



### WEEKLY PARENT NEWSLETTER – Reception Cubs 26th May 2014

#### Important Dates and Messages

- Children will be having an assembly time with Mr Clayden and his Year 1 class next Wednesday. They will be telling our Reception cubs all about Year 1
- Please bring a **named hat** to protect children from the sun
- Please remember to send a filled **water bottle** each day as the weather is getting warmer and it's important that the children stay hydrated
- **Indoor shoes** – Over the next term we would like to phase in all children having separate indoor shoes for school. We kindly ask that all parents provide their children with a change of shoes for indoor play, these can be kept in their cubbies and put on once at school. Children will then change into their outdoor shoes for outdoor play. Providing your children with a pair of comfortable slip-on (with back) indoor shoes helps to keep our Cubs area cleaner whilst ensuring your child's comfort and safety.



#### Learning Theme of the week

Last week's big question was "**Is there life in space?**"

The children had great fun creating their own planets and aliens. They have begun the process of thinking of an adventure and writing their own alien stories but we are running slightly behind due to school closing on Wednesday so you might need to wait a little longer before you are able to read the final product!

This week's big question is "**How will we transform?**"



Following the children's interest in robots and aliens last week we will move onto *Transformers* this week. We will begin by watching a short clip of a car transforming into a robot; paying special attention to the robotic movements and shapes. We will then encourage the children to transform themselves into robots and move to robotic music. We will try putting a string of movements together to create a whole new transformers dance.

We will then move onto thinking about other things that change or transform e.g butterflies, frogs, ice, chocolate and humans! What causes these things to change? Is it time or does



something happen to them ? (heating or cooling) We will encourage the children to record a chosen life cycle and think about the transformations that take place. What are the similarities and differences? We will also look at how children transform and how we are transforming from Reception cubs into Year 1 children! What sort of transformations will happen? The children will have an opportunity to think of questions they might like to ask the Year 1 children and their teachers, visit the Year 1 areas and have an assembly with the Year 1 children.

Transformers is also an excellent link into the area of science, looking at how materials transforming by cooling or heating. First we plan to look at how bread changes when you heat it. We would like the children to observe and record the changes they see in colour, texture and size. We will then look at cooling and change water into ice; transforming a liquid into a solid and back again. This is something you might like to try at home too; make mini ice lollies or melt chocolate to add to ice cream , change a runny liquid egg into solid scrambled egg!

In numeracy we will review our work on addition and subtraction by using “function machines”. The children will put a number into the “machine” and get a new number out. What has happened to the number to transform it? What has changed 2 into 4 ? What has changed 10 into 5? Was the function +2 or -5?

We will also use timers to test the perfect length of time it takes to transform bread into toast. What happens if it stays in the toaster too long or too short a time? How many minutes does it take to make perfect toast? We will of course talk about safety and ensure the children only try this out with an adult!!

Some of the main learning intentions taught and explored this week will be:

### **Communication, Language and Literacy**

- Children use their phonic knowledge to write words in ways which match their spoken sounds. They also write some irregular common words. They write simple sentences which can be read by themselves and others. Some words are spelt correctly and others are phonetically plausible.
- Children begin to develop their own narratives by connecting ideas.
- Children use past and future forms accurately when talking about events.

### **Mathematics**

- Children will continue practising their counting; reading and writing numbers.
- Children solve number problems using addition and subtraction
- Children will use everyday language to talk about time

### **Expressive arts and design**

- Children explore a variety of materials, experimenting with colour design, texture ,function and form
- Children make music and dance and experiment with ways of changing them.

### **Understanding the World**

- Children know about similarities and differences in relation to materials and living things
- Children know about a range of properties and communicate observations
- Children make observations of materials and explain why some things occur and talk about change



### Physical development

- Children show good control and coordination in large and small movements
- Children move confidently in a range of ways
- Children handle equipment effectively

### Personal Social and Emotional Behaviour

- Children talk about their own and other's behavior and its consequences, and know that some behavior is unacceptable.
- Children are confident to try new activities and say why they like some activities more than others

### Phonics

Puffer Fish- Spelling tricky words +ue (oo) and ue (you)

Sharks- ccvc words to read and write

Octopus- review air, ear, ure

Jelly Fish- y, z, zz qu

### Mandarin

This week the children will be recapping the vocabulary of house. We will introduce furnitures and household electrical appliances. Please check following link <http://g.beva.com/xuetang/jia-ju-yong-pin-dan-ci-ka.html>.

**Vocabulary** : sha fa 沙发 (sofa) yizi 椅子 (chair) chuang 床 (bed)

guizi 柜子 (cupboard) zhuozi 桌子 (table) dianshiji 电视机 (TV)

bingxiang 冰箱 (fridge) xiyiji 洗衣机 (washing machine) deng 灯 (light)

dianhua 电话 (telephone)

### Dutch

Deze week hebben we nieuwe woorden geleerd rondom het lied 'Vlieg op dikke vlieg'. Ook hebben we geoefend in het lezen en schrijven van de letter /v/. Ook hebben we woorden in lettergrepen geklapt en gerijmd. Natuurlijk hebben we het lied gezongen en ook gedanst op 'Klein konijntje had een vliegje op zijn neus'.

As always thank you for all the boxes you have sent in! We need a never ending supply!

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

Many thanks again.

**The Reception Team.**

THE BRITISH  
INTERNATIONAL  
SCHOOL

Puxi, Shanghai

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TO BE THE BEST  
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