

Friday 29th August 2014



Year 1 Leopards busy learning...

WE LOVE SCHOOL!

By Lisa Milanec, Principal

What a superb week we have all had here at BSB Sanlitun. The weather has been absolutely beautiful which I am sure has made us all feel happy and cheerful about coming to school each day.

The nervous faces we initially saw on Monday morning had disappeared by Monday lunchtime and all of our students were fully immersed in their class activities and getting to know one another. Throughout this week's newsletter you can see for yourself a variety of the different activities going on in each of the classrooms and in specialist lessons. We have also included some quotes from some of the children about what they have thought about their first week at school.

Coming up in the next few weeks will be quite a few get togethers, events and workshops. We know many of you might be new to our school and the British education system, so we are trying to provide you with as much information as we can about what goes on here at BSB Sanlitun. We will also be hosting events whereby you can meet new friends, both for you and your children.

On Tuesday we have our first Parent Association meeting of the year which everybody is welcome to attend. Our Beijing experts will be on hand to give helpful hints and advice to any new families who are still trying to find their feet in the city, so if you want to know where to buy a bike, or the best place to take your children on a weekend, then there will be plenty of advice on hand.

Until then, I hope you enjoy a relaxing weekend with your families.

UPCOMING EVENTS

2nd September
PA Meeting

3rd September
Meet and Greet
(Adults only event)

5th September
Chinese Parent Workshop

8th September
School closed for
Mid Autumn Festival

10th September
Reception Reading
Workshop

ASAs begin

12th September
PA Family Welcome Event

18th September
KS1 Maths Parent Workshop

21st September
BSB Family Outing

24th September
Pastries with Parents
followed by
Phonics Workshop
for Reception parents

25th September
Pastries with Parents
followed by
Maths Workshop
for KS2 parents

A GREAT START IN THE EARLY YEARS

By Kirsten Harding, Head of Early Years

It has been a great start to the school year this week, as we welcome back existing Early Years pupils and say a big HELLO to the new children. I have seen lots of smiles and happy faces in the classrooms and playground.



There is a lot to look forward to in Early Years this year. Reception children and Nursery children will have an opportunity to be their class Learning Leader and choose the topic that they would like the rest of their class to learn about. The Pre-Nursery children will be awarded "Spot" certificates, that they can bring home, for their great learning in class. I am really looking forward to watching all the children grow and develop their learning throughout the year.



TEACHING & LEARNING IN SCHOOL

By Christine Armstrong, Deputy Headteacher

It is lovely to be back in school and the sound of children learning, engaging and loving being here is wonderful to hear around the place.

Our approach to teaching and learning continues to be a theme-based curriculum this year. We follow the principles of the English National Curriculum & Early Years Framework but engage, excite and inspire by linking all of the subjects and development matters, where possible, to a theme. This term examples of some of the themes include:

- Around the world in 80 days – Year 4
- Ancient Egypt – Year 3
- All about me – Pre-Nursery & Nursery
- From A to B – Year 2
- Fairgrounds – Year 6
- Dinosaurs – Reception



Enjoying the Pop Art theme in Year 6

Some subjects are still taught discreetly most of the time eg maths and science, but where possible we tie it all in together. Our specialist teachers have been working hard to link the topic to their specialist subject area too. This approach to teaching and learning enables the children to become absorbed in learning and provides the hook needed to engage. Ask your child if they know what theme or topic they are doing this term. If they don't know yet, it will be a matter of days until they are certain of what their theme is in class!



Overarching all of this is our High Performance Learning approach. We have high expectations of all of the children in our school and help them to learn the attitudes, behaviours and values needed to learn effectively.

This promises to be an exciting term and I can't wait to see all of the wonderful work and performances the children will create.

One of the many Advanced Cognitive Performance (ACP) characteristics of High Performance Learning

LAUGHTER AND LEARNING IN KEY STAGE 1

By Rebecca Kerry, Key Stage 1 Leader

KS1 has been filled with smiles this week. The children were so excited to begin the new term and have all settled brilliantly into their new class routines. Walking around Year 1 and Year 2, it has been lovely to see the children eager to participate and discuss ideas with their friends in class.



Mr Hollidge reading the Year 2 Elephants a story

This week all KS1 classes have been discussing and agreeing on classroom rules to ensure everyone is able to achieve their best and be happy at school. These have included walking in school, taking turns to talk and being kind to everyone. Classes have also decided on their marble rewards which range from extra outside playtime for 100 marbles up to a pajama party for 500 marbles!

On Wednesday we had our first key stage assembly, where we were joined by Ms Iva our Choral teacher to learn a new song about friends. The students eagerly told me how they had all made lots of new friends this week and we all decided we should try hard to include everyone in our games in the playground.

I am particularly excited to begin next week, because in Year 2 we shall begin our first topic 'From A-B' which focuses on transport and journeys. Year 1 will be looking further into their topic 'Marvelous Me' and I look forward to learning more about all the children in KS1.



Year 2 girls playing together at breaktime



Year 1 students getting their lunch

TRAVEL TOPICS BEGIN IN KEY STAGE 2

By Zoe Hubbard, Key Stage 2 Leader

Welcome back from the KS2 team to our returning families and a warm welcome to those families who are new to Key Stage 2. We are pleased to have Ms Jurgensen, Ms Booth and Ms Maple join our team this term who you will have the opportunity to meet at our Meet & Greet event next Wednesday.

It was fantastic to see both the children and staff arrive at school on Monday looking refreshed and talking excitedly about the term ahead. The children seem to have settled quickly into their new classes and the KS2 team have commented on the positive attitudes and enthusiasm shown in their classrooms this week. I look forward to the children continuing with this impressive start!



Phileas Fogg pays a visit to the Year 4 students

The KS2 team are well prepared for a busy and exciting term. We aim to inspire the children through our integrated curriculum. Across KS2 during the Autumn term, the children will be travelling the world, going back to Ancient Egypt, exploring the coast lines and taking a roller coaster ride through fairgrounds.



Year 4 students working together as a team

We will continue to encourage the children to become independent learners and build upon and strengthen their High Performance Learning skills to enable them to be the best that they can be.



Year 3 Toucans talking about the properties of magnets

CLUB FOOTBALL DELIVER COACHING AT OUR LIDO SESSIONS

By Rachel Spencer, Head of P.E.

Key stage 2 have been fortunate to have Club Football deliver coaching sessions to all the children during their off-site PE lesson at Lido this week.

The classes were divided into 3 groups and completed 3 different stations to include, a dribbling skill station, a ball control/shooting station and a game play station. All of the children worked extremely hard on their football skills and revealed their passion for the sport.

Club Football are running courses here at BSB Sanlitun on a Friday evening, Saturday and Sunday starting early September. They are running free taster sessions on Saturday 30th August at BSB Sanlitun. For further information about these courses, please visit www.clubfootball.com.cn or call 5130 6893/4/5/6.



THIS IS WHAT THE STUDENTS SAID ABOUT THEIR FIRST WEEK...

'My first week so far in Year 3 Parrots has been awesome because I am learning some different people's names and I like our topic "The Egyptians" – Beth, Y3 Parrots

'It has been a very fun week since starting school because I have been making new friends and I really like doing art.' – Rufus, Y3 Parrots

'My first week has been exciting so far because I was wondering what my teacher Ms Booth looked like and it was fun to meet her. I also enjoyed playing with new friends.' – Nina, Y3 Parrots



'My first week in Parrots has been really exciting because I love all of the PE lessons.' – Hamza, Y3 Parrots



'I liked playing with new friends' – Tanya, Reception Sea Lions

'I enjoyed playing with the train track and in the sand pit' – Alex, Reception Sea Lions

'School has been so fun that 3 or 4 hours just feels like a few minutes!' Tiffany, Y4 Kingfishers

'I liked collaborating to plan a route for Phileas Fogg' Megan, Y4 Kingfishers

'The whole school looks different, the playground looks good and the stage in the hall looks good too!' Pei-Jen, Y5 Pelicans

"I think my new school is amazing! I have made so many new friends!- Leah, Year 1 Panthers

'My new class feels new and exciting!' Lena, Y5 Pelicans

"We have already done so many fun activities in school this week!" -Amelia, Panthers Year 1

'We enjoyed cutting.' Ria and George, Nursery Angel Fish

"I love we have so many bicycles" Charlie, Nursery Clown Fish



THIS IS WHAT THE STUDENTS SAID ABOUT THEIR FIRST WEEK...

'I'm so happy to be back school to meet all the new students and my friends! In the first few days in school we are learning a lot in our new class and having a lot of fun!' Amy Jiang, Y5 Flamingos

'The first few days back at school, have already been amazing. Ms. Dopson is really nice and even on the first few days our class became great friends! On the first day I was worried and maybe even a little shy but now no problem! I am really looking forward to having lots of fun and many science experiments. I hope that Y5 can be just as great as Y4!' Claire S., Y5 Flamingos



'It has been lovely being back at school since Monday; it has been a long holiday. I feel happy to come back to school because here you can learn and have fun.' Jason, Y5 Flamingos



'I am thrilled that I am going to this school and meeting new people!'
By Malia, Y5 Flamingos

'It is been really long time since I have been in school I feel really happy to learn more and experience more.' Edgar, Y5 Flamingos

"I didn't know many other children in my class, but now I have made lots of new friends."
- Isobel (Y1 Tigers)

"I like my classroom, it is colourful." - Andres (Y1 Tigers)

"I like the big picture of cat in the hat in the reading corner" - Loppi (Y1 Tigers)

"I liked reading The Gruffalo." - Lilly (Y1 Tigers)

"I liked it when we painted colourful elephants" Kaila, Y2 Elephants

"I am so excited to be back at school! really liked when we ordered our numbers and did some adding this week!" - Muskaan, Year 1 Panthers



On the agenda...
Welcome Party
International Day
PA Roles

PA Meeting

Parents' Association Meeting

Tuesday 2nd September 9am: Primary Campus Hall

Question & Answer Session:

New to Beijing? Want to know where to buy a bike?
Or where to find the most family-friendly restaurants and parks?
Come along and get answers to your questions from parents
who have tried and tested all Beijing has to offer!

Everyone welcome, please come and join us
for our first meeting of the new school year!