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The Wen Lin Journal

The EPC Primary Newsletter

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Just two more weeks to the Easter break. This term really seems to have flown by—we are now more than half way through the 2008-2009 academic year! It is amazing how fast the children seem to be growing and how much they have matured since August.

As you walk around the school, you will see and hear a huge range of activities whether it be children cooking in the Food Technology Room, groups discussing a class project, teams competing during lunch time ECAs, classes preparing for trips, or wildly creative art and design projects.



Inside this weeks edition of 'The Wen Lin Journal', you will find out what the Tribe Council has been up to, Year 2 and their topic "Where in the World?", art and craft in the German Section and CM1/2 's visit to the Water Park Center. We were also very pleased this week to host 40 visitors from the local community who were treated to a tour of the school, a choir performance and afternoon tea.

Dates for your diary:



- Mon 23rd - Fri 27th March Y6 trip to Kuching
- Thurs 26th/ Fri 27th March Y3 trips to Camp Taiwan
- Wed 1st—Thurs 2nd April Y4 overnight trip to Camp Taiwan
- Fri 3rd April Break up for Spring Break
- Mon 20th April Summer term starts

Section Française



Visite des CM1/2 au Water Park Center

Le WPC est une station d'épuration dotée d'un musée retraçant l'évolution des techniques de pompage et d'épuration de l'eau, depuis un siècle, à Taipei.

Cette station puise l'eau en amont de la ville, directement dans la rivière. Il s'agit donc d'une eau relativement saine comparée à celle qui coule au sein même de la ville. Néanmoins, trois étapes sont nécessaires pour la rendre potable. La première consiste à verser dans un premier bassin par lequel transite

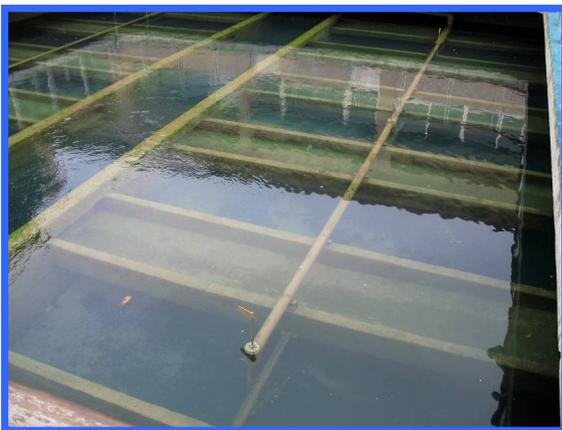
l'eau, un produit dit "coagulant" (ou plumes collantes) qui a pour objectif de regrouper en boulettes les principales impuretés contenues dans l'eau. Une fois ce premier traitement effectué, les boulettes sont recueillies dans un second bassin doté de grilles auxquelles

les-dites plumes vont se coller. Ce bassin est un bassin de décantation où vont aussi être récupérées les impuretés de surface. Finalement, dans un troisième bassin, l'eau est filtrée; elle passe une triple couche, de sable, de graviers et de charbons.

Notre guide nous a assuré que cette eau était potable à la consommation et que si ce n'est pas le cas, c'est en raison des tuyaux, vétustes et parfois en

plomb. Personnellement, j'en doute, étant donné que j'ai visité d'autres stations en France où les procédés étaient nettement plus complexes et les contrôles très exigeants. Les enfants ont toutefois apprécié l'ensemble et notamment la ballade que nous avons pu faire après la visite.

Gilles Dorel.



British Infants



Dear Parents

I have heard 4 or 5 children read from every class now, and I am pleased to say I am delighted with the progress the majority of children are making. Miss Rowe and I have ordered more books for the book boxes and they have now been coded and are in the boxes. We have also had new boxes made by a local company and they mean the books are far more accessible for the children. The children seem to really enjoy reading and this is lovely to see. Thank you for supporting the children at home. Reading is the most important skill for them to acquire at this age, so it needs to be a priority at school and home!



Over the summer term, the children will be going on class trips. The PTA have given each class \$1000 from the profit they made selling cakes in the parent café. This money will be used to either reduce the cost of the trip to the parents, or will be used to buy the children a drink or ice cream whilst out on their trip. The details will be made clear in the individual letters from the teachers about each trip. The school also covers the cost of the transport involved in one trip per class per year, but again the details of this will be made clear in the letters about each trip. We are noticing that coaches are becoming increasingly expensive so you need to be aware of this when the costs are outlined in the letters! I can assure you that the school does not make a profit from any trip organised for the children.

In May and June, each year group puts on an "End of Year" show for the parents to enjoy. Please ignore the dates in the PSC calendar, we will let you know the dates as soon as possible. The Year 1 show for example is down for June 19th, but this is an error. Apologies for any inconvenience this may have caused.

I went to the TES Ballet and Jazz evening last night, and I just wanted to say how much I enjoyed it. The children were amazing so well done to all those involved.

Best wishes

Ruth Martin

British Infants

Year 2 News letter article



Dear Parents

Year 2's topic this half term is 'Where in the World?' Each class is becoming an expert about a particular biome and will be giving a presentation to the other classes about what they have learnt.

We would like to invite all of you in to the Year 2 classes on Thursday 2nd April from 1:15 to 2pm to come and see your child's biome and then take a look at the other classes areas. Please think of 10 questions you could ask your child about their particular biome so they can answer them as 'experts in their field' on the day.

Here are some fabulous quotes from Year 2 stating interesting facts they have already found out:

B2JB: Biome - Polar regions

The Polar Regions surround the North Pole (Arctic) and the South Pole (Antarctica) - Gazelles

Icebergs are made from frozen FRESH water and they break off from a Glacier. - Gazelles

In the North Pole there are polar bears, caribou, seals, snowy owl, arctic hare, huskies, arctic foxes, humpback whale and walruses. In Antarctica we found penguins. - Gazelles

The biggest iceberg found was bigger than Belgium. - Gazelles

In our classroom we have "Giovanni" the Polar Bear. He is as big as a real Polar Bear. It's 2.5m tall. - Gazelles

B2CL: Biome - Ocean

A squid has three hearts. - Dana

The Pacific ocean is the largest of the five oceans. - Rina

Two thirds of the Earth's surface is water and only one third is land. - Charlotte

Graveyard is the deepest part of Deep Valley, which is the deepest part of the Mariana Trench, which is the deepest part of any ocean. - Ian

In the ocean, sunlight only reaches down to 150m deep. - Maia

British Infants



B2MS: Biome - Rainforest

The 4 layers of the rainforest are: emergent, canopy, understory and forest floor. - Nathaniel

Water collects in a Bromeliad, high above the ground - forming a miniature pond for tadpoles. - Marie

A Spider monkey's tail is bald at the end for extra grip. - Dheeman

The Fruit bat sucks the juice from fruits and drops the seeds. It helps to spread the seeds. - Magdalena

In the tropical forests of the Congo live the smallest people in the world. These pygmy people are called Bambutei. - Myra

B2CB: Biome - Savannah

The Savannah is the (tropical) grassland near the equator - Vina

Zebras often mingle with wildebeests to make a large herd. - Banele

African elephants are the biggest mammals on land - Amelie

Grasslands in the tropics have only two seasons - rainy and dry. - Winnie C

Carnivores do not need to eat as often as herbivores. They spend a lot of time resting and sleeping. - Matej

Just for your information

On Monday 30th March during the morning in school time, Year 2 will be traveling to the Senior School at YMS to watch a performance of 'Oliver' put on by some of the older students. There will be no cost for trip as the PTA has kindly put money towards the cost of the transport from the profit made while selling food in the parent's café. The rest is being paid for by the school.

Date for Your Diary

The Year 2 show will take place on Friday 19th June at 1pm in the Amphitheatre.

Thank you for your continued support

The Year2 Team

Tribe Council



What does the Tribe Council do?

The Tribe Council consists of 17 French, German and British students from the Junior Section. Since February, two different students from the Infant section have also been attending each week to give them a taste of what it is like to be a tribe councilor and to help the council to understand the needs of the Infant Section.

This year the council have been involved in some major decisions and events, some involving just the Juniors Section some involving the whole Primary School.



Adopt a Charity

The council worked to identify suitable charities, and to collect votes from their class mates. The result was that the children decided to adopt the Seeing Eye Dog Foundation this year. For more information about this see last week's newsletter.

Pot Plants

The Council persuaded the three heads of the Junior Section to donate a small amount of money to buy pot plants. They visited a garden centre, chose the plants and have been looking after them. Our atrium looks much nicer now.

Tribe disco

In January a disco was held to raise money for our charity and our next major project: a school garden.



Tribe Council

Tribe Shield Competition



Each year we hold a competition to design shields for our 4 tribes. The winning designs are turned into the official shield for the year. This year's winners are:



Bunan

Sydney Cossu (B5KH)



Rukai

Juliana Kao (B5KH)



Paiwan

Marie Ruf (B6GE)



Ami

Melody Chen (B3MC)

What are the plans for the future?

Garden Project

The tribe council in consultation with their classmates would like to develop a school garden. This garden would be for the enjoyment of all children in Infants and Juniors and a great learning resource. An area to develop has been identified and the council are currently working on plans to hold a design competition to decide how our future garden will look.

Crazy Hair Day

To raise funds for both our adopted charity and the garden project the council will be holding a Crazy Hair day on **Friday 3rd April**. Children, staff and, of course, parents are invited to come to school with the wackiest hair style they can think of!! Discos will be held for the Infant and Junior sections during their lunch breaks.



British Juniors



Dear Parents,

Curriculum: I do hope you enjoyed the half term break at the beginning of this month. On Wednesday 4th March the teachers spent time carefully reviewing our provision to ensure we are covering the important skills and knowledge as outlined in the English National Curriculum for England. We want to ensure that we provide opportunities to enrich children's learning and one way of doing this is through school trips. Last week the children in Year 4 visited the Aboriginal Museum at Sheun Yi and on Monday 23rd March our year 6 children are setting off for a week in Malaysia.

Playtimes: Our latest craze is a ball game called 4 Square. This is a game that is very popular in New Zealand and Australia and in fact was suggested by Mr Palmer. We have six 4 Square courts painted on the concrete area in the Junior playground. Children from the German, British and French sections were taught how to play by Mr Milner during a special assembly last week. The aim of the game is to be the King and to stay in that position for as long as possible - not easy as I have found out when I played with Year 5 during Tuesday's Sports Club.

Local Community Visit: Yesterday about 50 members from our local community were invited to visit the school. The children in Mr Lee's Year 5 Chinese class took groups of visitors on a tour of the building and grounds. Entertainment was provided by our school choir who sang beautifully and this was followed by afternoon tea in the canteen. The visitors were impressed with our school and were very complimentary about our children who they described as 'cute and adorable'.

Uniform: I sent a letter a few weeks ago reminding parents about our school uniform policy.

I would like to remind you that black trainers are not acceptable and we require the children to wear black leather shoes.

School Reports: You will receive your child's final academic report for the year on May 22nd. This is earlier than usual so as to enable parents to discuss the report during the teacher/parent consultation evenings. We would prefer to send reports out a little later than this but cannot find a space on the calendar to change the dates of the consultation evenings.

However we will be changing the evening planned for Wednesday 27th May to Monday 25th May.

Hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards

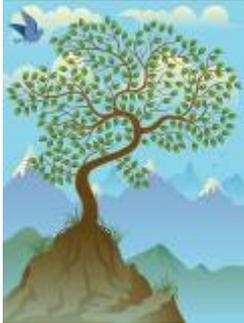
Adele Corry

Head of British Junior Section

BS PTA



TES BRITISH SECTION GOES GREEN!!!



We all conserve natural resources at home but one TES parent in the Infant School invites us to protect the environment in our classrooms as well. If instead of using and discarding paper and plastic party supplies at class and year celebrations, children bring to these events reusable plates, cups, and utensils from home, we will reduce trash and conserve resources.

At a recent BS PTA meeting on March 9, 2009, we discussed this idea. We concluded that it is a simple and sensible way in which our children can help the environment. Assembled parents overwhelmingly voted in support of this initiative. BS PTA plans to promote this project among parents who are not yet familiar with it.

OPEN DISCUSSION TIME AT BS PTA MEETINGS

From now on, regular monthly PTA meetings will begin with open discussion time for parents to put forth issues, comments, and questions important to them. Upon conclusion of this segment, parents may opt to stay for the rest of the meeting or leave at their convenience. **The next meeting is on Tuesday (March 31), 8.30- 11am in room J117 (Junior Building).**

BS PTA



LEARN MORE ABOUT THE BS PTA

We feel that transparency is crucial for successful communication within our community. To this end, the BS PTA decided to post all important information about our current and future projects on the bulletin board in the Parents Café on Wen Lin Rd. (EPC) Campus. There you can find:

- Proposed agenda for upcoming meetings;
- Summary points of former meetings;
- Photos and bios of BS PTA committees, and much more for your convenient perusal.

FOR YOUR CALENDAR

- March 23 & 24, 2009 — Darwin evenings
- March 28, 2009 — Soccer tournament; BS PTA supports the tournament by lending its grilling equipment to tournaments organizers and donating juice boxes.
- March 31, 2009 — BS PTA meeting, 8:30-11am at the EPC Campus, Junior Building, Room J117. Remember, open discussion is at the beginning of the meeting.
- April 25, 2009 — TES Gala evening April 25. If you are looking for tickets, please contact Lyndall Taylor (BS PTA secretary and the PTA Gala coordinator) at 0988 760 811.
- Saturday June 6, 11am-3 pm — Summer Fair which the PSC and the BS PTA organize together. Parents can begin collecting gently used books. These can be delivered to school secretaries for sale at the Summer Fair.

TES

Yearbook/Class photographs 2008-2009



Dear Parents,

Thank you for the support of the class photographs and the Yearbook.

You may have noticed that we engaged the service from a new company this year. This company -Techni Photo, are based in Hong Kong but have a solid establishment across Asia. In view of this, we are confident that the quality of the photographs is better this year.

We received enquiries on why the white background was chosen for the individual photographs. The main reason for this was to provide an alternative use of these photographs for the application of ARC or passport. There is now a legal requirement that passport photos have to be with a white background. Hopefully, this suffices your needs in this area.

The class photographs will be used in the upcoming Yearbook, and again, this publication promises to be informative (and a wonderful book to share with your children).

We look forward to your continued support of the Yearbook and if you need any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the section secretary or me.

Best wishes,

Patricia Tzeng

Director of Development

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