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KINDERWORLD KINDERGARTEN @ HANOI TOWERS

NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2023

Dear Parents / Guardians,

February was a short but busy month. Many of the classes went out on excursions, from exploring different types of transport in Vinke to investigating different types of insects at Bao Son Paradise.

Parents / Guardians also had an opportunity this month to visit the school both through our parent–teacher meetings as well as our “stay and play” session - it is wonderful to see how involved the families are in the school life.

We finished the month with Dr Seuss week- celebrating the birthday of Dr Seuss with daily costumes and activities. With strong rhythm and rhymes, Dr Seuss books have been educating children for over seventy years and everyone had great fun learning all about the amazing activities and events featured in the stories.

March is looking equally as exciting, with our second “Baby Boogie” session on Wednesday 15th March as well as the celebration of Sports Week – with some classes visiting the KIK@The Manor and SIS@Ciputra to work alongside other schools in physical education activities.

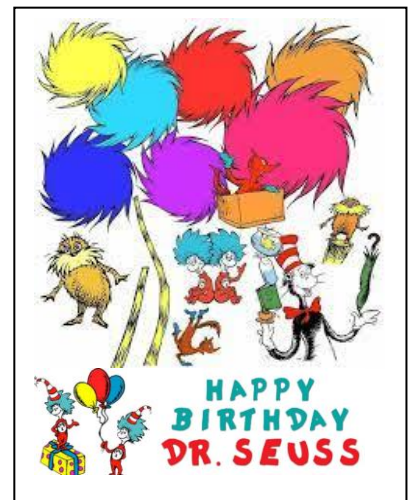
Stephanie C. Mills
Head of Kindergarten

Upcoming Important Dates:

Wednesday 15th March – Baby Boogie

Week of 27th – 31st March – Sports Week

Friday 7th April – STEM stay and play / last day of the school term



News around the Classrooms

NURSERY CLASS EXCURSION



Nursery classes have been learning all about transport. To link with our focus on this topic we took an excursion to Vinke Times City. The children had a great time exploring the different activities.

They had an opportunity to experiment with different kinds of transport such as cars, bicycles, fire engines and trains. They were able to compare and contrast the different types of transport and explore the reasonings behind the variety.



Our trip to Vinke was also a great opportunity for the children to practice, waiting for their turn, sharing and looking after each other in a new environment – all very important life skills.



PREP CLASS MATHEMATICS



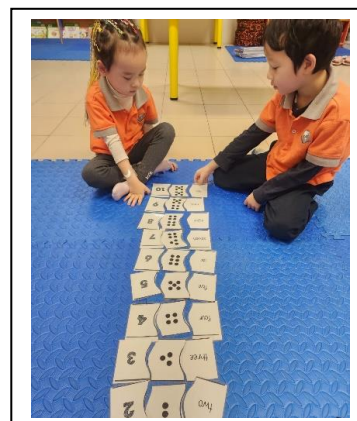
Maths can become a complex subject so we use a lot of hands-on activities and visualization to help students.

We learn about subtraction, addition, ordinal numbers, fractions, and time telling during prep year.

In order to engage the students, we explore, discuss and experiment with different interactive videos, songs, and games. By using a wide variety of methods, students are able to understand the concept much more easily. They are then given time to find a way to solve the problems by themselves, with the teacher always being there to encourage and explain.



Once the student has understood an idea and linked a way to solve the concept problems, they will have all the skills they need to move onto the next level, such as adding in tens, counting larger numbers or telling the time in hours and minutes.



EXPLORING THE BUTTERFLY LIFE CYCLE IN CHICK CLASS



Within our overall topics of “animals”, we focussed on life cycles, with an emphasis on the butterfly life cycle. The students were amazed to discover how a caterpillar could become a butterfly – looking so very different and having such different characteristics.

We compared it to the life cycle of other animals and discovered that most animals have young that look similar to the adult – just a lot smaller!

Students explored the way that a caterpillar moves – practising ourselves during physical education time and then working in the class to experiment more. We started



in our STEM class by cutting long strips of paper and carefully folding them to become a caterpillar shape.

We next explored different ways to make the caterpillar move, discovering that by blowing through a straw at a certain angle will enable to paper caterpillar to crease up on itself as a real caterpillar does and

that the paper will naturally make itself flat once again before another blow will make the caterpillar move once again.

Once we had experimented, the students worked in teams, having caterpillar races to see who could make their caterpillar crawl along the quickest!



ANIMAL INVESTIGATION IN DUCKLING CLASS

This month Duckling class has been learning all about different types of animals – from farm animals to jungle animals and ocean animals.



We worked a lot on classification – working out how to sort animals into the correct category and exploring how we know if they are animals for the farm or if they are from the jungle.



Students also explored the various types of environments that different animals live in and the special ways that animals have adapted to be suitable for that place e.g., a polar bear being white to blend in with snowy conditions.



When exploring ocean animals, we worked practically with water, exploring how fish can live and breathe in the water because of the gills, scales and fins.



LIGHT INVESTIGATIONS WITH OUR STEM LIGHTBOX

This month we took delivery of our new lightbox – this is a great addition to any school and can be used in a multitude of different ways across the curriculum.



Lightboxes are great for hand-eye coordination and even pre-writing skills such as tracing and mark-making. They help mathematically as they enable students to

recognize patterns and shapes as well as benefiting scientifically through the recognition and mixing of colours as well as the exploration of patterns and shapes.



Lightboxes provide the perfect opportunity to develop problem-solving skills, pattern and colour recognition, as well as language development. Through creativity and concentration, problem-solving is the next natural progression for any child.



To develop teachers' knowledge further, a training session on the various ways that the lightbox can be used was held, allowing teachers to learn about the scope of the lightbox and how it can enhance students' learning.



CREATING IN KITTEN CLASS

Art and craft is an essential part of early childhood.

Experimenting in art is important for children because it allows them the freedom to explore the world through their senses, develop their fine motor skills and process and improve hand-eye coordination.



In Kitten class, we encourage students to be themselves through their art in order for them to expand their creative processes and artistic abilities.

Every week they use different materials to gain a more tactile experience of the art materials and experiment with the different textures and colours.



Sometimes, children are reluctant to experiment with art

as they are afraid of their hands getting sticky or covered in paint. To help them understand that this is part of the process, we sit with them side by side and get our hands as "dirty" as theirs. This shows them that there isn't anything to worry about and that they can always wash their hands after.

In due time, students will realize how much fun it is to experiment fully and learn that expressing themselves through art will help them discover a whole new world of possibilities that are unique to their own style and experience.

