

THE BRITISH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Puxi, Shanghai



HELPING OTHERS
TO BE THE BEST
THEY CAN BE

WEEKLY PARENT INFORMATION NEWSLETTER – Year 2

For week beginning 25 November 2013

Messages

- **Uniform Reminder:**
It is expected that all students wear the formal BISS school uniform. In winter this includes a school sweater or cardigan, with fleeces available for P.E. and outside play. Boys should wear long school trousers and girls should wear school skirts with black or grey tights or long socks. Students should wear a dark coat and black shoes should be worn by all; boots are not permitted.
- Please remember to send a healthy snack and filled water bottle in with your child and a coat in cold weather. Children can refill their water bottle at school but filling their water bottles is currently taking up a lot of morning registration time.
- Please remember to label your child's P.E. and swimming kit with their name and class.
- A reminder that all native Mandarin homework is now available on Moodle. You can access Moodle by using the following username and password.

Username: moodle-guest

Password: bisspuxi

Literacy

During Literacy this week we will be continuing to work on explanations. Our work will be based on the topic of sharks! We will be focusing firstly on whether information is fact or opinion then using our knowledge to create good and bad examples of non-fiction. Afterwards we will be working in teams to create diagrams of sharks. We will be labeling them and adding captions using a variety of connectives.

Phonics

This week Goldfish will be learning how to add the suffix 'y' to nouns to create an adjective, for example sandy and windy. We will also be looking at how to use the following words correctly there/ their and they/them.

This week, Puffer Fish will be focusing on alternative ways to make the ee sound (e.g. sea, these, happy, chief and key). We will also read and spell words with more than one syllable and try to use them when reading and writing sentences. Puffer Fish will also focus on how to spell high frequency words: eat, everyone and our.

Octopus phonics group will be learning the alternative pronunciation for u and ow. We will be focusing on the words- fun, but, sudden, under, human, low, grow, down and clown. We will also be practising reading the tricky words one, make and here.

This week the Sharks will be learning alternative spellings for ur, along with consolidating the high frequency words they have learned so far this term.

Jellyfish will be working on words containing 'ie' and 'i-e'. For example: lie, like, tie, tile, time.

Starfish will be looking at the sounds **er, air, ure**. We will be practising blending for reading and segmentation for spelling. We will also be practicing reading high frequency words learned so far and teach the spelling and reading of they, this, that, them, then and down.

Stingrays will learn and practise letters/sounds j v w x. We will read and write sentences using and, no, go, the, and, to, I and practise reading the high frequency words off, can, had, back.

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Maths

This week in Maths the children will be learning about capacity. The children will first learn to estimate how much water is in a container by using the vocabulary half full, less than half full and nearly full. They will learn to compare and record their results as well as read simple scales accurately. The children will also learn what a litre and millilitre is and how to record these measurements.

Some children will be consolidating their knowledge and understanding of odd and even numbers. We will be investigating what happens when we add odd, even and odd and even numbers together and using this pattern to check our answers. We will be continuing to practice counting in 2s, 5s and 10, in addition to re-visiting place value.

Themed Learning

Themed Learning covers our Science, Humanities and Art sessions. Teachers will be adopting a themed learning approach on a weekly or biweekly basis to allow for a more creative, cross-curricular approach to learning. Teachers may highlight specific Science, Humanities and Art skills being covered each week, but generally will provide an overview for the learning block.

Under the Sea

Our Humanities focus will be using our maps and globes to locate seas and oceans around the world and using our research skills to find out about the creatures that live in the oceans. We will then be looking at the Galapagos Islands and finding out the different plants and animals that live there and identifying the human and physical features on the islands.

Our Science focus we will be Forces and Electricity. The children will be investigating pushes and pulls along with floating and sinking, to link with our Under the Sea theme. Over the term we will be looking at how forces can change the direction, shape and speed of objects. During our Electricity topic, we will be constructing and drawing simple circuits and using our knowledge and understanding to try and explain why some circuits work and others do not.

Our Art focus we will be using different objects from Mother Nature and the famous artist, Andy Goldsworthy, as a starting point this term for our Under the Sea project. The children will be looking at natural objects in the world around us, and thinking about the shape, patterns and colour. They will then be sketching these natural objects and using their observations to create a piece of art inspired by the sea. The children will then be moving on to sewing inspired by the underwater world. They learning to sew and will then be applying their skills to make a Year group montage of the sea.

PSHCE

In PSHCE this term we will be looking at the topic of New Beginnings, which focuses specifically on fostering new relationships, creating rules and expectations for the class and year. The aim is to work with the children and involve them in making the school a safe and happy place to be.



Vocabulary

Literacy – non-fiction, explanation, facts, glossary, index, headings, subheadings, diagram, label, caption, fact, opinion, because, but, and, so, when,

Maths – measure, record, scale, capacity, volume, litre, millilitre, full, half full and less than half full, odd, even, addition, subtraction, pattern, check, answer, multiple of 2, multiple of 5, multiple of 10

Themed Learning

Humanities - atlas, globe, continent, country, sea, ocean, coastline, island, Equator, Tropic of Capricorn, Tropic of Cancer, landscape, physical features, human features, dock, jetty, airport, mountain, volcano, lake, river, beach, bay, forest, wood, cave, coral

Science – Forces: push, pull, force, turning, twisting, stretching, squeezing, pull, squash, faster, slower, harder, softer, direction, shape, speed, float, sink,

Electricity: crocodile clip, wire, bulb, bright, dull, bulb holder, metal, plastic, glass, circuit, break

Art – shape, material, float, sink, tools, technique, join, waterproof, sail, mast, hull, rudder, deck

Dutch

Het leek deze week wel een echte koksschool tijdens de lessen Nederlands. We leerden heel wat keukengerei benoemen, we proefden verschillende soorten fruit, we kookten pasta, we bakten pannenkoeken. Mmm... zo lekker, en dan is de Sint nog niet eens langsgeslagen!

De klanken /a/ en /aa/ werden getest met een controledictee.

We lazen heel wat lekkere verhalen uit “Het kookboek van Vos en Haas” van Sylvia Vanden Heede.

Mandarin Y2 MND-1

Topic: Christmas

Key Characters: 圣诞帽 shengdan mao/ Christmas hat; 圣诞树 shengdan shu/ Christmas tree; 圣诞花 shengdan hua/ Christmas flower; 圣诞卡 shengdanka/ Christmas card

Key Sentences: 祝你圣诞快乐 Zhu ni shengdan kuaile! / Wish you a Merry Christmas!

Activities: Making a Christmas wish list by using the sentence pattern: “圣诞节我想要 Shengdan jie wo xiang yao..... / I would like to have.....for Christmas”

Extended learning content: “Christmas Wish” sentence pattern: “圣诞节我想要 Shengdan jie wo xiang yao/ I would like to have.....for Christmas”

Mandarin Y2 MND-2

Topic: Electrical appliances

Core Vocabulary: 冰箱 bingxiang/refrigerator; 洗衣机 xiyi ji/washing machine; 电视 dian shi/TV set; 灯 deng/lamp; 电脑 diannao/computer; 电话 dianhua/telephone

Core Sentence: 这是什么 zheshi shenme?/What is it? 这是 zhe shi /This is ...

Activities: Making a craft- telephone

Mandarin Y2 MNF

本周学习《漱口》和《稀奇歌》，能认读儿歌中的汉字，会书写课文中的汉字。复习拼音 j、q、x，能与韵母进行熟练拼读，知道与u相拼的规律。