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EDUCATION

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WEEKLY PARENT Information NEWSLETTER – Reception 5 January 2015

- Happy New Year to all and a special warm welcome to our new children and families! We are looking forward to getting to know you all.
- Thank you so much for your support with the Christmas play and Christmas parties. The children loved every minute!
- Please continue to collect and send in clean boxes and junk for model making.
- Please send in any old coats, hats, scarves, gloves, boots- we would especially love items that have buttons, poppers and zips for the children to practise their skills. We are also looking to develop independence and fine motor skills by adding cold weather dressing up clothes to our roleplay areas.



Learning Theme: Frozen Lands

Our learning theme for the first few weeks of the term is 'Frozen Lands' following the children's interest in an icy world, both real and imaginary. We are excited to see where the children's interests will develop in this area during the theme. If you are going to a snowy, icy place over the holiday please send us a short video clip or photograph of your child in the setting to share in school. If you are not, watch a film or a documentary set in a Frozen land and ask your child about what they notice... The films *Frozen* or *Happy Feet* are great examples that will get their imagination going!

The starting point for the first week will be around our Big Question:

“What do you notice in the Frozen Lands?”

Vocabulary: frozen, winter, cold, snow, ice, warm, fur, coat, hat, gloves, scarf, explorer



Understanding the World:

We will look at photographs, feel objects and listen to sounds collected by one of our own BISS explorers in her own frozen land adventure. As the week progresses we will develop our ideas of things we might see, feel or hear and at the end of the week plan some questions to ask our explorer to help us find out even more about the Frozen lands.

We will work in a group to explore sensory boxes and compare and discuss the items we can feel inside. We will use a range of objects to create our own frozen land sound effects then use a simple easispeak sound recorder to take a recording of them.

Vocabulary: similar, different, same, compare, feel, touch, smell, see

Development outcomes

Children know about similarities and differences in relation to places, objects, materials and living things.
They select and use technology for particular purposes.





Personal Social and Emotional Development

We will be welcoming new children into our classes and supporting them with the new routines. The children are beginning to plan and develop learning opportunities across Reception and are able to choose their play in each learning area more independently. We will continue to reinforce this independence.

Vocabulary: welcome, new, friends, name, what is your name? Plan, play, rules, choices

Development outcomes

Children work as part of a group or class, and understand and follow the rules.

Phonics

Before Christmas we worked with the children consolidate and practise the sounds they had learnt so far. We also looked closely at which skills they were comfortable with and what their next steps were and reorganized the phonics groups in line with this.

The Pufferfish group will be recapping all the phase three sounds they have learnt so far and adding two new sounds oa (boat, coat) and ar (star, car)

The Shark group will begin the next phase of letters with j, v, w, x. They will say, read and write the sounds then practise reading them and writing them in words.

The Octopus group will recap the phase two sounds they have learnt so far. They will practise blending and segmenting the first group of letters (s, a, t, p) to read and make simple three letter words.

The Jellyfish group will recap and learn the first set of letters (s, a, t, p). They will hear, say and read them.

Mathematics

The children have really enjoyed opening their class advent calendar, counting down the days of the month and spotting numbers so we have decided to begin the year by making a class calendar. This will become an ongoing project looking at days of the week and months of the year and placing number knowledge in an everyday context.

We will continue to count in sequence, and support the children to find one more and one less than a given number. We will play games such as Kim's game, asking the children to spot the missing number in a sequence.

Vocabulary: order, next, after, before, in between, more and less, day, month, week, year

Development outcomes

Children count reliably with numbers from 1 to 20, place them in order and say which number is one more or one less than a given number.

Children use everyday language to talk about time.

Dutch

In term 1 hebben we veel plezier gehad en dit gaan we voortzetten in term 2. De focus zal liggen op uitbreiding van de actieve woordenschat, klankzuivere uitspraak en fonologisch bewustzijn. Dit doen we aan de hand van spelletjes, rollenspelen, boeken, liedjes en filmpjes. Een hele fijne vakantie gewenst en een gelukkig nieuwjaar.

THE BRITISH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Puxi, Shanghai



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

The Reception Team.