



NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 06
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AN EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW

By Head Boy and Head Girl

Recently, our Head Boy and Head Girl sat down with our Principal (Ms Prabhu) and our Head of Early Years and Primary (Ms Fedorowicz) for an exclusive interview – with the aim of finding out more about them. We hope you enjoy reading the answers to their questions!

What is your favourite sport and why?

Ms Prabhu said she loved football and supported Manchester United, she explained that the reason she loved football was because it brings people together. Ms Fedorowicz likes football too, but her favourite is basketball. She told us that she used to coach basketball and the reasons she liked it was because it is fun and there are many opportunities to score, which means the best team wins.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

International Week

- Early Years Expo
Monday 14 October
- Primary Expo
Tuesday 15 October
- Dress-up Day and Parade
Friday 18 October

Halloween Bake Sale and Dress-up Day

- Thursday 31 October

Year 4 Production

- Thursday 7 and Friday 8
November

Science Week and School in Action

- Monday 11 to Friday 15
November

School Closed for Staff Training

- Friday 22 November

Autumn Term Last ASAs

- Tuesday 26 and
Wednesday 27 November

What made you decide to become a principal/ head of primary?

Ms Prabhu explained that she liked to be a teacher as she got to know the children in her class very well, see them progress and make a difference to their lives, but she decided to be a principal as she had lots of ideas, was passionate about teaching and learning and wanted to have a bigger impact on the whole school.

Ms Fedorowicz also explained that over time she took on more responsibilities as she progressed from teacher to leading a year group. She had lots of ideas of how to help each student and wanted to make the school the best possible place to learn and grow.



If you could create a new school holiday, what would it be and why?

Ms Prabhu told us that her favourite holiday when living in Washington in America was Thanksgiving, she enjoyed it as it was all about spending time with family and enjoying delicious food, and she liked that there was no pressure to buy presents. Ms Fedorowicz agreed it was her favourite holiday too and suggested that the new school holiday could be 'Gratitude Day' - where everyone pauses and thinks of reasons to be grateful and says thanks.

What do you think is the most important life skill that a student should learn at school?

Respectful was the skill that Ms Prabhu thought was important – she said it was important to always be respectful of each other throughout life, even if you did not agree with the person. Ms Fedorowicz agreed and added that the skill she thinks is important is collaboration, which includes being respectful as well as listening and being open minded. She told the interviewers that working well with others will lead to success.

What was your favourite subject at school?

For Ms Prabhu it was music, which is what she studied at university, she explained she likes to play music to relax and enjoyed the opportunities such as being in the orchestra or choir – she said playing music with others makes for a lovely community experience. However, her favourite subject to teach is maths!

Ms Fedorowicz studied Economics at university, but she loves all subjects and that is why she decided to teach in a primary school as it allows her to teach all subjects. Her favourite subjects include literature, science and history, but if she had to pick one subject though, it would be maths.

Would you rather be able to fly (but only 1 meter off the ground) or teleport to the past but only back one year?

For Ms Prabhu and Ms Fedorowicz the answer was easy – fly! Both explained that the last year had been a good year, where they were offered and started new jobs and moved to China – they had no need to go back a year.

Ms Prabhu thought that flying in Beijing would be great when there were traffic jams, and Ms Fedorowicz said it would make exploring even more exciting as they could go over oceans and mountains.

Both Ms Prabhu and Ms Fedorowicz said if they could go further than one year back in time then they would pick this option as it would be great to meet great people from the past, such as Martin Luther King and Ghandi.



Thank you to our Head Boy
and Head Girl for such a
great interview!



NURSERY GETTING READY FOR INTERNATIONAL WEEK

By TingTing Jing, Nursery Rainbow Fish Class Teacher

To help children better understand **International Week**, the Nursery children were invited to participate in different activities and learning experiences.

We talked about where we were from and then looked for the place on the global map. This helped to make children's learning visible when they saw their friends' photos all over the world. It was lovely to hear children start conversations about it. For example, Wesley asked, 'Are you in pink, like me?'; Ceci said, 'Seroyi, you are close to Gabby. Toni is next to me.'



The children also discussed their trips when visiting their home countries or other countries. They shared with their teachers and classmates what they saw, what they did and what they liked. It was great to see them develop more confidence and willingness to talk about their life story with others.





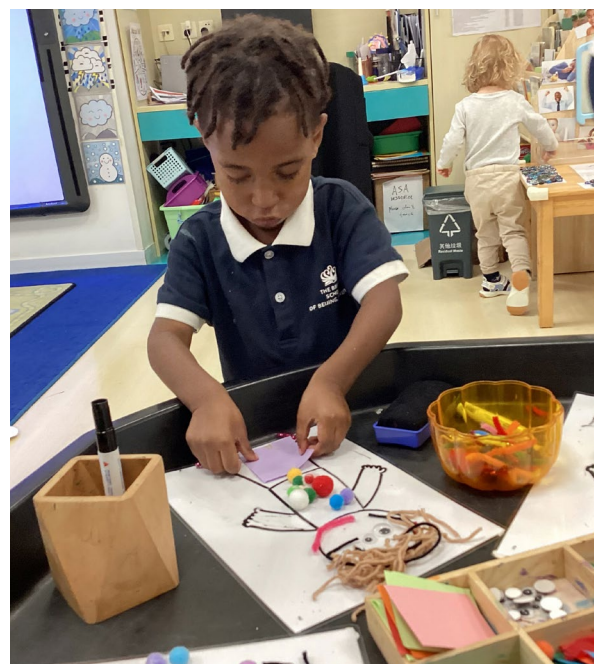
For one provision, the children were encouraged to make a flag for the place they were from. They observed the features and shapes from the printed flag and made their own one. They were so happy to share the flags made by themselves! Another class decided to make a class flag with beautiful handprints. Everyone had a lot of fun!





To extend their understanding of diversity, the children were also invited to explore open-ended resources to design different appearances and dress-up looks. We modelled the languages and encouraged them to create the styles.

One child pointed at the earrings when he noticed his teacher was wearing them. So I asked him 'Do you want to make earrings?' He called out 'Ya', then he added the pipe cleaners, saying 'earrings' with a smile!





FOSTERING A LOVE FOR READING IN KEY STAGE ONE CHILDREN

By Emily Kingett, Year 2 Leader, Elephants Class Teacher

Reading for pleasure is a vital skill that lays the foundation for lifelong learning and personal growth, particularly in Key Stage One. During this developmental stage, children are introduced to the joys of reading, and fostering a love for books can significantly enhance their literacy skills and imagination.



THE IMPORTANCE OF READING FOR PLEASURE

Reading for pleasure encourages children to explore different worlds, ideas, and cultures. It not only improves their vocabulary and comprehension but also stimulates their creativity and critical thinking. When children read for enjoyment, they are more likely to develop a positive attitude towards reading, which can lead to better academic performance in the long run.





WEEKLY LIBRARY VISITS

One effective way to nurture a love for reading is through weekly visits to the school library. These trips can be a highlight of the week for many children, providing a dedicated time to explore a wealth of books. During library visits, children can:



- **Discover New Titles:**

The library offers access to a diverse range of books, from fairy tales to informative non-fiction. This exposure helps children find genres they enjoy and encourages them to experiment with different reading materials.

- **Engage with Librarians:**

School librarians can play a crucial role in promoting reading. They often discuss the books with the children, recommend age-appropriate books, and organise activities that make reading exciting.

- **Participate in Group Activities:**

BSB offers programs such as book club ASAs, reading challenges, or themed events such as Book Week. These activities create a sense of community and can motivate children to read more.

- **Practice Independence:**

Choosing their own books empowers children and fosters a sense of responsibility over their reading choices. This autonomy helps to cultivate a love for reading as they take ownership of their learning.

CREATING A READING-FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT

To cultivate a passion for reading, it's essential to create a supportive environment both at home and in the classroom. Here are some effective strategies:

1. **Diverse Book Selection:**

Provide access to a wide range of books — fiction, non-fiction, picture books, and chapter books. This diversity helps cater to varied interests and reading levels.

2. **Read Aloud Sessions:**

Regularly reading aloud to children can ignite their curiosity. It allows them to hear the rhythm of language and experience stories together, creating shared moments that enhance their connection to books.



3. Encouraging Choice:

Allowing children to choose what they read empowers them and makes the reading experience more personal. This autonomy fosters a sense of ownership over their learning.

4. Discussion and Interaction:

Engaging children in discussions about the stories they read helps deepen their understanding and encourages critical thinking. Ask open-ended questions that stimulate their imagination.

5. Incorporating Technology:

E-books and audiobooks can be excellent tools to engage tech-savvy learners. Interactive reading apps can make stories come alive, adding an extra layer of excitement to reading.



COMMUNITY AND FAMILY INVOLVEMENT

Parents and caregivers play a crucial role in nurturing a reading culture. Family reading nights, visits to local libraries, and book clubs can reinforce the importance of reading within the family unit. Community programs that promote literacy can also provide additional support and resources.



CONCLUSION

Fostering a love for reading in Key Stage One children is essential for their academic and emotional development. By integrating weekly visits to the school library with an inviting reading environment and engaging them in diverse and enjoyable literature, we can help young learners discover the magic of books and develop habits that will benefit them for years to come. Reading for pleasure is not just about acquiring skills; it's about instilling a lifelong passion for learning and exploration.

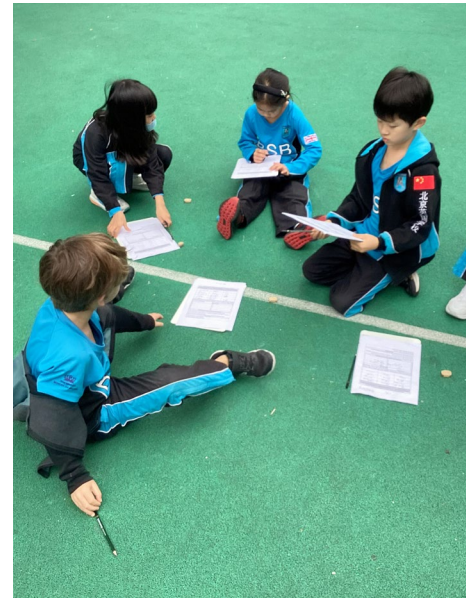


SCIENCE IN YEAR 3

By James Barnard, Year 3 Hornbills Class Teacher

This week in Science, the Year 3 pupils continued learning about skeletons and bones. They carried out an investigation to see if longer femur bones correspond to a longer jump length. They practised using collaborative skills in data collection and analysed their results.

At their own request, they decided to test this out on the playground in groups. Many of them concluded that a longer femur does not always equal a longer jump, and they had a lively discussion about their data!

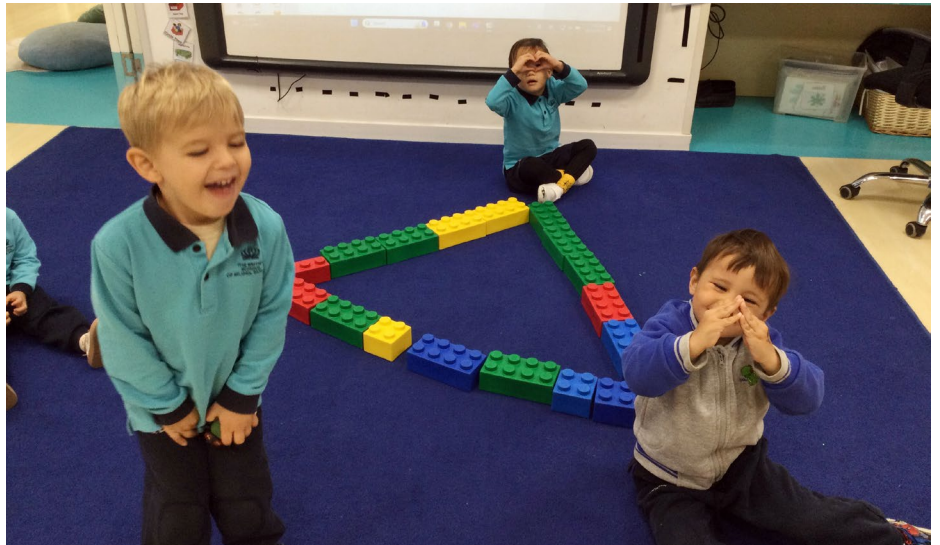




CHINESE UPDATE

By Emily Zhang, Chinese Teacher

Nursery children talked about shapes. They learnt the names of different shapes and tried to describe the shapes of objects we often see in daily life. They also learnt songs of shapes and worked together to make different shapes in their classes.

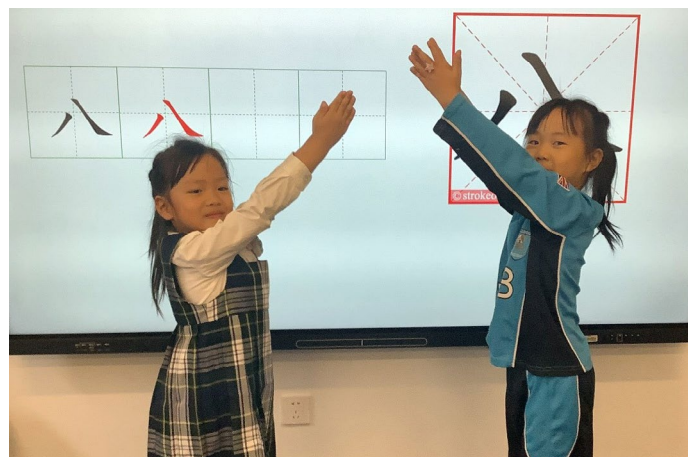


Reception children are learning about 'Zoo Animals'. They will talk about the animals that are often seen in the zoo, such as elephants, lions, tigers, giraffes, etc. The children had a lot of fun playing a shadow matching game.



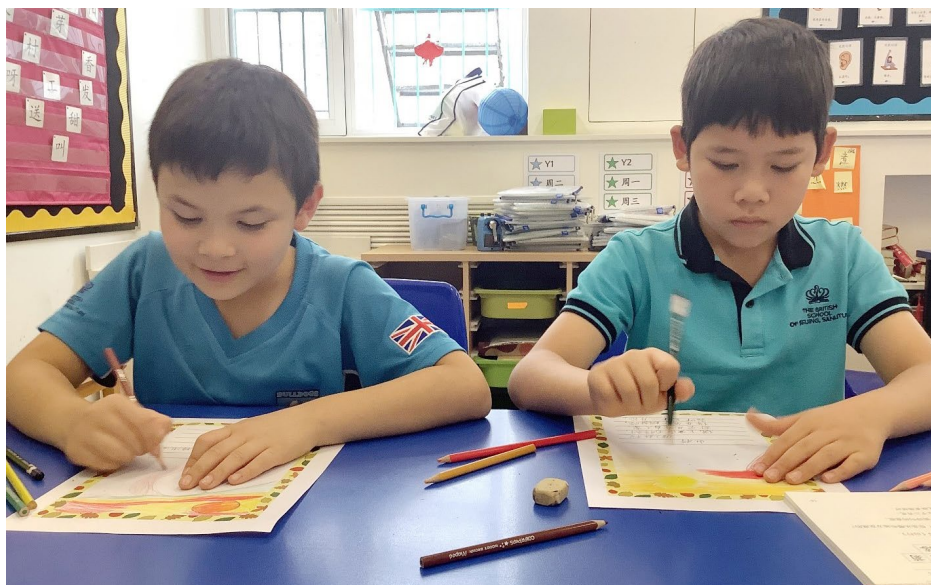
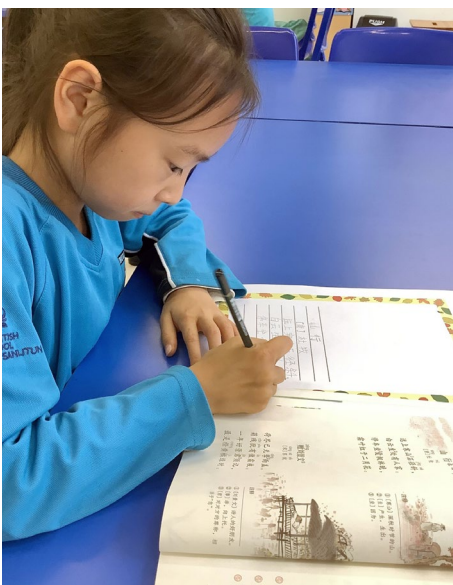
In Year 1 (Native Group) reviewed characters with a variety of fun activities. They practised characters in various interesting ways.

Some used Lego to build the character, some built with their bodies, and some wrote on their whiteboards. They helped and cooperated with each other.





In Year 5 (Native Group), students learnt the poem “山行” (mountain hiking) about Autumn. They used the form of poetry and painting to better understand the artistic concept of this poem composed in ancient Chinese.





WHO ARE OUR HOUSE COMPETITION CHAMPIONS?

By Paul Major, Head of PE

Key Stage 2 students have been tirelessly honing their football skills over the past five weeks. With each lesson dedicated to perfecting dribbling, passing, defending, shooting, and attacking, they prepared for our highly anticipated house competition — where only one team could emerge victorious!



After an exhilarating 60 matches featuring the Saxons, Normans, Vikings, and Romans from Years 3 to 6, we are thrilled to announce that this year's football house competition champions are the... **SAXONS!** Congratulations to all the Saxons for their outstanding performance!





A big shoutout to all participants for their hard work and sportsmanship. We look forward to the next house competition, which will be handball. Good luck to all houses as they gear up for another exciting challenge!

