



WEEKLY PARENT INFORMATION NEWSLETTER – Year 2

For week beginning 9 December 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. Girls should also have their hair tied back as part of the school uniform policy.
- Please return or renew all library books before the holidays. Children may borrow books from the library over the holiday period this year. Lost or damaged books will be charged as per the library loans policy.
- 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

Thank you to all of our parents who helped to prepare the activities and food for the Christmas Party and to the volunteers who came in on the day.

On Friday 14 December school will close at **normal time**, 3.30pm.

Literacy

During Literacy this week children will be completing and presenting their shark explanation texts. They will also be learning new vocabulary which will help them create and present Christmas poems.

Phonics

Goldfish will be learning how to use words with similar spelling patterns to help them spell other words, for example cat, hat and that. We will be focusing on spelling words with the following endings: *ould, ight, umble* and *ake*.

Puffer Fish will focusing on alternative ways to make the *oa* sound (e.g. low, tone and bone). 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: play, take and well.

Octopus phonics group will be learning the alternative pronunciation for *er* and *ch*. They will be focusing on the key words summer, water, herbs, fern, school, chef, machine and chip. They will also be practising spelling the tricky words what and please.

Sharks will be consolidating all their previously learnt sounds from this term and applying them to their reading and writing.

THE BRITISH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Puxi, Shanghai



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Jellyfish phonics group will be revising all graphemes covered this term such as *ie* and *ee*, high frequency words such as little and children and CVCC words such as damp and clog.

Starfish will be consolidating all their previously learnt sounds from Phase 3 and applying them to their reading and writing. The high frequency words will include: her, are, with, will, now, this, that, they, them, then.

Stingrays will learn and practice the letters and sounds *sh*, *th* and *ch*. They will also practise reading the high frequency words we have learned so far.

Maths

This week in Maths the children will be consolidating their knowledge and understanding of the topics covered this term, including counting in 1s and 10s, addition and subtraction facts, doubling and halving, and measuring time and capacity.

Some children will be applying their learning to problem solving and getting creative by showing what they have learnt in different ways, using equipment found in and around the school. They will be making things such as games, posters and pictures.

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.

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Vocabulary

Literacy – explanation, non-fiction, heading, diagram, caption, label, present, poetry, poems, rhyming, Christmas

Maths – addition, subtraction, count on, count back, place value, tens, units, odd, even,

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

Mandarin Y2-Y6 MNF

本周我们将进行复习并开始本学期阶段测评。

Dutch

Deze week waren we nog steeds in de ban van Sinterklaas. Op aanraden van de Sint hebben we dan ook onze schoen geknutseld. We waren vrijdag super benieuwd of er iets in ons schoentje lag. En ja hoor... Sinterklaas was de lieve meisjes van year 2 niet vergeten. Hij heeft nog wat snoepgoed achtergelaten vooraleer hij terug naar Spanje vertrok.

De sleutelwoorden van de klanken /u/ en /uu/ werden schriftelijk ingeoeffend. We hebben het soms nog wat moeilijk om het verschil te horen tussen de korte en lange klank.

We lazen het boek “De baard van Sinterklaas” van Koos Meinderts.