



# BRITANNICA

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, SHANGHAI

# NEWSLETTER

12th May 2017  
Week 32

Britannica International School is a British school located in the heart of Shanghai, providing a British style education to international families with children aged 2 to 18.



1988 GUBEI ROAD, SHANGHAI 201103 CHINA

Tel: 021 6402 7889

Web: [www.britannicashanghai.com](http://www.britannicashanghai.com)



**DAVID GOODWIN**  
**PRINCIPAL**

**Dear Parents,**

This week IGCSE examinations have been in full flow. We have of course been delighted to see pleased faces exiting the exam room with students having confidently completed papers. Teachers' concerted efforts to mentor and coach students right up to their examinations appears to have already paid off. Our A Level examinations have also started and our Sixth Form's hard efforts over the course of the year will I am sure also reap dividends in their final results.

Next week we start our internal assessments with Reception to Year 10. All students will complete assessments in Mathematics and English that will compare their current attainment with UK averages and their progress within the English National Curriculum. I will be giving a presentation to all interested parents on these assessments in the Secondary Learning Centre at 9:00am on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> June.

Subject based assessments for secondary students will also take place this month and teachers will be talking to pupils about the nature of these for their subject and they will be carried out in normal lesson time.

Next week I will be travelling to Manchester in the UK, for an inter-Orbital school Principal's conference. This will be an opportunity for the Orbital Principals to meet and share experiences and agree on cross-school developments that will take place next academic year. I am looking forward to returning to Shanghai the following week and working with our new school management team as we plan these and other ideas into the school development plan for 2017-2018. Our parent survey is now closed and we are currently looking through the responses made by parents to also help inform our school development plan for next year. Feedback from all staff has also been received, through our annual staff engagement survey, which will also add to the data that helps direct further school development.

Our next big event on the school calendar is our Summer Fair and we do hope that all parents will be able to attend this and those that are interested are also welcome to become more involved in organising a stall or an activity. Parents who would like to offer this additional support should contact Richard Seymore in our marketing office.

Enjoy reading about some of this week's special activities and events.





## Secondary Football Match



Last Friday the Britannica Knights under 18's football hosted their second match of the year against JCID. We had ten of our finest footballers line up for Britannica and even more extremely vocal supporters who stayed on after ASAs to cheer the boys on. The team started off well displaying the kind of teamwork and focus often displayed throughout our Thursday training sessions. We fell behind half way through the first half to a very good first-time strike from the JCID captain, but the team never gave up. Going in at half time 0-1 down the boys showed a tremendous team spirit to keep going in the second half. We conceded another goal shortly after the start of the second half but once again our boys kept going. The team managed to pull a goal back shortly after due to some quick play from a free kick. The

game then turned into a series of heavyweight efforts between Britannica and JCID, trading goals back and forth, with the JCID goalkeeper particular busy stopping us from scoring. I hope they continue their passion as we continue our training and matches between now and the end of the season.

## Mandarin Trip

On Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> May our Year 8, 9 and 10 students went on an exciting Mandarin trip to the famous Yu Garden in Shanghai. During the trip, our students had the opportunity to appreciate the beauty of a traditional Chinese garden. They were amazed by the delicate design of the garden and how over 30 pavilions were linked by a maze of corridors and bridges over ponds. Our non-native learners practised speaking Mandarin with local Chinese people when ordering food in restaurants and shopping in the shops. They have also interviewed local tourists in Mandarin to find out about their lives. We are very proud of the confidence and fluency they demonstrated in these tasks! It has been a great day as we learned more about Chinese architecture, practised speaking Mandarin and had lots of fun!



## Year 8 Samba Time!

Year 8 students have been exploring Samba music, and the colourful tradition of Carnival.

As well as understanding the connection between commedia dell'arte, masquerade, Samba music and dance; students are working hard to create fun, vibrant, and complex rhythmical pieces in addition to practising their musical notation skills!





## Year 5

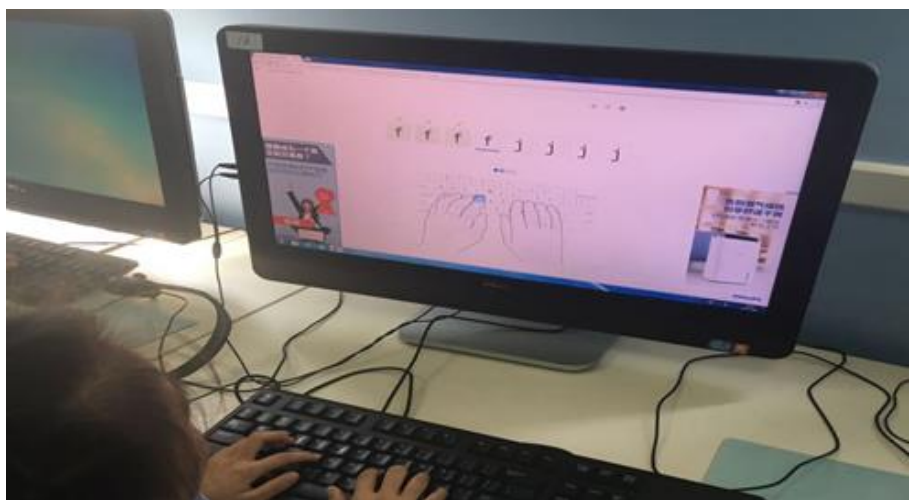
Year 5 have now settled into their final term and enjoying the sunshine.

We are continuing with the construction of our Longships. We have tried our hands (literally) at finger painting and produced some wonderful abstract paintings capturing the journey Vikings took over the perilous seas on their way to raid their neighbours.

In Science we are looking at the life cycles of plants and animals - excitingly, some of our avocado trees have just started to sprout. Some of the children get to check them every day and can't quite believe what is happening.



In ICT we will be using the iPads to make cartoon strips and have continued with Scratch (the programming app) and also started to use a finger typing skills app which will help the children type more efficiently.







## Year 1

Well, what another exciting week 1C have had in class. We have been enjoying keeping our growing area tidy and were so excited to see that some of our vegetables have started to grow! In English this week we have

been learning about imperative verbs; which we call 'bossy' verbs, and have used these to write instructions to teach other children how to look after a garden and plant a bean plant. We have also enjoyed looking after and

watching the changes in our silk worms. Thank you to all the parents who have kindly offered to look after them for the weekend.



## Year 2

Year 2 this week has been reviewing their knowledge of fractions. We have refreshed our memory about halves and quarters, as well as some other fractions but we have been going even further. We have begun to look at and investigate which fractions are

the same as other fractions. For example, we already knew that two-quarters were the same as one half but we didn't know that one-half was the same as four eighths or eight-sixteenths! We used Lego to help us understand the relationships between

the different fractions and to see how easy they all fit together. Some of us have even had a go at adding different fractions together!







# SUMMER • FAIR •

OPEN TO ALL FAMILIES AND FRIENDS

## WHEN

FRIDAY

JUNE 23RD

11AM — 2PM

## WHERE

BRITANNICA

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

1988 GUBEI ROAD

NEAR WUZHONG ROAD

- FEATURING VENDORS, HOUSE STALLS FOR CHARITY, FORM STALLS WITH ACTIVITIES, SPORTING COMPETITIONS AND MUSICAL PERFORMANCES

TO RESERVE YOUR PLACE AT THIS FREE EVENT, PLEASE CONTACT BRITANNICA'S MAIN RECEPTION ON (+86) 6402 7889

PLEASE NOTE THAT CURRENT BRITANNICA PARENTS DO NOT REQUIRE TICKETS.





## Week in Pre-Nursery

We have had another fun week in Pre-Nursery and have been busy doing many activities to do with our topic, Growing. This week our beans have grown very big and tall, we had to re-pot them in a bigger pot! Our tadpoles have all grown back legs and we are still waiting patiently for them to turn into frogs. We have also been busy learning a special song for our mothers for Mother's day. We wish all of the Mum's from our Pre-Nursery class a very Happy Mother's day for Sunday. We hope you enjoy looking at our photos of these and some of the other hands-on activities we have been doing in our class this week.







## Week in Nursery

We have had a lovely week of learning, exploring and baking! It was wonderful to see Fathers supporting the secret mission for Mother's Day, so we thank you for your support-the cakes looked delicious! We wish all Mums a Happy Mother's Day!

When the weather has been suitable, we have been outside exploring the water play. Children have enjoyed using the brushes and different pots and pans for pouring and measuring, in preparation for our baking activity. Inside we have been learning about planting and creating our own flowers. We have been using the lan-

guage of size to talk about how tall plants grow and comparing them with the height of the children, asking who is the biggest and who is the smallest? Children have enjoyed measuring themselves using the beanstalk height chart and recording their different heights. Another enjoyable week at Nursery!







# Week in Nursery







## Week in Reception

Summer seems to have finally arrived with the warmer temperatures! And we plan to spend more time outside, air quality and weather permitting! We started off our week with preparations and rehearsals for Mother's day on Friday, practicing and rehearsing our songs and poems to be performed.

The children visited the Shanghai Natural History Museum on Wednesday and we enjoyed look-

ing at and learning all about the fossils, dinosaurs and other animals on display. We especially enjoyed areas dedicated to the evolution and the Mesozoic life and seeing the very big T-Rex! We had an opportunity to 'Rediscover Nature' by looking at live lizards, reptiles, fish, and turtles. Special thanks to Izabella, Ashley, Halee, Dong Ho, Yejun and Leon from Secondary, who accompanied us on the trip.

Friday was a day well spent with all of our Mums who enjoyed their Mother's day morning in their child's classrooms. They were entertained with songs, poems and a variety of activities such as arts and crafts and making cards. They were even treated to some quality pampering by the students.

Have a wonderful Mother's day weekend!



Birds around the world



Dinosaur eggs are very strange looking!



Careful!



Having fun with friends at the museum



I'm not scared of a Komodo Dragon!



Lizards!



Look what we found!



Look...it's a dinosaur!





## Week in Reception



Looks like they ate all of our plants overnight!



Our dinosaur faces are scarier!



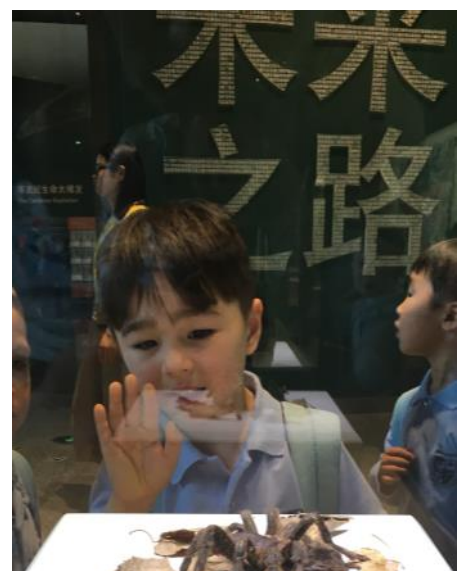
Placing it in the egg daycare!



Reception B Boys and Girls Having a Great Time at the Natural History Museum



Scary!



Tarantulas



We found the Pterodactyl!



Taking care of mum's nails



Treating our mums to some hair treatments



Massage anyone



Dinosaur fun





## 2016 –2017 SPRING TERM BRITANNICA SCHOOL CALENDAR



### May 2017

Monday 15th May — Trip for Year 7

Friday 19th May — Trip for Year 5 and 6

Tuesday 23rd May — Year 2 trip

Friday 26th May — Year 1 trip

Tuesday 30th May — National Dragon Boat Festival Holiday - School Closed



### June 2017

Thursday 1st June — Year 3 school trip

Tuesday 6th June — Swim Gala KS1

Wednesday 7th June — Swim Gala KS2

Thursday 8th June — Swim Gala Reception (morning) & Secondary (afternoon)

Wednesday 14th June — Teacher Appreciation Day

Tuesday 20th June — Summer Term ASAs finish

Friday 23rd June — Summer Fair

Friday 30th June 12:00 noon — End of Term



**ALL DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

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