



BRITANNICA

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, SHANGHAI

NEWSLETTER

24th November 2017
Week 13

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.



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DAVID GOODWIN
PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents,

Thank you to those mums and dads who attended the school on Wednesday for our EAL Open House and Presentation. We were delighted to share with you the work that we are doing with your children to improve their English. At Britannica, our reputation for EAL teaching has now achieved city-wide recognition, with more EAL/TEFL qualified teachers among the teaching staff than most other international schools. These quality staff, of course, benefit all pupils, regardless of whether they have EAL needs or not, as it means that any EAL students can be better accommodated in the normal class setting without it leading to a sliding in standards of teaching to other children. This is a factor often neglected in other schools. Our standardised English assessments, that we carry out on all students, have always clearly shown the excellent value added and good progress that all Britannica pupils make in English when compared to national and international norms.

Parents will know that one of my previous management posts was with Harrow in Beijing, I was therefore particularly thrilled to see us winning our secondary football match against Harrow Shanghai on Thursday. Those of you who attended the match will also have been aware of the huge support the team received from the teaching staff and other pupils, many of whom were on the side lines cheering on the team. Much of the growing success of our sport this year stems from the impact that Mr Ross McKechnie is making as our new Director of Sport. Him and I are having many exciting discussions about other new sporting opportunities that we are arranging, including a potential trip to Spain in the Summer Term to participate in a sailing course and also twin with our sister Orbital school on the Island of Mallorca. As many parents are also aware, Mr Anthony Chevrier is also making huge strides forward with our swimming squad, who have plans to attend a two day swimming meet in Nanjing in the new year. It's clearly a great time to be a sportman/woman at Britannica, with many wonderful opportunities on the horizon.



Week in Pre-Nursery

Pre-Nursery have had a fantastic first week back with their new topic "My Family". They have been learning about their homes, new vocabulary about families and creating house collages. They particularly enjoyed using their fingers as families to sing the Family Finger Rhyme!





Week in Nursery

Nee-naw nee-naw! We have started our new topic of "People that help us" by learning about a Policeman and a Firefighter this week. The children have been exploring their new classroom role play areas and the children have started to gain an understanding of the roles of the Police and Fire services.

Nursery A have been focussing on the role of a Policeman this week. They have been busy reading the story "When I grow up" and talking about their future career aspirations! They have been making community helper hats, handprint painting Policeman and they have been exploring their mathematics area car park to make sure the cars are parked by the correct number!

Nursery B have been learning about the Fire Service. They have worked as a group to create a Fire Engine for the Fire station role play area, they have been collaging red-hot fires and have used everyday objects such as straws, lolly pop sticks, and twigs to make ladders for the Firefighters to climb up! It has been a very exciting and enriching first week of the term. Next week, we will be learning about the roles of a Doctor and a Nurse and have a special visit from Nurse Wellna.

The Nursery Team





Week in Nursery





Week in Reception

This week, Reception began their new topic "All around the World".

We have been learning lots of interesting facts and have found out that the planet Earth has 5 oceans and 7 continents! Each child plotted where they were born on a class map and they got creative making flags. They also had a blast making passports and pretending to go on an aeroplane trip around the world.

In Numeracy lessons, we have been thinking about ordinal language. The children have taken part in lots of different challenges and races and made medals to celebrate coming first, second and third.

During our Literacy lessons, we have learnt the new sounds "th", "sh" and "ch" as well as continuing to develop our reading and writing skills.

Please remember that next week our PE pathway will change once again so that the children have the opportunity to experience a different sporting activity. Please ensure children have the correct kit in school on Tuesday.





Week in Reception





Year 1

Year 1 started their new Topic with a bang! Acting as detectives they were tasked with exploring the objects, equipment, models, pictures, maps, and photographs to determine the context for their learning over the coming weeks.



Through careful questioning, they spotted the links between the resources and decided that an appropriate title for their new topic was "Super Explorers". They then returned to their classrooms to discuss what questions they would like to answer before embarking on their learning journey.



Year 2

In Year 2 this week, we have been focusing on our ICT skills. We have been using Dance Mat Typing to help us position our hands correctly on the keyboard and become faster at typing. We also created our first PowerPoint, which included a title, picture, and animations to make it more interesting. Luckily our ICT experts were on hand to help when things went wrong.



In English this week we have been learning about past tense verbs. We discussed when to use past tense and were even able to become little teachers and help others. This helped us continue our writing of our own stories building up to our problem!



Maths has been full of doubles and halves. We were able to use playing cards to help us practice our doubling even challenging some of the teachers to a game!





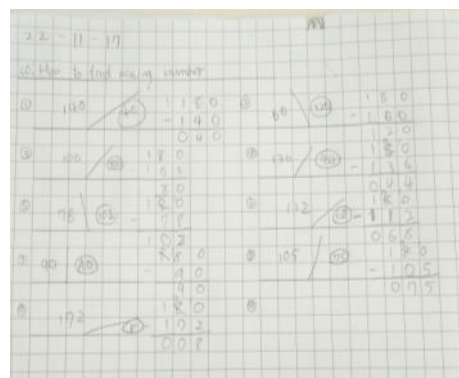
Year 3

What an exciting week Year 3 have had! This week saw the start of our new topic "Celebrations Around the World", and as such we have been learning about the celebration of Thanksgiving. The children have had so much fun completing activities such as making their version of the Mayflower boat and testing which boat was able to hold the most weight. Year 3 have also made houses for the pilgrims to live in. Today Year 3's parents were invited to make a dreamcatcher of their own using instructions that we have written this week. We also shared a special Thanksgiving feast!



Year 4

It has been an action packed first week back in Year 4. The children have gotten straight back to work, and we have covered a lot this first week back. In Maths, we finished our unit on measures, with children reading scales and converting between different units of measure. We did this by multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1000. Now, we are looking at angles, and children have been able to identify different types of angles and order them from smallest to largest. Some children have found missing angles and measured them using a protractor. In English, we have begun looking at information texts, and the children have done their own research into King Henry in preparation for writing their own. They have really enjoyed learning all about Tudor Britain, and the interesting life of King Henry the 8th.





Year 5

This week was the last week in the net and/or wall games unit. Year 5 were very eager to tell everyone what they learnt:

“In PE, we have learnt about different sports such as tennis and badminton. On Tuesday, we played a fun game that involved hitting balls to each other, it was similar to volleyball, but with the tennis racquet. We also participated in a relay; you had to hit the ball with the racquet and try to get the ball to the hoop. To do this we had to use skills called forehand and backhand. Forehand is when you face the right if you are right-handed, and you only use your right hand to hold the racquet. To hit the ball backhand, you hold the racket with both hands, if you are right handed you face the left with your left hand on top.”



Year 6

This week, Year 6A have been finishing off their unit on instructions. They are currently preparing a “Survival Guide” which will explain what to do in case of a range of emergencies. This will include instructions on what to do in an earthquake, how to build an igloo, and even how to escape from quicksand! 6B have begun the new topic of Newspapers. They decided to see what was happening in the world “right now” and picked a story to create their own front page around. The children listened to a news story and wrote down key points to include in their article. They then set up their own “newsroom”. Each child had a dedicated task or role to complete by a deadline and worked incredibly well together. The end result was very impressive.





World Languages Assembly: Promoting our multicultural community

"If you talk to a man in a language he understands, that goes to his head.

If you talk to him in his language, that goes to his heart."

Nelson Mandela

Here at Britannica, we care about both aspects of our multicultural community: native languages and foreign languages.

The acquisition of more than one language enriches personal growth and promotes international understanding; therefore, knowledge of another language is an essential element of the Britannica curriculum.

With students from around 42 nationalities, we not only want to encourage our native language learners to be proud of their language heritage, but to also help them to maintain their identity and further develop a cultural understanding and empathy.

For our foreign languages students, we believe that competency in a foreign language is a valuable life skill, a powerful tool both in societal communication and as a means of personal reflection which also heightens flexibility in thinking and fosters an ability to think cross-culturally.

This year in Secondary, we are teaching Japanese, Italian and Korean as native languages and we offer Spanish and French as foreign languages.

On Monday, students gathered to show and promote world languages and they discovered how fun and rewarding it is to learn a language:

Our Japanese native learner, Ryunosuke Year 10 made a quiz about Japan. All the students were so excited to try to answer his questions and we learned a lot about Japan.

Do you know how many universities are there in Japan? 778 Universities

Do you know in the 3000 onsens (hot springs) in Japan, people put a towel on their heads. Why do they do this? Because they are not allowed to put towels in the bath.

Our Korean native learners became singers of Busker Busker (Korean band) for the occasion. Dong Ho Choi(Y10) and John(Y10) sang a Korean song for us. 벚꽃엔딩 (Cherry Blossom Ending) expresses the emotions many Koreans feel in Spring, and the lyrics are quite poetic and literary.

Through great movies, Foreign language learners of Year 7 and Year 9 showed us their skills of speaking in French.

Year 7 students made a terrific video on how to describe yourself and others which remind us the famous game Who is Who?

Year 9 Students made also a funny video about their routine and how to say time in French.

Congratulations to our students who performed so well and engaged a lot in their learning of world languages.





Key Stage 2 EAL Welcome Morning

On Wednesday morning parents were invited into school to see some of the fantastic work that their children have been doing in EAL support. Parents were welcomed with a warming cup of coffee on a wet November morning, whilst listening to pupils reading some of the work they have been completing this year. The children showed huge amounts of bravery standing up and reading to a packed library and showcased their excellent work well. Parents were incredibly impressed at the high standards of effort that pupils have put into completing their work and the amazing progress that they have already made this year.

After the presentation pupils and parents took part in EAL lessons, giving parents the opportunity to experience what it is like for their children in the classroom. And they were not there just as observers! They might have thought that their school days were long gone; however our EAL teachers had different ideas, as parents got involved with word games and reading activities, pupils were able to put their mums and dads in the spotlight for a change.

The morning was a buzz of fun and learning, and we are incredibly proud of what pupils were able to show they have achieved. Mr Couchman and the English Faculty are already looking forward to the next opportunity to welcome more parents into school to see some of the amazing work that is going on!





Secondary Badminton Team in Action this Week



Match Report - U18's football: Britannica Knights v Guanghua

Britannica Knights fought hard with a 2-0 win over the visitors this week. In the end, it was settled by two strikes from the lethal Damien Ong – his second an absolutely superb goal into the top of the net.

In an all-round disciplined performance, Ulysse Negros stood out as the driving force from midfield – his energy to win the ball back and then support the attack was impressive to watch. The match also saw the debuts of David, Ye Jun and Kevin, who all fared well in the notoriously fast-paced world of Shanghai boys school football.

A final note must also be made about the extraordinarily high standards of refereeing on display in the match by Mr Barclay. Well done boys!



English

This week, has been very busy in the English department with many students completing their end of topic assessments. Students have been working hard to prepare for these and enjoy the opportunity to show off all their skills and knowledge.

Elsewhere in English, A-Level student Conrad has been analysing two complex novels. He has been studying "*The Handmaid's Tale*" (Margret Atwood) and "*Never Let Go*" (Kazuo Ishiguro) examine the way in which these novels explore themes of Society and Science. Both narratives are set in a dystopian society where humans have had to resort to desperate and controversial measures to ensure their survival.

"I have found both these novels interesting. I read *The Handmaid's Tale* first and I really enjoyed it. When I started reading *Never Let Me Go*, I thought I wouldn't like it as much but by the end, it was definitely my favourite. In fact, it was so good I read it all in just two sittings." – Conrad, Year 13





Music Department

Runner-up Assembly for Britannica's Got Talent

On Friday, 10th November we had a special runners-up Assembly for those who didn't quite make it to the finals of Britannica's Got Talent. It was amazing to see the talent and also how difficult the choices were to decide who was to go through to the finals. Here are some pictures from that Assembly!



Left to Right – Jerry Dai Y2D, Amber Yu Y3A, Aglaia Yang Y3B, Kjiro Tanaka Y4B, Hye Rim Park Y6A, Ryoichiro Ota Y6A and Louis Weng Y6A.

Unfortunately, there was a Year 6 girls group that were unable to perform due to one of them being sick. Well done to all 7 performers

PRODUCTION HONK!

We have had many students lining up to audition for our Production HONK! At present we are still waiting for the last few forms to come back and we are hoping to start auditions next Monday. A list should be out on the music door for times of auditions for students. | Don't forget to check your audition time!



WINTER CONCERTS



We will be having our annual Christmas Concerts in the second last week of school December 11th – 14th.

EFS will be on Monday 11th starting at 9.15am with a morning tea for parents and grandparents, KS1 will be on Wednesday starting now at 1.30pm due to buses having to leave at 3.15pm, KS2 will be on Tuesday Night from 6 – 7 pm with some pre-concert drinks and nibbles KS3/4 will be on Thursday Night from 6 – 7 pm with some pre-concert drinks and nibbles

All parents, friends, and students are welcome to all the performances and I can guarantee that they are going to be full of fun and exciting performances.

Carols at the Fairmont

A reminder for next Friday, on December 1st, Britannica Voices 1 will be singing at the lighting of the Christmas tree at the Fairmont Peace Hotel. If you would like to attend and support students, it will be starting at approximately at 6.45pm and finishes at 7.30pm.

Estelle Owens
Director of Expressive Arts



After School Activities

First of all, thank you to everyone in KS1 who has registered their children to activities for the spring term. I hope the new approach ensured a much smoother process than last time. I'd like to remind all parents of important dates regarding ASAs.

- Monday, November 27th: Registration for spring term ASAs opens for KS2 children
- Monday, November 4th: Registration for spring term ASAs open for Reception and Secondary children
- Friday, December 8th: The final day of the Autumn term's ASA programme
- Monday, January 15th: Spring term ASAs begin

Finally, if you have any fees due for the Autumn term, please bring these to school as soon as possible.

Thank you,

David Hunter

Match Report: U18's Football: Britannica's Sporting Success!

A packed Britannica enjoyed a deserved football victory over Harrow this week. The match had been billed as somewhat of a grudge match with Britannica looking to get revenge for a narrow loss in the reverse fixture last month. The first half was a tight affair full of excitement. The deadlock was broken late in the first half when John used his pace to sneak in between defender and goalkeeper to poke the ball home. There was a setback in the second half when Harrow equalised with an excellent volley from the edge of the box. This only seemed to fire the boys up and they fought hard to find the goal that would put them in the lead again. Dong-Ho came close when he smashed the bar with a shot from the half way line. John then had two great chances and it seemed like it was only a matter of time before they found the net again. The goal came when Ulysse picked the pocket of his opponent in midfield and played in John who managed to beat the keeper at his near post. Britannica had to survive a few scares and goalkeeper Noe did his part to keep his team in the lead with a few smart saves. The victory was ensured late on when Damien smashed in his third goal in two games. Final score 3-1 to Britannica!



Pumpkin Palooza 2017 – Raffle Prizes

We would like to again share with you the full list of Pumpkin Palooza 2017 raffle winners, along with our congratulations to those who were lucky enough to win a prize. A number of prizes are yet to be collected and those not claimed by 1st December will be placed in the Summer Fair raffle for 2018. If you recognise your name, please contact Mr. Botha by email at conrad.botha@britannicashanghai.com



Pumpkin Palooza 2017 Prize Winners

Raffle Prize	Sponsor	ticket number	Name
Drive the new Alfa Romeo	Alfa Romeo	1133	Stan Berrard
Two night stay / Mountain View Suite	Banyan Tree	172	Michael Xu
Disney VIP package	Master Kong	707	Ning
iPad Pro	Private	6662	Isla Gillespie
Thai Boxing classes	Revive Gym		Eugen Rothermel
A night stay	Rosewood Hotels Sanya	0004	Afra Rashed
Interior Design Consultation	Ryan O'Hara	4238	Izabella Benovitskaya
4 nights stay	The Suite Hotel	4642	Sarah
2 nights stay / Kandaya Resort, Cebu, Philippines	Thomas Cook	5767	Kojiro Tanaka
Paul Smith rug	TonyBrody	1330	Seung Hwan Lee
1 month gym membership	Z&B Fitness	3815	Lee Yang-ick
10 zumba classes	Z&B Fitness	3323	Jaclyn New
FitBit	Private	1497	Washington Zhou
Gift Certificate	Banyan Tree	4890	Serena Wang
Dinner Voucher	Cantina Agave	4728	王多茂 Wang Duo mao
Wine and Drink vouchers	Cape Grape	1811	Vincent
Dinner Voucher	Diner	5755	Tsz Yuen
Dinner Voucher	Lychee	2533	Madeline
Voucher	Madison Deli	1339	Donghao Lee
Dinner Voucher	Mr Nice	2479	Emily Chen
Cocktail bottle drinks	Rooty Mooty	1234	Zahar
Painting	Ryan O'Hara	6521	Kristen Stanley
Voucher	Blind Pig	464	Gayatri
Afternoon tea for two	Westin	1421	Max
Complimentary Dental Cleaning	Alpha Dental	5479	Ryan Ohara
Complimentary Dental Cleaning	Alpha Dental	2538	Wang Zhi Hong
Complimentary Dental Cleaning	Alpha Dental	4442	李晓燕 Li Xiaoyan
Physical Therapy Session	AMC	1452	Liu Zheng zhong
Gift Set	Lu Ming Tang	1420	佑佑 you you
Child's blanket	MIXBasic Design Studio	3833	Gota
Child's blanket	MIXBasic Design Studio	2818	Talia Yuen
Child's blanket	MIXBasic Design Studio	1006	YangHwan Lee
Child's blanket	MIXBasic Design Studio	1211	Euna
Child's blanket	MIXBasic Design Studio	319	Cindy
Child's blanket	MIXBasic Design Studio	6783	Linda Shen
Child's blanket	MIXBasic Design Studio	6763	Ann Zhu
Child's blanket	MIXBasic Design Studio	4573	Ding Zi Ling
Shopping Voucher RMB 300	MIXBasic Design Studio	5386	Billy Yu
Shopping Voucher RMB 300	MIXBasic Design Studio	2936	Mark Ma
Shopping Voucher RMB 300	MIXBasic Design Studio	4610	Enchan Lee
Shopping Voucher RMB 300	MIXBasic Design Studio	1550	Samuel Lee



Pumpkin Palooza 2017 Prize Winners

Raffle Prize	Sponsor	ticket number	Name
Reading Class Voucher	My English	1216	Bumjin Choi
Reading Class Voucher	My English	219	陈翔翔 Chen Xiangxiang
Hair cut coupon	Qkuts	3358	Zhao Ting
Hair cut coupon	Qkuts	55	陈娇 Chen jiao
Hair cut coupon	Qkuts	468	Gaya Tri
Hair cut coupon	Qkuts	1913	刘南聪 Liu Nancong
Hair cut coupon	Qkuts	3426	Klawsia Kuppusami
Hair cut coupon	Qkuts	3172	Lia He
Nail Polish Set	QKuts	49	Ying Sun
Nail Polish Set	QKuts	889	Joy Yang
Voucher for 2 classes	The Language Lab	368	Chloe Zhou
Health & Smart B1 wrist band	Private	178	Michael Xu
Dacom Athlete Headset	Private	341	Hui Xu
Mobile Bluetooth Speaker	Private	358	Liu Xue Li
Voucher for brow shaping and colouring	Esthete	3260	Fan Li
Gift Bag	Costa Cruise	2749	Youzhen Ling
Gift Bag	Costa Cruise	3229	Bankole
Gift Bag	Costa Cruise	5382	Sandra Tang
Gift Bag	Costa Cruise	1818	Vincent
Gift Bag	Costa Cruise	2891	Erin Rowe
Gift Bag	Costa Cruise	385	Jianming Chen
Gift Bag	Costa Cruise	1290	Michelle Qiu
Gift Bag	Costa Cruise	119	Tsz Yuen Chun
Trozok Donut travel charge station	Private	1494	Washington Zhou
Leravan Magic Touch	Private	2023	William Y
Disney Merchandise	Private	1771	曹俊 Cao jun
Disney Merchandise	Private	1366	Edwin Po
Disney Merchandise	Private	205	王青怡 Wang Qingyi
Disney Merchandise	Private	150	范宇好 Fan Yuyu
Disney Merchandise	Private	2049	Wesley Hung
Disney Merchandise	Private	6511	Quan Trang
Disney Merchandise	Private	2907	Emma Arnold
Disney Merchandise	Private	2314	Daniel Caro
Disney Merchandise	Private	5452	Savita Iyer
Soft toy(s)	Private	1598	Stacey Lewery
Soft toy(s)	Private	1572	Hee Won
English Class	Language Lab	2771	Chad Loo
Hello Kitty	Private	183	Aipei Xu
Dinner Voucher	Geneva	4228	Cindy



2017 – 2018 AUTUMN TERM BRITANNICA SCHOOL CALENDAR



December 2017

Friday, 1st December—Open Day for Prospective KS1 Parents

Saturday, 2nd December—Open Day for Prospective KS1 Parents

Tuesday, 5th December—Geography Trip to the Shanghai Urban Planning Hall

(Year 9 and Year 10 students)

Wednesday, 6th December – Year 1 Trip to Children's Museum

★ Thursday, 7th December - Year 5 Open Morning for current parents

Friday, 8th December – Year 2 Zotter Chocolate Factory Trip

Friday, 8th December – The final day of the Autumn term's ASA programme

★ Monday, 11th December—Friday, 15th December—Winter Concert Week

Friday, 15th December — Nursery Trip to EDay Town

Wednesday, 20th December— Reports Sent Home

Friday, 22nd December— Last Day of School (school closes at 12 o'clock)



★ Parent Event All School EYFS Primary Secondary School Holiday Other

ALL DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

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