

THE BRITISH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Puxi, Shanghai



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ANGLIA
EDUCATION

HELPING OTHERS
TO BE THE BEST
THEY CAN BE

WEEKLY PARENT NEWSLETTER – Reception Cubs 10 February 2014

Dates for your diary

- **School starts** - 10 February
- **Teacher/parent conferences** -19 & 20 February

Learning Theme of the week

Thank you for all your support during our Chinese New Year week. A special thanks to Mia's mum who helped choreograph our dragon dance. The children have had great fun learning about Chinese New Year. They have seen the similarities and differences between Chinese New Year and other celebrations such as Christmas and birthdays. Make sure you have a look at our new dragon display by the computers in our shared area.



This week our learning will be on the theme of castles and palaces. The dragon will leave yet another message for the children! This one will contain clues and the children will have to "guess" where they have come from and to whom they belong e.g a princesses' crown and a knight's helmet.

They will discover that a princess has been locked up in the castle dungeon and she will tell the knight where she is and the obstacles he'll have to pass to rescue her. The children will learn vocabulary such as draw bridge, moat and port cullis. They will discover what these are and think about why they are built in castles and the materials that were used to build them.

The children will also be challenged to build their own castles including these special features. Can you build a castle with a draw bridge and a moat? We will have a model building techniques work shop in our shared area enabling the children to learn and try out new and better ways to work with junk models so **please send in all your empty boxes and cylinders!** This links well with a review of 3D and 2D shapes; the children will learn/review the names and properties of the shapes as they build and model their castles.

As a number of children were absent due to early holidays during Chinese New Year week will also continue our work on doubling numbers.

We would also like to focus on correct letter formation. The children are doing very well with their phonics work but are not always forming their letters correctly. This week we will look at the c family (caterpillar letters) –c,o,a,d,g. This is something you might like to practise at home too, remembering where the letter starts and moving in an anti clockwise direction.

As always if you have any books, photographs or stories connected to our theme we'd love to share them.

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Some of the main learning intentions taught and explored 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 will extend their vocabulary, especially by grouping and naming, exploring the meaning and sound of new words.

Mathematics

- Children will add two digit numbers using the + and = signs
- Children will use quantities and objects as well as counting on to find answers to addition and doubling problems
- Children will begin to use mathematical names for 3D and 2D shapes and mathematical terms to describe them.

Expressive arts and design

- Children will construct with a purpose in mind
- Children will use simple tools and techniques competently and appropriately

Physical development

- Children show good control and coordination in large and small movements

Phonics

Puffer fish-will begin phase 4 where they will review all phonemes and their graphemes: reading and writing words and captions.

Sharks-will learn review *sh, ch, th ng j*

Octopus-will review *sh th ch ng*

Jelly Fish-will learn *b fl*

All groups will continue to review and learn tricky words.

Mandarin

This week the children will be talking about farm animals linked with Chinese zodiac. We will also talk about the celebration of Latern Festival . We will learn a song called Xiao Zhu shui jiao (小猪睡觉)

**Vocabulary: duck 鸭子 (ya zi) chicken 小鸡 (ji) pig 猪 (zhu)
horse 马 (ma) lamp 羊 (yang) dog 狗 (gou)**

Dutch

De verzonnen spelletjes hebben we uitgeprobeerd en verder uitgewerkt. Tevens hebben we verschillende notatiewijze voor de scores besproken en gebruikt. De Citotoets voor kleuters groep 1 is afgenomen, Fijne vakantie!

Can you help?

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Thank you for the junk modeling materials we have been receiving, keep it coming! We are always grateful for extras! This week each child will need a cuboid and a number of cylinders to build their castle.

Please let us know if you have any questions or comments.

Many thanks again.

The Reception Team.