

Friday 12th June 2015



Year 1 working on their Tinga Tinga artwork...

SUN, SCIENCE AND SLEEPOVERS

By Lisa Milanec, Principal

It was great to see so many of you at our Family Picnic and BBQ last week. We were very lucky that the weather held out just until the end when it started to drizzle. Thank you to everyone who came along and donated money through our Bake Sale or Book Sale - just this small charity event alone helped to raise over 3000 RMB.

We are set for a very busy last two weeks of term. We still have the Reception and Year 6 Graduations to look forward to as well as the Early Years show which will now take place on Thursday 25th June. On Monday we also look forward to our Science Fair that will be taking place. Our KS1 and KS2 students will all have the opportunity to go and see the Science exhibits that have been prepared by the KS2 students.

Tonight is the long awaited Year 2 Sleepover that will take place here at school. I know all the Year 2 students are very excited indeed, as are their parents I'm sure! I think myself and the Year 2 team might not be getting any sleep tonight, but I'm sure we will have a fantastic evening.

And last but not least, I would like to introduce our new School Nurse to everyone. Nurse Anya joined us this week at the Primary Campus and has enjoyed getting to know all the students and staff. Nurse Anya takes over the role from Nurse Echo.

Wishing you all a fantastic weekend - let's hope the sun continues to shine!

UPCOMING EVENTS

12th June
Year 2 Sleepover

15th June
KS2 Science Fair

16th June
PA Parent Appreciation
9am @ Primary Campus Hall

17th June
Last Swimming Lesson
for Reception

18th June
Nursery Beach Trip
to Tuanjiehu Park

Year 6 Graduation Ceremony
@ Primary Campus Hall
2pm - 3.15pm

19th June
School Closed
for Dragon Boat Festival

22nd June
Year 4 Museum for Parents
8.45am @ Primary Campus

Sanlitun's got Talent
1.30pm @ Primary Campus

23rd June
Reception Graduation
@ Primary Campus Hall
9am - 9.30am

PRE-NURSERY MAKE A SPLASH!

By Sarah Leavers, Pre-Nursery Starfish Class Teacher

The children in Pre-Nursery have been very enthusiastic with our swimming sessions! Although to begin with, a lot of the children were understandably nervous about going in the water, the amount of confidence they have gained in just a few weeks has been astounding! We began the sessions by playing with water toys, sitting on the edge kicking our legs and joining in with ring games to get the children used to being in the water and experience how much fun it can be. However just 3 weeks later, the children are now using floats and kicking their legs independently to move through the water, beginning to swim on their backs and some very confident children have been jumping into the big pool too!

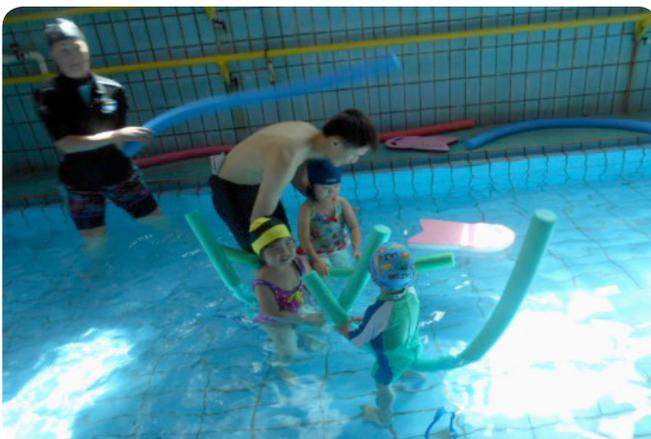


PRE-NURSERY MAKE A SPLASH! CONTINUED...

By Sarah Leavers, Pre-Nursery Starfish Class Teacher

There's so much that children can gain from beginning swimming at a young age...

- They learn how to balance, a skill which develops core muscles, as well as improving their gross motor skills and coordination.
- Their brains benefit too! Young children learn through movement and play – through being active. The development of the whole body, including the brain, comes from these physically active, direct experiences.
- Swimming can help to increase concentration, alertness and perceptual abilities.
- It helps to develop critical listening skills as well as trust.
- And of course, swimming is FUN and a great social activity too! It's been lovely to see the children interacting with each other in the pool and showing off their new found skills.



THIS IS AFRICA

By Libby Henderson, Year 1 Leopards Class Teacher



The Africa topic is in full swing since we boarded our plane a few weeks back. The children have been busy making their own role play areas - we have leopards, lions and cheetahs galore! They love driving the safari jeep or donning a mask pretending to be an animal on the hunt. There have even been an elephant or two spotting driving the jeeps!

We have looked at Tinga Tinga art, originating in Tanzania as well as watching Tinga Tinga tales, explaining how the animals got their features. The children have collaborated to make their own Tinga Tinga artwork. They have carefully drawn and cut the animals, adding details with cotton buds. As a group they then painted the backgrounds using bold marks for the tree trunks and branches, whilst using faint finger prints for the leaves and blossom. We think you'll agree - the finished pieces look fantastic!!

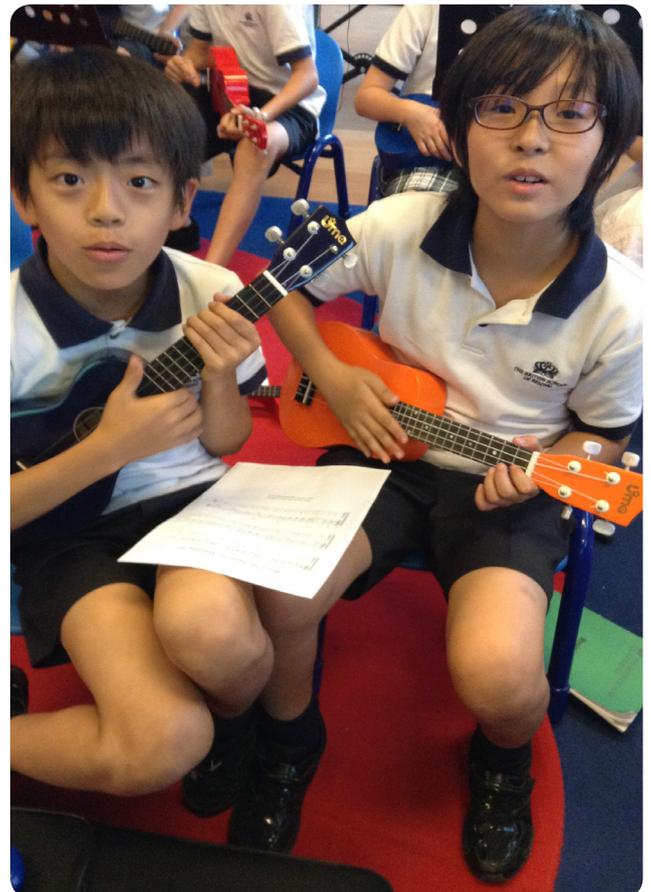


‘UKE’ CAN DO IT!

By Henry Charlesworth, Music Teacher

As we approach the end of another busy term in the music department, it's time to reflect on the year that has been. As a teacher, in order to best plan for the next year ahead, it is important to appreciate what could be improved and what has been successful. One of the things that has struck me in my first year at BSB Sanlitun is the incredible popularity of the ukulele among the pupils (and indeed the teachers!).

The world currently seems to be going through somewhat of a ukulele revolution with the instrument which, for decades has not been taken seriously. Previously the uke was seen as a gimmick, a novelty instrument used for comedy purposes only. Now this ‘comedy’ instrument is seeping in to popular music everywhere you look. World-wide artists such as Jason Mraz and Bruno Mars have helped the recent image of the ukulele and the reputation of the instrument has grown immensely in the last few years.



The notable rise of the ukulele is not exclusive to the mainstream music industry, but also among children and schools around the world. I believe that its rise in popularity in primary education is entirely justified and perhaps long overdue. As a musical recourse for children the ukulele has huge advantages over many other instruments. It is lighter, less expensive and easier to play than the guitar. The four strings rather than six means that chords are less demanding to play and the instrument is easier to tune.

‘UKE’ CAN DO IT! CONTINUED...

By Henry Charlesworth, Music Teacher



Here at BSB Sanlitun there are ample opportunities for children to learn the Ukulele. Miss McKarra and Miss Henderson are both avid players and each run a well-attended ukulele ASA each year. Mr Nicolas, our IMPS guitar teacher has admitted that he loves the recent influx of ukulele students attending his lessons.

In music lessons year 2 and year 5 are currently learning to play the ukulele. Through this instrument children are learning technique and skills which can be transferred easily to other instruments. Melody and chords are being taught to children through two forms of notation; the traditional musical staff as well as 4-string tablature. Correct rhythmic notation can also be learned and the uke can be turned over to double up as a handy percussion instrument. Perhaps the most important reason why the ukulele is loved by kids and big kids alike is that is fundamentally a fun instrument to play. There seems no doubt that as far as BSB Sanlitun is concerned, this instrument is well and truly here to stay!



SOLVING CLUES IN YEAR 2

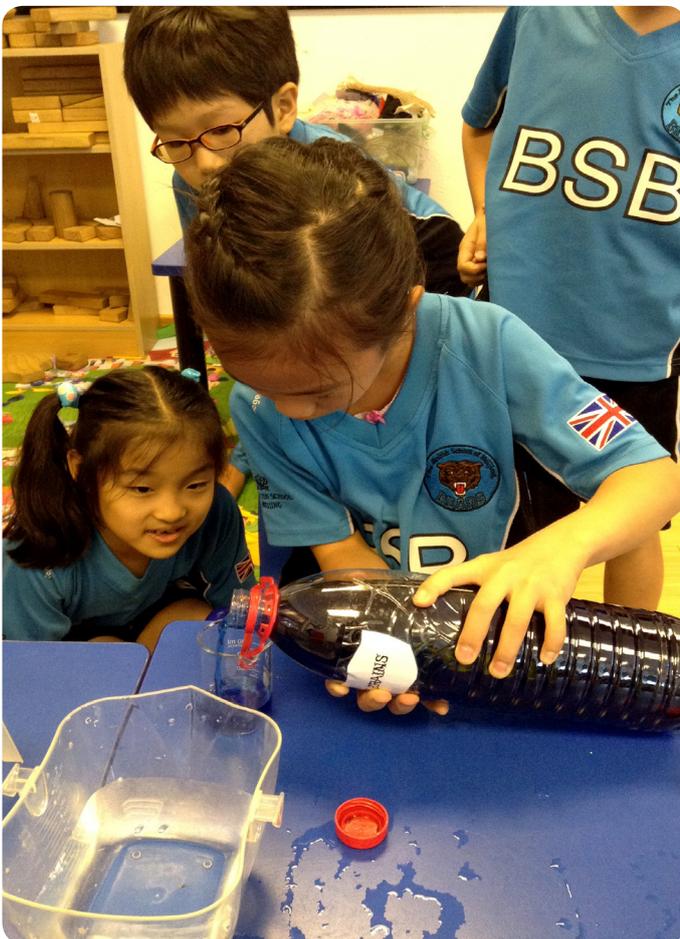
By Paul Hollidge, Year 2 Elephants Class Teacher



Here you will find a colourful pit, you'll find plenty of balls but an egg will also fit

The Year Two children received a desperate plea from a trapped Princess at the start of their new 'How to train your Dragon' topic and were asked to solve a series of clues in order to find and return the angry dragon's precious egg. After successfully solving clues such as 'Rescuing princesses is a difficult deed; here you'll find plenty of tales to read' the children were egg-static to find a glittering life-size dragon egg in different areas around the school.

However, the problems continued as they were then asked to create a special sleeping potion that could be fed to the Dragon so that it would sleep whilst the Princess is being rescued. The children had to utilise their newly learnt measurement skills as they created their potions using ingredients such as Bat Brains, Troll Juice and Slug Slime. Thankfully the potions have now been mixed and are ready to be fed to each Dragon, but which Year 2 children will be brave enough to enter the Dragon's Lair?!



Measuring the correct amount of Bats Brains!



Year 2 children making Sleeping Potion



Buckets and spades you will need, dig your hole with great speed

BRITS BLITZED

By Kirsty Mccarra, Year 4 Herons Class Teacher



Year 4 back in the 1940's

As part of our topic, Back to the Future, the children have been time travelling to different time periods, collecting evidence of significant events and people. Recently, the children went back in time to the 1940s to visit a family in England. There they learnt about World War II; the necessity for ration books, how to build an Anderson shelter and the various campaigns going on at the time encouraging those not fighting to contribute to the lives of others. In particular, they learnt about the Blitz through a radio transmission from the then Prime Minister, Winston Churchill. From this, the children did some drama activities to put themselves in the shoes of those that were there at the time and try to get an understanding of what it must have been like.

This week in literacy, we have been working on creating newspaper articles to reflect this experience, detailing the events at the beginning of the blitz. The children worked hard to use the appropriate language for a newspaper and create powerful imagery to communicate the awful event. They then formatted it in ICT to include photographs of the event and adverts that would have been found in the newspapers of the time. The articles are looking fantastic and will be on display in the museum that the Herons and Kingfishers have been busy working on, open to parents of children in Year 4 on Monday 22nd June!



LONDON FALLING

By Soyoon Kim, Year 4 Herons Class Student



LONDON FALLING

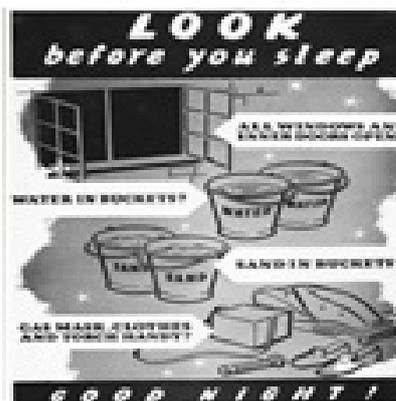


Last night, Hitler's bombs had arrived in London. Large explosions of deadly bombs cried loudly all through the night as the Brits screamed for survival. Houses and shelters were destroyed. The government's speech of encouragement was spread quickly through the city. The war is declared.

At 6:00pm last night, the thick, black sheet of terror filled the grey sky of London. Airplanes controlled by Hitler appeared in the distance. The sirens rang and people ran around the street in panic. Horrifying noises of the airplanes broke the peace in the London street.

Inflammatory bombs fell like rain. Flames flew everywhere, burning London into a big pile of ash. Soon the German Nazis started firing more and more bombs. Citizens of London were shocked.

Larger bombs fell. Nondop. "Are you asking me how I feel about my child's death? Of course, sad. I mean very sad, extremely sad. Or



even more than that." Firefighter Cristiano was asked how it felt when he lost his child. "I've lost everything. My child, my parents, my house. But I have not lost my courage."

At midnight, the whole city was like a sea of endless flames. Sparks of fire flew around like deadly fireworks. People died and their homes were destroyed. Nothing was to be seen except London crumbling down. Survivors were nowhere. Gigantic explosions planted craters on the grey, dusty floor.



Hitler has taken revenge on us. Can we win this dreadful war? Do we still have hope? We will take revenge. The Londoners will rise again!

By Soyoon Kim