

Friday 26th September 2014



Year 5 studying the banks of the Liangma River...

OPPORTUNITIES FOR LEARNING ARE EVERYWHERE!

By Lisa Milanec, Principal

Reading through the pages of this week's newsletter is a reminder to us all about the fun and varied ways in which our students learn here at Sanlitun. You can see Early Years children using the topic of 'Bears' to access a range of subject areas - from mathematics to speaking and listening.

Year 1 and Year 2 have been applying their learning to real life situations; venturing out onto the streets of Sanlitun to use map skills and identify the extent to which transportation is used in the area to exploring our five senses through a variety of practical means.

In Key Stage 2, the students have also been applying the skills learnt in the classroom to real life situations, and have been also been honing their creative skills as part of their topics. These fun topics and methods through which the children are learning does not take away the fact that the students are being continually challenged by their teachers and are encouraged to take risks and develop their independence. By learning through a variety of means, students are kept engaged, learn through new experiences and develop preferred styles of learning which they can apply to other subjects. By applying the skills learnt in the classroom to real life situations, students gain more of an understanding as to why they need to learn such skills in the first place.

Ultimately it is our aim here at Sanlitun to ensure all our students make exceptional personal progress, that they are proud of the achievements they make and can approach new situations, confident in their own ability. Read on to see how we have been achieving this, this week.

UPCOMING EVENTS

6th October
Back to School
in Winter Uniform

7th October
PA Meeting - 9.00am
@ Primary Campus Hall

8th October
Reading Workshop
for KS1 Parents - 3.30pm
@ Primary Campus Hall

10th October
Early Years
Pastries with Parents
8.15 - 8.45am @ EY Campus

22nd October
U10/11 Football Invite
@ BSB Shunyi

24th October
KS2 - Y2 Football
@ BSB Shunyi

29th October
Maths Workshop
for Reception Parents
@ Primary Campus Hall

31st October
Halloween Dress Up
(Optional)

LEARNING CHINESE IN A VARIETY OF WAYS

By Jenny Shen, Head of Chinese

All Chinese groups of children have experienced a challenging week in their Chinese classrooms.

In Year 6 Forbidden City class children learnt and practised how to borrow things like stationary from different people.

In Year 4 Summer Palace class children did role play. They were so excited to be a TV reporter to interview the owners of special food shop. Children worked hard to write their interview summary. They could be a reporter or a shop owner and video their interview. All children did a good job.



Year 6 enjoying their Chinese lesson

In Beihai Club children showed their enthusiasm of learning Chinese. They were eager to tell teacher in Chinese about rooms in their house after learning the topics of house.

Children in Year 4 Lama Temple practised drama according to the text they have learnt this week. It's a story about a boy helping his mum to do house work. Children rewrote the text and added dialogue by themselves.

In Year 1 Changcheng Group children started to learn the topic of body parts. They have learnt how to name eyes, nose, and ears in Chinese. Most children were able to remember all the vocabulary and they created a face and practised in Chinese.

B B B BEARS!

By Viveka Savage, Nursery Clown Fish Class Teacher

This week in Nursery we have started a brand new topic on bears. We began the week by bringing our teddy bear to school and developed our confidence and speaking skills as we introduced our bears to the class. We also have been trying to use new vocabulary to describe our bears such as 'soft' and 'furry'.

In mathematics we have been using compare bears to talk about sizes and listening to the story of Goldilocks and the three bears to familiarise ourselves with the words, small, medium and big. During free play we have had fun listening and dancing to the 'teddy bears picnic song' and playing imaginatively with bear role play masks.

We look forward to more exciting activities linked to the topic after the October break!



Look at all the fun activities we have been doing as part of our 'Bears' topic!



Showing our bears to the rest of the class

STUDYING TRANSPORT IN YEAR 2

By Laura Hugo, Year 2 Alligators Class Teacher

Year 2 has been working really hard learning all about different types of transport for our topic 'From A to B'. In Geography we have been working on map skills and in maths we did work on data handling. Last week the Year 2 classes all had a chance to put their new skills into good use with a walk around the local area.



Following our carefully drawn maps



Keeping a tally of the transport coming past

The children were able to map out a simple route on a map of the area, keeping us safe by not having to cross any roads! We were able to find key landmarks that we had been looking at on the map, for example, the canal and Capital Mansion.

The children then used their maths skills by making a tally of all the different types of transport that drive past us each day. The children all had a great time and we found out that the most common type of transport to drive along our local roads is in fact cars!



PARENTS AND SCHOOL IN PARTNERSHIP

By Christine Armstrong, Deputy Headteacher

What an amazing week we have had. On Sunday we had 200 people join us for a picnic at The Botanical Gardens. It was a successful day and children and parents had a great time. It was lovely to see so many children playing together and so many parents having an opportunity to relax and chat. Thank you to everyone who helped make it such a wonderful day.



Since Sunday we have had Pastries with Parents with families from Reception to Year 6 across a 3 day period. I cannot describe how excited many of your children were to have their mummy, daddy or both parents come into school to share in a drink and a pastry. It is a lovely way to start the day and Reception parents were given an extra surprise: the children shared the story of The Gruffalo with them before making their way back to class. We have also held a number of Parent Workshops this week including Reading in Reception, KS2 Maths and KS1 Phonics. The turnout for these workshops was fantastic. It is integral that we work in partnership with parents to consolidate and extend the learning taking place in school, as well as having a consistent approach. Thank you to both the teachers who took the time to prepare and present workshops, and to the parents for attending them so enthusiastically.



On a different note our final day of school today saw our House Music Extravaganza take place. Our Nursery children came to visit us at the Primary Campus to share in the House Music performances given by our staff. We had:

- RED HOUSE: Under Pressure/Ice, Ice, Baby...with a red house twist of course!
- GREEN HOUSE: Fame! Or in this case...Green!
- BLUE HOUSE: Mr. Blue Sky & Blue Suede Shoes
- YELLOW HOUSE: Ye-eh-llow...to the tune of 'Let it Go' from Frozen

It was an absolutely brilliant way to end the first part of our term. Well done to everyone who participated; I am sure that everyone is ready for a well-deserved break.

Happy Golden Week Holiday.

EXPLORING OUR FIVE SENSES IN YEAR 1

By Roxanne Wood, Year 1 Lions Class Teacher

This week Year 1 went crazy exploring their five senses! There was glitter, corn flour and even jelly everywhere. Read on to find out about the fun we had using our different senses.

SIGHT

Year 1 talked about why sight was important and discovered what would happen if you had no sight. They had to rely on their other senses to compensate for the lost sense. The children learnt to rely on their partner or another sense to help them find their way around a tricky obstacle course. Lions looked at colour mixing using their hands. After putting each hand in a different primary colour they rubbed them together and saw the colour transform before their very eyes.



TOUCH

The children explored different textures and how they feel against your skin. We were able to think of lots of describing words for the different textures we felt. We also created some similes to help us compare them. Carla was able to describe the jelly as slimy as goo.

SMELL

Panthers decided it would be a good idea to explore what they could smell in the pot! It was a risk and we didn't like all the smells but we all tried! We were able to think of different describing words to talk about what we could smell.



TASTE

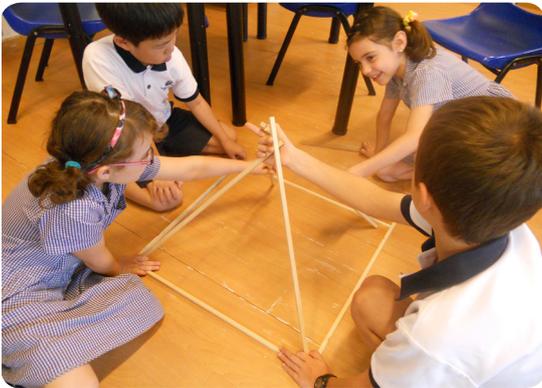
Year one have gone taste-tastic with a range of flavours. We baked cookies with salt and sugar to see the difference and which ones tasted better. The children learnt the names of the ingredients. Thank you to all the parents who came in for an hour of baking fun. We also learnt to be risk takers when the teacher put a blind fold on us and we tried different food and described the taste.

HEARING

Leopards class used their listening ears to play some tricky games. The children discovered that hearing is very important and it would be difficult to explore sounds without it. Tigers played Chinese whispers to listen to quiet sounds and identified all sorts of everyday sounds without looking at the object.

LOVING LEARNING IN KEY STAGE 2!

By Laura McGregor, Year 4 Kingfishers Class Teacher



It has been an exciting week of learning in Key Stage 2 this week.

As part of their Egyptian topic, Children in Year 3 have worked on an exciting D.T. project where they planned and created pyramids. It involved measuring the wood, cutting different angles using the saws and bench blocks safely, constructing the pyramid using a glue gun and securing the structure further by weaving wool around the joins once the glue had dried.



This week children in Year 4 have been investigating sound. We have learnt about how sounds are created and how they travel. We recorded sounds on software called Audacity with which we could see the sound waves we had created. The children worked in the ICT suite to record sounds and investigate what happened to the sound waves when volume or pitch changed. The children had great fun using the software, drawing conclusions about sound waves and learning scientific vocabulary such as amplitude and frequency.

The children in Year 5 enjoyed a trip to Liangma river. They are using the local environment to look at habitats. They will be revisiting the river a few times over the coming months to see how the environment has changes over time.

Year 5 by the bank of Liangma river



Year 6 have had an exciting time in their music lesson where they have been composing tunes that will be the soundtrack to different fairground rides. This links to their autumn term topic.

We can't wait to see what exciting learning experiences will be awaiting us after the holidays!

Year 6 composing a tune



SWIMMING SUPERSTARS AND FOOTBALL FANATICS

By Rachel Spencer, Head of P.E.

SWIMMING MEET FOR SANLITUN

Last Saturday 22 children took part in the swimming meet at BSB, Shunyi. Sanlitun had children from Year 3 up to Year 6 swimming in the event in individual and team relay races.

The U9 team consisted of:

(Boys) Jett Pederson, Magnus Horgan, Nathan Garnier, Kai Lom and Nathan George.

(Girls) Katie Dong, Laila Hilal, Beth Goddard, Soraiya Munchi, Chloe Huang and Vivara Lesix.

The U10 team consisted of:

(Boys) Seiya Kakita, Sora Suzuki and Jason Lau.

(Girls) Lena Kirchner, Malia Pederson.

The U11 team consisted of:

(Boys) Miles Garnier, Lucas Taylor and Alan Dong.

(Girls) Hannah Thurbon and Sandra Arika.

It was the schools' first swimming event of the year, entered with lots of enthusiasm and effort.

Notable performances were from:

U9: Jett Pederson, Katie Dong, Soraiya Munchi and Vivara Lesix.

U10: Sora Suzuki, Malia Pederson. U11: Miles Garnier, Sandra Arika.

HOUSE FOOTBALL RESULTS

Year 5 participated in the house football last Friday lunchtime. All children took part in the house event and played a round robin competition. First place went to the Mighty Blue House, 2nd place Red House, 3rd place Yellow House and 4th place Green House.

Year 3 house football was played during the Lido PE session this Wednesday. Results are as follows: 1st place Yellow House, 2nd place Blue House, 3rd place Red House and 4th place Green House.

Well done to all players for organising themselves into their teams and playing with great house spirit.