the safety of all our children, this includes Nutella related products which contain hazelnuts.

## ENGLISH

This half term in Literacy we will continue with our Poetry genre leading to a slam poetry competition linking with our Drama lessons.

During lessons students will actively listen to, read, and experience performance poetry, both on paper and in actual performance. They will explore the contribution made by the performance element and then write, rehearse and present their own performance poem.

Students will also be involved in the Creative Writing competition on the Global Classroom. This is based on a memorable place.

## MATHEMATICS

In Mathematics we will consolidate and extend our understanding of the number system and place value to include larger integers, making connections between multiplication and division with fractions, decimals, percentages and ratio. A focus on shape, geometry and measurement will ensure we develop skills in logical thinking. Collating and analysing data will also be explored. Developing skills in solving problems, including complex properties



of numbers and arithmetic by using written and mental methods of calculation will be a continued focus.

## THEME - HISTORY

Our next theme is a continuation of 'Hooked on History'. This time we will be investigating the civilisations of Ancient Egypt and the Indus Valley. We will study each civilisation separately and then create a historical comparison based on the evidence that we have collected. The children will also be deepening their understanding of when important historical events occurred.

## SCIENCE

This half term will use our scientific skills to explore different types of gases and how we interact with them. Students will identify common gases and their properties whilst investigating their uses both positive and negative. This unit will have a chemistry focus therefore we will conduct weekly experiments in the science lab to develop our scientific practices further.

## ICT

This half term we will continue with coding and the Global Classroom. Students will become more competent at writing their own algorithms and formulas as they work through courses that develop their confidence and skill. Students will also interact with their peers globally through forums and participate with activities such as the illustration competition and the global debate.

## MANDARIN

Beginner pupils will learn vocabulary about clothing, seasons, weather and school life. Through role-play activities, they will consolidate their listening and speaking about what they like to wear, which seasons they like most and what they do in a normal school day.

Intermediate pupils in year 5 will be learning some new words and expressions on class room commands in Mandarin. An increasing focus will be placed on how to comprehend a Chinese passage and produce a short paragraph about school. Students will also get to know more about Chinese culture and how to ask questions and develop critical thinking.

Advanced pupils will study more chapters which include 《听鱼说话》、《鸽子春风》、《肥皂泡》 and 《爸爸教我动脑筋》. Through these chapters, they will learn how to summarize the content of the passage and conclude the central theme.



## SPANISH

In the second half of the Spring term, the topic studied will be **¿Qué estudias?** – What are you learning?

Pupils will be learning vocabulary for School subjects (likes/dislikes), Days of the Week and Food and drink (snacks). Pupils will be asked to produce an online/paper poster about their Horario (timetable) and one on an imaginary School Menu in which they will be able to use food related vocabulary. This work will be presented to the rest of the class for peer-assessment, comparison and speaking practice.

We will finish spring term with a lesson about how Easter is celebrated in the Spanish speaking countries.

The websites to be used by pupils continue to be:

<http://www.Linguascope.com> (ask teacher for username and password)

<http://www.espanol-extra.co.uk/>

<http://www.aprender.org.uk/>

## MUSIC

Pupils will be engaged in music activities linked to school and pastoral themes and the “Ancient Civilisations” year group theme. They will play and perform in solo and ensemble contexts, using their voices and playing musical instruments with increasing accuracy, control and expression. They will also improvise and compose music for a range of purposes using the dimensions of music, and listen and recall sounds with increasing aural memory. They will use musical notations and appreciate and understand a range of music from different traditions.

## ART

Year 5 will design and create their own fantasy animal by selecting different body parts from dinosaurs and dragons. They will have the opportunity to develop their drawing and media handling skills as they progress through the unit. Pupils will be paying particular attention to the visual elements, line, shape and pattern as they produce their final design.

## DRAMA

Pupils will be focusing on their performance skills by learning, rehearsing and performing a range of poems for a presentation at the end of term.

## PE

Pupils will develop movement skills whilst taking part in net games and striking & fielding activities. Pupils will take part in challenging situations and will improve their hand to eye co-ordination. Focus will be placed on improving striking techniques and tactical awareness for fielding and defending.



Pupils will also focus on communicating, collaborating and competing with each other. Pupils will be taught to review performances and be given opportunities to demonstrate improvements.

## COMMUNICATION

We appreciate those parents who are remembering to email their class teacher and the school bus email when changes to end of day procedure occur or for absences. Please note: [bus@naishk.com](mailto:bus@naishk.com) or [contact@naishk.com](mailto:contact@naishk.com)

Thank you for your continued support with this.

For whole school events and information please continually refer to the NAISHK Facebook page and school website. <http://www.nordangliaeducation.com/our-schools/hong-kong>

For Year 5 events and information please continue to follow our blog.

<http://year5nais.blogspot.hk>

Kind regards,

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