



WEEKLY PARENT NEWSLETTER – Reception Cubs 24 March 2014

- **International Food Fair-** Wed 26 at 12.40
- **International Parade** Friday 24 March – Can the children please wear national costume or national colours. The parade will start at 9am; parents please wait in the front playground, there will be time for photos, thank you.

Learning Theme of the week

Last week the children were asking the question “What is a smart eater?” They had some great ideas and spent all week practicing their table manners, holding their cutlery correctly and making healthy eating choices. We hope they will continue this at home and at school!



This week’s big question is “**What is so special about your country?**”

We would like to ask you to discuss our big question at home with your child so they’ll be able to share information and talk about their home country with their friends. You could talk about the name of your country, its flag, iconic buildings or land marks and of course its food!

We would really like the children to be able to talk and listen to each other, finding out more about their class mates and what makes each one of us special. They’ll have the opportunity to write about their own country and that of their friends. We will also play games such as “Guess the country” where we give clues using the information the children have shared. E.g This country has a queen. It has a red, white and blue flag. It has a clock called Big Ben. Which country is it?

Following on from smart eating, that was last week’s topic, we will look at food from around the world. We will note similarities and differences about what we eat and the preferences we have. Of course we will remember our manners and realise that there are no rights or wrongs about food, only similarities and differences! So thank you in advance for all the lovely dishes we’ll be able to taste on Wednesday and we look forward to thanking you all in person!

We will also look at flags, again looking for similarities and differences. Which flags have stripes? Which flags have stars? etc This will also link back to the sharing work we did last week. Which flags are divided into halves or thirds?

Iconic buildings and land marks will be something else that we will look at. Do all countries have these? Do they all look the same? Can we match the building to its country? What famous land marks does China have?



We hope to set up a simple role play airport where they children will think about the places they'd like to go and the things they'd like to see. If you want to see the Statue of Liberty and eat great hamburgers you should fly to....!

In Mathematics we will continue to learn about halving and sharing. We will look particularly at halving numbers .Most of this work will be done practically and by the children thinking of and solving their own problems. e.g I have 8 sweets, how many will 2 children get ? Last week a number of the children noticed a link between halving and doubling of numbers so we will build on that this week too .

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 listen attentively in a range of situations, responding to what they hear with relevant comments and questions,

Mathematics

- Children will continue practising their counting; reading and writing numbers.
- Children will begin to use the vocabulary involved sharing and halving
- Children will begin to identify mathematical problems

Expressive arts and design

- Children explore a variety of materials, experimenting with colour design, texture ,function and form

Understanding the World

- Children know about similarities and differences in relation to places, objects and materials
- Children know about similarities and differences between themselves and others

Physical development

- Children show good control and coordination in large and small movements
- Children know the importance for good health and a healthy diet

Personal Social and Emotional Behaviour

Children talk about their own and other's behavior and its consequences, and know that some behavior is unacceptable.

Phonics

Puffer Fish- alternative spellings of same sound –igh, ie

Sharks- th, ng, qu

Octopus- ar, or

Jelly Fish- m, n, d, g

THE BRITISH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Puxi, Shanghai



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TO BE THE BEST
THEY CAN BE

Mandarin

This week the children will be recapping the vocabulary of the food and link with international week. We will introduce different country's culture and costumes. We will introduce a sentence 'Where are you from? (你是哪国人?)'

Vocabulary: country 国家 (guo jia) food 食物 (shiwu) costume 衣服 (yi fu)
flag 国旗 (guo qi)

Dutch

We waren deze week met de kinderen op de Dierderij! We zijn zelf een heuse boerderij aan het knutselen. Door middel van het liedje 'Een koetje en een kalfje' hebben de kinderen geleerd hoe de baby's van verschillende dieren genoemd worden. Met het spel "Geef een hengst aan het wiel", hebben we herkenning van de eerste letter geoefend. Ook de rijmbus reed deze week weer. Het boek 'Koeienletters' is voorgelezen en daarmee gaan we volgende week verder. Graag het biebboek elke dinsdag mee naar school nemen.

Can you help?

If you have anything special from your home country that you'd like to share with the class we will be happy to make time to do so e.g. stories, music, dance or games.

As always thanks 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.