# THE BRITISH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Puxi, Shanghai



# WEEKLY PARENT INFORMATION NEWSLETTER – Year 2 For week beginning 27 January 2014

## Messages

- ECA lanyards- please ensure your child returns these to school daily so that their ECA teacher knows their route home after their ECA.
- Please remember that Register time first thing in the morning is a very important time for teachers to welcome children into the classroom and to discuss the days lessons with them and to make sure all children know what BISCAP or ECAs they are attending that day. If you wish to communicate with your child's teacher please write a note in the Communication Book or send an email.
- Please continue to check the school website for guidelines on our school uniform
  policy. If your child wears warm boots or wellington boots to school please ensure
  they also bring indoor school shoes to change into.
  Thank you for your cooperation.
- On Wednesday 29 January it will be dress up day in the Primary School. Your child
  can come dressed in red clothes or Chinese style clothing. We look forward to all of
  the wonderful outfits!

#### Literacy

In Literacy this week we will be consolidating our knowledge of instructions and using it to write a set of instructions for How to Turn a Teacher into a .....

We will be using our creativity and imagination to decide what ingredients we could put in and then making connections with what we understand about the features of instructions to help us write a brand new recipe.

### **Phonics**

This week, Goldfish will focus on using different strategies to spell multisyllabic words. They will learn how to listen to how many syllables there are in a word so that it can be broken into smaller parts making the word easier to remember and spell (e.g. Sep-tem-ber). We will also be reviewing the other spelling strategies that we have learnt (analogy, mnemonics and base words) and deciding which strategy will be best to help us spell certain words.

**Keywords:** September, hospital, perfectly, enjoyment, teacher, birthday, jacket, biggest, bigger, listener.

This week, Puffer Fish will focus on the *sh* sound. We will review its regular usage in such words such as wish and shot but also recognise alternative ways to make the *sh* sound (e.g. special, station, sure & chef). Puffer Fish will also focus on how to spell high frequency words: oh, how, did & man.

Key words: special, social, official, artificial, position, patience, station, sure, sugar, chef

This week starfish will be learning the sound *air* and then revising all the previous sounds from Phase 3. We will be reading and writing sentences, including words with 2 syllables, such as bedroom, penlid, toothbrush, armchair, waterbed.

Key words: hair, fair, pair, raindrop, tonight, looking, carpark, with, was, now

Octopus phonics group will be learning the alternative pronunciation for *ou*. They will be focusing on the key words about, cloud, sound, you, soup and group. They will also be practising the polysyllabic words couldn't, soup-bowl, housework and countdown.

**Key words:** flying, very, crunchy, funny, reply, pyramid, by, gymnastics, merry, frying.

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This week, Sting Rays will focus on the oo sound. We will review its long and short sound usage in such words as moon and book. Sting Rays will also focus on how to spell high frequency words: was, will and with.

Key words: book, look, took, cook, good, zoom, cool, boot, food, moon, root

This week, Sharks will focus on the *air* sound. We will review its regular usage in such words such as hair and stair but also recognise alternative ways to make the *air* sound (e.g. there, nowhere, tear, swear). Sharks will also practice reading and spelling high frequency words. **Key words:** tear, pear, bear, somewhere, pair, swear, there, care, dare, square.

This week, Jellyfish will continue to focus on the *ay* sound. We will review its usage in such words as stay and tray but also recognise alternative ways to make the *ay* sound (e.g. flake, shame, fail, rail). **Key words:** chain, shame, railway, layer, snail, again, stay, flake, take, pay.

#### Maths

This week in Maths will be focusing on giving directions. We will learn that a right angle is a measure of a quarter turn and find out how to recognise right angles. We will have a treasure hunt finding right angles in the classroom and make our own right angle measuring equipment. We will also be building on our knowledge of left and right, but starting to describe turns using the vocabulary clockwise and anticlockwise.

Some children will be demonstrating what they have learnt in Maths through creative games, posters and using different mathematical equipment. They will be focusing on showing what they now understand about adding and taking away a 10, number bonds, adding three digits and multiples of 2 and 10.

#### 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.

Up until Chinese New Year, the children will be combining their Literacy and Science in a short topic on Changing Materials. All the classes will be focused on Science during the weeks leading up to our 1st holiday of the New Year.

#### **Materials**

Our Science focus we will be 'Grouping and Changing Materials'. The children will be investigating how different materials change when they are heated or cooled. They will be following instructions to set up 3 different experiments. They will then make predictions about what they think will happen to the material and then compare this to their results. The children will cover 6 different experiments over the three weeks and by the end of our learning, they will have discovered that some changes are reversible, whilst others are irreversible.

#### **PSHCE**

In PHSCE this term we will be "Going for our Goals". We will start by thinking what we are good at and what we would like to do even better. We will think about how to set ourselves a goal and how to then break it down into small steps. As part of this unit we will talk about how we feel when we get bored or frustrated and how we can deal with this in our lives inside and outside of school.

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### Vocabulary

**Literacy** – headings, sub-headings, bullet points, ingredients, numbers, imperative verbs (bossy verbs) and diagrams.

Maths – right angle, turn, clockwise, anti-clockwise, left, right, quarter, whole, half

# Themed Learning

**Science** – Materials: glass, wood, fabric, paper, tissue, chocolate, brick, plastic, heat, cool, melt, freeze, evaporate, change, reversible, irreversible, prediction, conclusion, observation, describe

### Mandarin Y2 MND-1

Topic: Chinese New Year-Continued Core Characters: 十一生当 shi er sher

Core Characters: 十二生肖 shi er sheng xiao/ twelve zodiacs;

Core Sentences: Greetings of Chinese New Year

Activities: various activities and crafts in related to CNY

Extended learning content: 祝你 zhu ni....../ Wish you...

#### Mandarin Y<sub>2</sub> MND-<sub>2</sub>

This week there will be some interactive activities for celebrating the Spring Festival.

#### Mandarin Y2 MNF

本周我们将开始学习课文《啄木鸟》,能正确朗读课文,同时我们将开展中国新年知识小竞赛。

#### Dutch

Schaatsen in de winter, maar o, jee, je schaatst in een wak. Hoe kom je er dan uit? Wat gebeurt er met je lichaam in het ijskoude water? Kan de brandweer je redden? Al deze vragen hebben we weten te beantwoorden. Cito technisch lezen en woordenschat zijn afgenomen.