



GENERAL NEWS AND INFORMATION

CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS

We are all looking forward to Chinese New Year which is fast approaching. Teachers, children and members of our Parents' Association have been working hard to ensure we have an enjoyable and memorable start to the Chinese New Year festive season.

We are delighted to share details of events taking place in school on Friday 5th February.

● Chinese New Year Shared Activities

We welcome parents to join their child on Friday 5th February to participate in Chinese New Year activities in the classroom. Children and parents are encouraged to wear Chinese dress that day. There will be no change to the school bus service.

● Lion Dance

Our Parent Staff Association has kindly sponsored a Lion Dance for K1 and K2 children. This will take place in the Physical Area and will be performed by students from Li Po Chun College and some performers organised by our parents.

● BakeSale

Our Parent Staff Association has also organised a sale of mouth-watering baked goods. This includes many traditional Chinese treats as well as a selection of cookies and other baked goods. Special thanks to our talented team of cooks! Proceeds from the sale will go towards the purchase of additional resources for our library. ** If you are interested in supporting the Bake Sale by preparing goods for sale, please contact the school office.*

● Red Packets

We will be selling our attractive Red Packets embossed with the ESF / WKS Parents' Association logo.

● Family Fun Day Pre-order

You will be able to pre-order cash coupons and wristbands for the Family Fun Day.

● TechniPhoto Photographers

TechniPhoto Photographers will be in school all day offering an opportunity to have a CNY photograph taken of your child or your family. To arrange a photograph, please contact the school office.

STUDENT PORTFOLIOS /...



STUDENT PORTFOLIOS

As part of our commitment to assessment, recording and reporting on children's learning, teachers at Wu Kai Sha Kindergarten maintain an individual portfolio for each child. The portfolio contains samples of children's learning in the form of photographs, audio or video clips and art and teachers add a number of learning samples each term.

Over the past few months we have been building a new system for sharing children's portfolios with parents and I am pleased to let you know that this system is now ready to use. Please refer to the email recently sent to all parents to find out how to access your child's portfolio. If you have any difficulties accessing the portfolio, do not hesitate to contact the school office.

WKS LANGUAGE FESTIVAL

From 29 February to 4 March children we will be holding a language festival with various activities in school. This coincides with World Book Day which is celebrated internationally on 5 March 2016. There will be various activities taking place across the school during the Language Festival including the Paddyfield Book Fair where parents are invited to browse and purchase a range of high quality books, a special parent workshop about supporting the language development of bilingual children and a character dress up day for children.

STAFF NEWS

We are delighted to have a new member of staff working with Owl Class. Ms Yan Ng joins the team as an EA and brings with her a range of experiences working with young children in educational settings. Please join me in welcoming Yan to the Wu Kai Sha community!



COLD AND FLU PREVENTION

As you will be aware, this time of year is the peak season for common cold and influenza. Presently, we are not aware of any children at our school who have been diagnosed with influenza and we will continue to monitor health in school by following the guidelines set by the EDB.

We ask you to support us in continuing to ensure the health of our community. Please ensure your child regularly washes his/her hands thoroughly with soap, and dries them well. Please monitor your child's temperature on a daily basis and keep him/her home from school if there is a fever, symptoms of a respiratory tract infection or if your child generally seems unwell. If your child is off school for any reason, please call the school office to let us know why.

HKSPC DONATIONS

We have received a letter from the Hong Kong Society for the Protection of Children expressing heartfelt thanks for the generosity shown by Wu Kai Sha Kindergarten families at Christmas. Our school sent a total of 295 gifts to the HKSPC which represents a gift from almost every family in the school.

OUR LEARNING IN K1

The K1s have started their new unit of inquiry 'How We Organise Ourselves'.



Through our central idea '**Human-made systems/services meet the needs of communities**' the children will explore the interconnectedness of human-made systems and communities and inquire into:

- **Systems/ services in our community and how they work (Function)**
- **How systems/ services in the community serve our needs (Connection)**
- **People have roles and responsibilities within a community (Responsibility)**

As an introduction to our new Unit of Inquiry, we have been focusing on the school community by thinking about what school is for and by discussing our roles and responsibilities within the school community. Once we established our roles and responsibilities we looked at other people in our school community, thinking about what they do and how they help us.

As we continue with the unit, we will be extending our inquiry into the larger community, the services a community provides and how these help us meet our needs. You can support your child at home by having discussions about the way things work and are organised, and for example noticing and discussing how various services are organised when you are out and about. Ensure your child has some responsibilities at home (for example tidying up their toys or helping to set the table) to learn about contribution.

Owl class has been interviewing members of the school community to learn about their different roles and responsibilities. The Owls are also inquiring into how they get to school each day and recording their answers on a pictograph.





Eagle class inquired into the roles and responsibilities of themselves and other members of our school community by using miniature figures. We discussed how we can help each other and how people from our school community help us.

Peacock AM class have looked at photographs of different members of staff in the school and considered what their role in the school might be. The children are clear about the role of some of the staff within the school but less clear about the role of other members of staff. We will now use this information to explore how the school works and find out what others do. We have also begun to look at how a supermarket works. Through role play we have discovered that the children have some understanding of a shop but for example are not sure who pays who, or why. We are visiting the supermarket in small groups to continue our learning into the way this service works. The children have begun to think about the way goods are organised in the shop and to sort the products into categories in the class role play shop.

Children have been consolidating their understanding of numbers while playing in the role play shop in school.





The Peacock PM class have also been thinking about the different roles we all have at our school. First we asked the children for their ideas, this generated quite a bit of uncertainty. We decided to create some scenarios to help raise awareness and encourage investigation by the children. First we made the classroom extremely messy, much to the surprise of the children. We then discussed who helps keep the school clean and what is their job in the school. The children then began to ask questions about other members of staff who are part of our community. To extend our inquiry we are asking the children to find out about your roles and responsibilities within your home or workplace.



Language

K1 children are focusing on asking questions. They have been practising this skill during whole class discussions and in interviewing other members of the staff in their inquiry. You can support your child by practising what, where and who questions with your child at home both in their mother tongue and in English.

Maths

We are focusing on data handling in maths, specifically on ways of representing data using pictographs and tally marks. In this work the children are learning the vocabulary 'many', 'most' 'least', 'less'. You can support your child at home by adding things up, and talking about quantity.



OUR LEARNING IN K2

Children in K2 have started their new unit of inquiry under the transdisciplinary theme Sharing the planet. The central idea is:

“People make choices that have an impact on other living things”

The lines of inquiry which will guide our learning are:

- **Living things and their needs (Function)**
- **The interconnectedness of living things and their environment (Connection)**
- **The impact of our choices on living things and their environment (Causation)**

In order to identify what the children know about living things they have been asked to take a photo of a living and nonliving thing they can find in the kindergarten and explain why they think it is living/nonliving. We will use this information to guide our activities and teaching over the course of the unit.

There has been a range of activities set up in the classrooms and shared areas which are intended to provoke children into thinking about living things such as the investigation area in the shared area where children can explore the features of plants and wireworms.

Crane class watched a short film of an orangutan being rescued from captivity, this has inspired them to research what is a suitable habitat for an orangutan and make links to our outing to the Zoological and Botanical Gardens on Thursday 21st January. We have also been preparing for Chinese New Year through arts activities such as lantern decorating and making typical CNY decorations such as gold and red fish.

Robin class have been thinking about how we can look after our pet worms. This has inspired them to make predictions about what will happen to the worms over time and what the worms may need. This has lead to the children thinking about what the animals in the Zoological and Botanical Gardens might need and how we can meet those needs. We have also been preparing for CNY through various art activities. Morning class have been making monkeys.





Magpie class have been fascinated by where different animals live. This lead them to think about the skills they need to become good researchers and where they would find the information. They decided to use non-fiction books and the internet. This allowed them to refine their research. They have been particularly interested in animals that live in caves.



Emu class looked at objects that are living and non-living. Through open ended questioning the children were encouraged to explain their opinions understandings and ideas about living things. They discussed and were able to describe some of the characteristics that makes something living or non-living. This prepared them for the trip to the Zoological and Botanical Gardens. Emu class have also been preparing for CNY through a variety of art activities including making a dragon and fish.

Literacy

The children have been learning letter sounds **s a t i n p m o g d c k** and taking part in a range of activities to develop phonemic awareness. They have been applying their knowledge in this area by writing holiday reflections and creating labelled diagrams of plants.

Maths

The children have been learning to form numbers correctly, they have been doing this through a range of activities such as forming numbers with string, drawing numbers using paints, chalks and other media. One fun video we have been using with the children is called Monster Numbers it can be found on youtube and the link is <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qMQpyjFkdtA> .

To consolidate their previous learning K2 children have been using ladybird spots to match the correct quantities of objects to numbers.



WU KAI SHA
INTERNATIONAL KINDERGARTEN
Inspired to think, explore, achieve



PARENT STAFF ASSOCIATION NEWS /...



PARENT STAFF ASSOCIATION NEWS

FAMILY FUN DAY

Our Family Fun Day will be held on Saturday 12th March at Renaissance College, Ma On Shan. Members of the PSA are busy organising this year's event which promises to be an exciting and entertaining day for everyone!

The main purpose of the fair is to support the development of our school community and provide additional opportunities for parents and staff to be involved in the life of the school. Proceeds raised by the fair this year will be used to develop our school library including the purchase of new books and furniture.



We Need You!

We are still looking for volunteers to help with the organization of the Family Fun Day and assist with the organisation of our exciting programme of events.

If you are able to spare some time on the afternoon/ evening of Friday 11th March or on Saturday 12th March, please contact the school office.

Last year's event was a huge success and really built a strong sense of community in our school. Let's keep that going - your support is greatly appreciated!



KEY DATES AND EVENTS

- Wednesday, 27 January: Parent Stay & Play: Sharing Stories 9am - 10am
- Tuesday, 2 February: Parent Stay & Play: Sharing Stories 9am - 10am & 1pm - 2pm
- Friday, 5 February: CNY Celebrations and CNY Techni Photo
- Monday, 8 to 10 February: Public Holiday (School Closed)
- Monday, 8 February to 14 February: ESF "Half Term Holiday" (School Closed)
- Monday, 15 February: Term Begins
- Monday, 29 February: WKS Language Festival & PARENT WORKSHOP: Bilingualism/One Parent One Language approach 5pm
- Tuesday, 1 March to 4 March: WKS Language Festival
- Tuesday, 15 March: PARENT WORKSHOP: Maths 5pm
- Thursday, 24 March: Staff Meeting (School Closed)
- Friday, 25 March to 28 March: Public Holiday (School Closed)
- Friday, 25 March to Sunday, 10 April: ESF "Term Holiday" (School Closed)
- Monday, 4 April: Public Holiday (School Closed)
- Monday, 11 April: Term Begins