



WEEKLY PARENT INFORMATION NEWSLETTER – Year 1

For week beginning 21 April, 2014

Messages

- Please look carefully at your child's homework folder for information regarding our new 'Active Phonics' homework. This is to encourage the children to take a more pro-active approach to homework. If you have any questions regarding this, please contact your class teacher.
- As the weather is warming up, please ensure your child brings a water bottle and hat to school for outside playtimes.
- Please continue to ensure all items of school uniform and P.E kit are clearly labelled.
- Our annual primary sports day competitions are coming up. Each sports day will be for half a day only and in most cases, two year groups. This is to ensure that competitors have maximum participation time, without battling the summer sun for extended periods of time.

The events during the week are as follows:

- Monday 28 April – EYS and KS1 at Primary Campus.
- Tuesday 29 April – Years 3 & 4 at Primary Campus.
- Wednesday 30 April – Years 5 & 6 at Secondary Campus

Your son or daughter should arrive at school in their PE kit and house t-shirt. We strongly recommend that they bring a water bottle, sun cream, light healthy snacks and a sun hat.

Parents are more than welcome to come and spectate and refreshments will be available during each event.

We hope that your son or daughter enjoy their day of sporting fun and prowess.

Literacy

As we continue our work on Plants and Insects, in Literacy we will begin looking in more detail at the features of non-fiction texts. We will be preparing to write our own non-fiction book. As a class, we will research plants and each child will focus on a different type of plant or flower. We will create a page with headings, illustrations and captions and compile all of the pages together to form our own class' non-fiction book about plants.

Phonics

Stingrays – ai and ee

Sharks – alternative pronunciation of e and ey

Jellyfish – ay and ai

Octopus – i-e

Starfish - ea/ee/oy/oi

Pufferfish- prefixes

Maths

In Maths we will be learning how to find the difference between two numbers. Children will be encouraged to use number lines and hundred squares to count on from the smaller number to the larger one. We will focus on the mathematical language associated with finding the difference and children will complete word problems towards the end of the week.

Themed Learning- Flowers and Insects

During the first half of this term the children will learn all about flowers and insects. Our Science, Humanities, Art and PSHCE lessons will all be linked to this theme.



Science

We will plant our own seeds and investigate what conditions plants need for growth. We will make predictions and record our observations throughout this process. We will learn about the importance of a control when carrying out an investigation. We will keep a plant diary to track the progress of our plants growth! The children will then look at how insects and flowers share a special relationship. The children will create fact books about insects and learn about the life cycle of butterflies. They will also learn the names of the body parts of insects.

Humanities

The children will look at different types of plants from around the world. They will study flowers that are found in different climates and will learn why some plants only grow in hot or cold conditions. The children will also find out about flowers that are native to specific countries and how these are used as national symbols. The children will also learn about the migration of the Monarch butterfly.

Art

This unit will be linked to our Flowers and Insects topics. The children will have the opportunity to develop a variety of artistic skills with a plant theme. They will begin by creating observational drawings of trees and plants and will apply these skills when making their own collage landscapes. The children will use a variety of materials, including papier mache, to create their own model of an ant! The children will develop a series of skills in order to help them manipulate modeling materials. The children will also study famous artists and pieces of art such as Van Gogh's Sunflowers and will learn how to print in the style of Andy Warhol.

PSHCE- Relationships

The children will make links to how insects have a special relationship and how they work in colonies. The children will compare these relationships to how we, as humans, work together to achieve something. This unit also focuses on the children identifying that friends and family are important people in their lives. The children will begin to understand what an unfair situation is and try to think of strategies for how to deal with this. They will discuss what it means to be jealous. The children will begin to be able to deal with jealous feelings and instead notice when they are proud of their friends. They will learn the importance of telling the truth in a situation and how this is better to resolve conflict. We will discuss how to notice when someone is sad or lonely and how to make them happy. The children will be encouraged to play with different children at playtimes and involve others.

Vocabulary

Literacy – diary, heading, caption, daily entry, predictions

Maths – difference, more than/less than, subtract, counting on.

Humanities- hot, cold, climate, weather, desert, tropical, woodland, forest, migrate, travel

Science- plant, flower, bush, stem, leaves, trunk, branches, weed, soil, seeds, water, light, warmth, growth, measure, observe

Art-observe, sketch, colour, model, collage, size, shape, colour

PSHCE- jealous, conflict, problem solving, lonely, sad, feelings

Dutch

Deze week zijn we bezig geweest rondom het paasfeest. De /ei/ is aangeboden en de kinderen hebben deze klank op vele manieren geoefend. Het boek 'Vrolijk pasen' van Eva Tharlet is voorgelezen en de kinderen hebben natuurlijk eieren mogen verven. Daarnaast zijn we bezig om woorden langer te maken, bijvoorbeeld: van boek naar boeken naar boekentas of van pracht, naar prachtig of van ei naar eieren naar paaseieren.

Graag het bieboek elke dinsdag mee naar school nemen.

THE BRITISH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Puxi, Shanghai



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EDUCATION

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THEY CAN BE

Mandarin Y1 MND-1

Topic: Learning Material

Core Characters: 教室jiào shì/classroom, 桌子 zhuó zi/table, 椅子yǐ zi/chair, 书shū/book,

Core Sentences: 这是我的zhè shì wǒ de.../This is my...

Activities: Listen and draw

Extended learning content: 白板bái bǎn/white board

Mandarin Y1 MND-2

Topic: Revision

We will review what we have learned by some interactive activities.

Mandarin Y1 MNF

本周我们将学习第11课《我妈妈也是中国人》，借助拼音熟读课文。学习课文中的汉字：妈、也、国、们，复习汉字所涉及的笔画和拼音，完成蓝色练习本上的练习。