



KINDERWORLD KINDERGARTEN @ HANOI TOWERS

NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2022

Dear Parents / Guardians,

An extremely warm welcome back at last to the academic school year! We have all waited very eagerly for the day to finally arrive when children would once again be filling the school with their laughter and energy – and at last, the day arrived.

Children have settled back into the routine of the school very quickly and already are engaged in a wide variety of exciting learning opportunities.

This will be a short but incredibly exciting term, with special events such as Children's Day at the beginning of June, with school photographs, water play programme and a range of exciting activities in-between.

This year we are pleased to report that we have a new STEM room – fully equipped with the latest speciality items designed for Kindergarten levels. This enables young children to have a chance to explore and experiment with technology and gives them a firm foundation for working with engineering and technology in the later grades.

In addition, we now have a specific room for musical activities. Music is a key aspect of Kindergarten, enabling pupils to learn about rhythm and rhyme as well as develop listening and speaking skills.

We would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank you for your continued support and enthusiasm and we look forward to working in partnership with you this academic year.

Stephanie C. Mills
Head of Kindergarten

Upcoming Important Dates:

Monday 2nd / Tuesday 3rd May - School closed – Public Holiday

Wednesday 4th May – Water play programme starts

Tuesday 24th / Wednesday 25th May - School photographs

Wednesday 1st June – Children's Day

News around the Classrooms

EXPLORING MATHS IN K2

Students in our K2 classes are now becoming confident in numbers and counting. This is an important skill and parents can help at home by giving their child a small number of items e.g. 8 spoons etc. and asking them to count them out. When counting out it is important to encourage your child to physically point to each item in turn or move the item from one side to the other.



Games are an interesting way to reinforce numbers and students enjoyed our fishing game – using magnetic fishing rods to catch and name different numbered “fish”.

Students also enjoyed working with online games, finding different numbers as well as remembering games, comparing and matching to find different pairs.



When working with numbers with your child, remember to sometimes pause so that they are thinking about the numbers instead of simply saying them without thought. In addition, it is good to count forwards and backwards as well as starting counting from different numbers e.g. starting counting from 6 instead of always starting at 0 or 1.



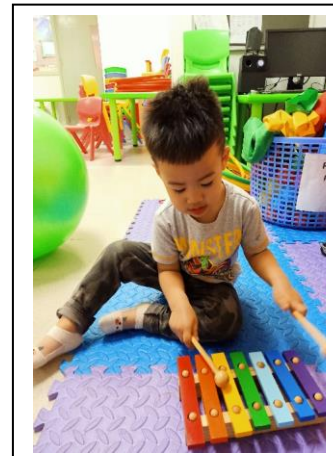
OUR YOUNGEST PUPILS



Our Puppy Class has started school with great enthusiasm and a few tears. Everyone is now getting used to the routine of the school day and are learning to play and share with others.

One very important skill that we concentrate on in pre-nursery class is the development of fine motor control skills. Through building up strength in students' hand muscles, they are able to have the skills to hold utensils that will enable them to draw, paint and cut.

To achieve this, pupils have an opportunity to work with activities that encourage the key skills e.g. finger isolation skills/releases, grasps/finger, and hand manipulation.



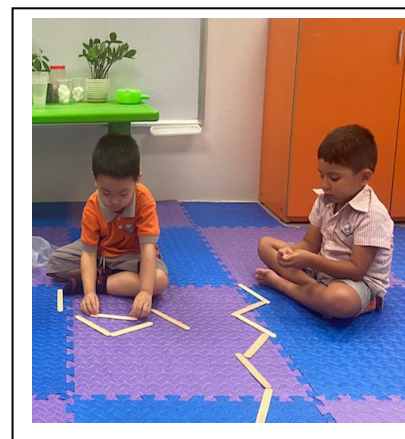
Parents can help reinforce this at home through providing their child with as many opportunities to work carefully with their fingers as possible e.g. through opening and closing items / picking things up using pegs/ unwrapping items etc.

K1 EXPLORING IN OUR NEW STEM ROOM



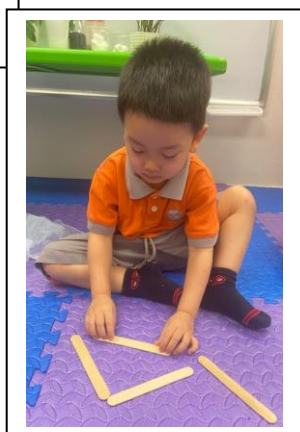
For the academic year 2021 – 22, we installed a brand new STEM room.

In this room students focus on the areas of science/technology, engineering and mathematics and through having a separate space to be able to work means that students can engage in large projects with their experiments being able to be easily stored in the room until their next session.



An important part of STEM is asking questions that stimulate thought so questions such as “Why do home and school look different?”/ “How do you think that we could make a school building even better?” were asked.

In the first week of school, pupils were focusing on the differences between home and school life and worked in the STEM room to explore the two different types of buildings using a range of materials.



NUMERACY IN PREP

In our maths lessons, we have been working hard on developing our counting skills.



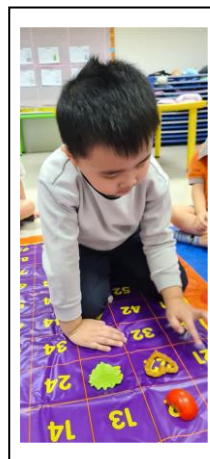
We started with revising counting and backwards with our giant number mat. With our giant mat, it is easy to see the relationship between numbers (e.g. the similarities and differences between 11 / 21 / 31 / 41 etc.) Simple games can be played, such as rolling something on the mat and then naming that number as well as the numbers before etc.



We then extended our knowledge through learning how to skip count (which is the basic learning block for multiplication).

Students were asked to count in groups of 2, 3, 4 and 5 physically putting down individual cubes to help them with this process.

The results were then recorded and the concept was reinforced by students placing items on the giant mat so that they could easily see the spaces in-between numbers when skip counting.



CIRCLE TIME IN NURSERY

Circle time is an important time in all classrooms – it is a time at the beginning and the end of the lesson when all of the pupils come together as a whole class.

During this time pupils are able to work cooperatively as a whole class, listening to and answering questions, learning how to wait their turn with sharing games and interacting physically with rhythms and rhymes.



If parents want to practice circle time activities at home then some great games include – follow the leader – when parents walk around carrying out an action and your child follows behind copying the action / showing your child something of a certain colour e.g. red – and asking them to find or point to something else in the room that is the same colour.



OUR NEW PHYSICAL EDUCATION ROOM



With the new academic year came the formation of our new multipurpose room that is dedicated to physical education and music activities.



Having this large indoor space enables students to be able to move around and explore physical movement.

In the Prep classes, focus is currently on hand-eye coordination – an important skill which not only develops gross physical aspects such as throwing and catching but also fine motor skills such as forming letters, cutting and drawing.

Prep worked on their hand-eye coordination using balancing beams – exploring various ways to move carefully across the beam before developing to explore various ways of moving through hoops.

Teamwork is a very important part of school life, so we developed teamwork skills using the parachute to keep the ball from falling on the floor.

