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The Wen Lin Journal

The EPC Primary Newsletter

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The Wen Lin Journal is the bi-weekly newsletter published by Taipei European School Primary Campus. Inside each edition you will find the latest news from each of our sections: German, French, British Infants and British Juniors. Items are also frequently posted by the Parents Support Council and the British Parent Teacher Association.

Inside this weeks bumper journal...

- Read about the recent events in the British Nursery
- Check out Y5's trip to Camp Taiwan
- What is up with Mr Randell's beard?
- Find the latest book recommendations from our fantastic library staff.
- Read about the French school's latest project.

We also have ..

- Our regular news from Mrs Martin and Ms Corry and...
- The British PTA give us the latest news and upcoming dates.

Useful School Links



**British Infants
Calendar & Events**

For all those dates you need to know for your little ones!

http://www.taipeieuropeanschool.com/tbs/events_infants.php



**British Infants
Curriculum**

Information on Maths and Literacy/Topic Units for 2009/10

<http://www.taipeieuropeanschool.com/tbs/KS1.php>



**British Juniors
Calendar & Events**

All those dates you need to know for your slightly bigger ones!

http://www.taipeieuropeanschool.com/tbs/events_juniors.php



**British Juniors
Curriculum**

Information on Literacy, Maths and Topic Units for 2009/10

http://www.taipeieuropeanschool.com/tbs/key_stage_two_curriculum_units.php

Section Française



Avant les vacances, la classe d'Elodie et Loÿs a reçu une lettre de la maîtresse d'une classe de moyenne section de Lyon. Les élèves avaient chacun signé la lettre. Ils ont aussi envoyé une photo pour se présenter.



Les élèves de moyenne section correspondent avec des élèves de Lyon!



Ce projet a été possible grâce à Elodie qui a mis en place cette correspondance entre les deux classes. Un excellent moyen de mieux montrer aux enfants les différences culturelles entre la section française de Taipei et une maternelle de Lyon dans le sud-est de la France. Sur la vitre de la classe de la moyenne section, vous pouvez aller voir la photo et la lettre reçues. Les enfants sont contents d'avoir de nouveaux amis qui vivent aussi loin!!

British Infants



Dear Parents

I hope you enjoyed your Spring break. Our visitors from England certainly enjoyed the 2 weeks they spent here. We drove round Taiwan, and were really taken with all it has to offer.

As the weather continues to be very changeable, please remember to label all your children's clothes and belongings - we have a large number of hats, jumpers, water bottles etc building up in our lost property box. More importantly, can you kindly check that the clothes your children wear home are actually theirs! Children often pick up the wrong hat or jumper and take it home.

Can I also remind you that the British Infant Section has a "NO SWEET" policy in place. The teachers are noticing more and more children with sweets in their snack and lunch boxes, and also in pockets. Sweets in school cause a lot of trouble because the children try to give them out to their friends. Please ensure your children do not bring sweets to school - many thanks.

One final request. When your child is celebrating their birthday, we encourage the parents to bring in a cake for the class to share. This is lovely, but please NO PARTY BAGS. The class can enjoy sharing the birthday cake but nothing more please. Again, many thanks.

End of Year reports will be coming home on Friday 11th June, and parent interviews will be the following week - Tuesday 15th June 5:00 - 7:00 and Thursday 17th June 2:30 to 4:30.

It's a busy term this term with a lot going on - End of Year shows, class trips, Year 2 SATs etc. We also have an Inspection Team coming out from the UK to have a look at our teaching and learning. This will take place the week beginning Monday 7th June. So all in all, we will all be ready for the summer break.

With thanks

Ruth Martin

britishinfanthead@tes.tp.edu.tw

British Infants



It is 3 months since we last shared our news with you and what a busy time we have had!

We have experienced Chinese New Year, Carnival, Book Week and Easter. For CNY the visiting Lion Dancers did a special



We celebrated Carnival in collaboration with children from the French Section and German sections



We shared Book Week celebrations with French PS and MS, German Kindergarten and many of the Year 3 children.



Our final cultural celebration of the term was that of Easter. We made Easter bonnets and shared an Easter Egg hunt with the Reception classes... what fun that was!



British Juniors

Dear Parents,



The rather chilly start to the Summer term last week meant a return to sweatshirts and coats being worn. Now that the weather has improved please remember that the children need to wear their hats outside at all times. If your child does not have their hat in school then they must either visit the library or sit in the shade. Luckily the new sails have been erected outside the music rooms and provide us with a lot more protection from the sun.. I would like to thank the PSC for their generous donation of NT\$250,000 which made this project possible. This money was raised by parents, teachers and children from all sections.

Playtime Friends

Over the last two terms many of the children have supported the school through our Playtime Friends programme. During break times they have helped in the library and outside in the playground. They give up some of their own free time to look after play equipment, hand out bathroom passes, shelve books in the library or play with the children in the infant section. To say thank you we organised a special afternoon tea for them on Tuesday afternoon.



Birthdays

A birthday, particularly for a child, is a very special occasion and many of you generously provide a cake for the children in the class to share (and often I get a piece too). However, it wasn't until I was covering a class for a teacher who was away that I realised that the cutting up and distributing a very creamy, squidgy cake (into 22 pieces) takes quite some time. If you could please observe the following then it would help teachers to ensure that lessons are not too disrupted ...

- Please negotiate a time with your child's class teacher to bring in a cake/cakes - before the first or second break is better than the end of the day.
- Please check your child's timetable - cakes cannot be given out at the beginning or end of specialist lessons.
- Do consider bringing in cupcakes, do-nuts or something similar - if you want to bring in a large creamy birthday cake then please either cut the cake before it is brought into school or cut it in the classroom.

British Juniors



Lost Property

Lost property has been displayed in the atrium all week and staff have given out all named items. However there are still many sweatshirts, caps, lunch-boxes, water bottles and a few coats, none of which are named. Because of this I am going to extend the time for displaying lost property (as outlined in the letter last week) until Monday afternoon. After this time all remaining items will be donated to charity.

Electronic Games In our Parent handbook it states that although electronic games are not allowed in school they may be used on the way to and from school. The reason for this is that some children have very long bus journeys and playing electronic games can help alleviate boredom and consequently help with behaviour. However, it has been brought to my attention that some of the games children have on their PSPs are not appropriate for primary age children. As such I am reviewing our policy. Please let me know if you have any concerns around this issue.

Parental Support I would like to extend a huge thank you to the parents who support the school in many ways. Many of you help in your child's class either on a regular basis or for special events and class trips. The Class Reps help organise events and the PTA have worked incredibly hard in setting up the book fair and book orders last term. Last night was the FOBISSEA disco - a sell out event! Thank you to the parents who provided refreshments and who strutted their funky stuff on the dance floor. DJ Dodgy and DJ Inept (aka Mr Hoo and Mr Randell respectively) provided the exciting atmosphere - however I suggest they don't give up their day job!

Junior Playground The plans for improvements to the playground are in the final stages and will be displayed in the Parents Café very soon. You will have an opportunity to give feedback on the design. The new structure will be built over the summer vacation.

British Passport Holders The British Trade and Cultural Office has asked if we can help circulate its notice in terms of passport application procedure change. From 17 May 2010, passport applications for British Nationals will no longer be accepted at the British Trade and Cultural Office in Taipei. You will need to send your applications directly to the Regional Passport Processing Centre in Hong Kong. For more details, and to find out what this means for you, please visit <http://ukintaiwan.fco.gov.uk>

During this term there are tests for all children from Years 3-6. These tests help inform teacher assessments which have been on-going over the year. A letter will be sent home next week giving parents more information about the tests and some ways in which you can help your child prepare.

As always please contact me if you have any concerns or suggestions.

Kind regards

Adele Corry

Head of British Junior Section BritishJuniorHead@tes.tp.edu.tw Telephone (02) 8145 9007 Ext 501/502

British Juniors

Y5 @ Camp Taiwan

Camp Taiwan

On Tuesday 13th April 2010 we left school to go to Camp Taiwan.

Camp Taiwan is a place where there is a fun, educational camp. This camp gives you the opportunity to live in the outdoors and be away from home for a few nights.

The meals there are delicious, especially the soups and side dishes.

The activities there are archery, scavenger hunt, giant swing, survival, zip-line, horse-riding, cooperative games, rock climbing, tie dye, river tracing, casino, talent show, and camp fire challenges.

The over night stay there is a very good quality because the tents are very clean and the beds there are very comfortable too!

Even if you go there a lot of times you will never get bored. That's how good Camp Taiwan is!

Nidhi B5ST



British Juniors



In the words of Shakespeare...

To beard or not to beard...?

Have your say on the future of Mr Randell's beard next week. After weeks of effort, advice and the occasional piece of criticism not to mention barbed comments by staff, it has been decided that the school community should decide the fate of Mr Randell's new beard. Vote: Yes I love it! or No! Shave It Off! by making a donation to the continued reconstruction efforts in Haiti.

Donations can be placed directly in the collection containers as you enter the blue tube or send in to the Junior School Office. The container with the most money will decide the fate of Mr Randell's beard.



Or in the words of the song...

Should it stay or should it go now?

EPC Library



Dear Parents,

NEW ARRIVALS!

It's another new semester and we have new books to welcome everyone back to school! You'll find popular series such as ***Warriors*** and ***Little House*** in our New Books areas. For avid readers of graphic novels, there are three all-new story series, ***Tales from the Crypt***, ***The Adventures of Tintin***, and ***Yotsuba & !***.

Of course, no books in the Library can catch our little ones' eyes like ***Guinness World Records 2010***, which is NEVER on the shelf when our children are around! If you don't have the luck to be the first one to grab it before anybody does, ***The Greatest Joke Book Ever, For Boys Only: the Biggest, Baddest Book Ever***, versus ***For Girls Only: Everything Great About Being A Girl*** will not disappoint you.

Naturally, Library is about knowledge! A series of ***Countries of the World*** by National Geographic and ***40 Fabulous Math Mysteries Kids Can't Resist*** are all waiting in our New Book areas for our eager learners to discover! There are still so many more, so come and explore the world with our books!



EPC Library

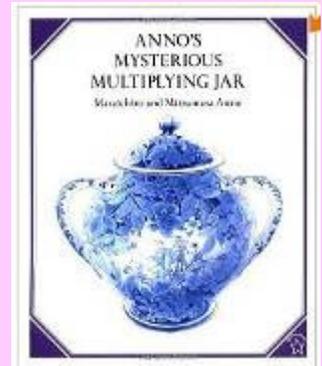
Anno's Mysterious Multiplying Jar

Suggested Year Group:
Infants

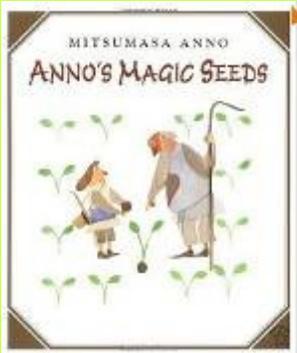


We start with a jar. Inside the jar is a sea. In the sea is an island. On each island are two countries. In each country..... and so on to the original jar standing in the cupboards. How many jars in all? 10! ...which is 10 factorial. The nice thing is that Anno then shows us using dots and math, how the jars multiplied.

As we get to the page covered with tiny red dots we are told that there are 40,320 dots on that page. To show the 3,628,800 dots to represent the final number of jars in the book, we would need 180 more pages filled with dots.



Anno's Magic Seeds

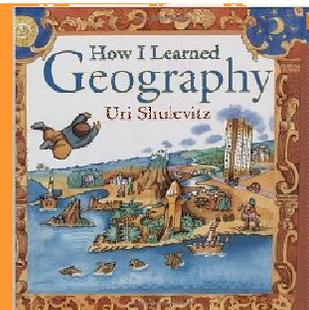


The Anno magic begins when a wizard gives Jack two magic seeds telling him to eat one and bury the other and it will produce two more seeds. This Jack does, but the next year, instead of eating one, he buries two, and in the fall, four magic seeds are produced. As Jack's magic seeds grow by ones and twos so will readers' enjoyment as

Suggested Year Group:
Infants

Suggested Year Group:
Infants

How I Learned Geography



Recasting a childhood memory as a fictional tale, Caldecott Medalist Shulevitz revisits the journeying theme from his recent *The Travels of Benjamin Tudela* (2005), while harking back to the fanciful simplicity of *Snow* (1998) and *So Sleepy Story* (2006). Driven from home by a "war that devastated the land," a family flees to a remote city in the steppes. One day, the father returns from the market not with bread for supper but with a wall-filling map of the world. "'No supper tonight,' Mother said bitterly. 'We'll have the map instead.'" Although hungry, the boy finds sustenance of a different sort in the multicolored map, which provides a literal spot of brightness in the otherwise spare, earth-toned illustrations, as well as a catalyst for soaring, pretend visits to exotic lands. Shulevitz's rhythmic, first-person narrative reads like a fable for young children. Its autobiographical dimension, however, will open up the audience to older grade-schoolers, who will be fascinated by the endnote describing Shulevitz's life as a refugee in Turkestan after the Warsaw blitz, including his childhood sketch of the real map. Whether enjoyed as a reflection of readers' own imaginative travels or used as a creative entrée to classroom geography units, this simple, poignant offering will transport children as surely as the map it celebrates.

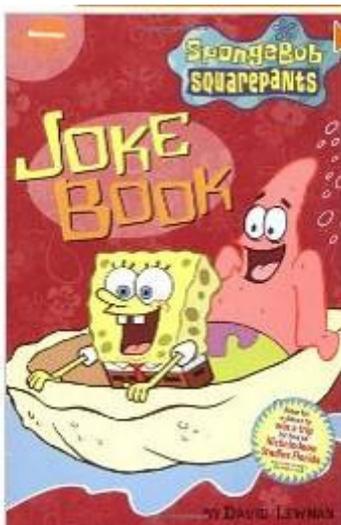
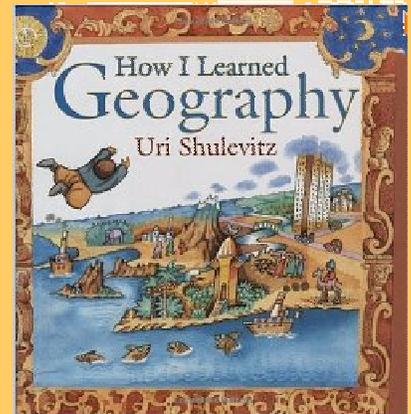
EPC Library



How I Learned Geography

Suggested Year Group:
Infants

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SpongeBob SquarePants Joke Book

Which creature makes the best sandwiches?

The peanut-butter-and-jelly fish!

Where did the seaweed fund a job?

In the “Kelp Wanted” ads.

The sidesplitting **SpongeBob SquarePants Joke Book** is filled with jokes that will have fans busting at the gills!

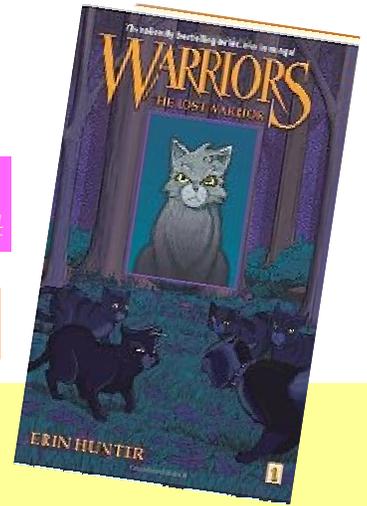
Suggested Year Group:
Year 3

EPC Library

Suggested Year Group:
Year 4

Warriors

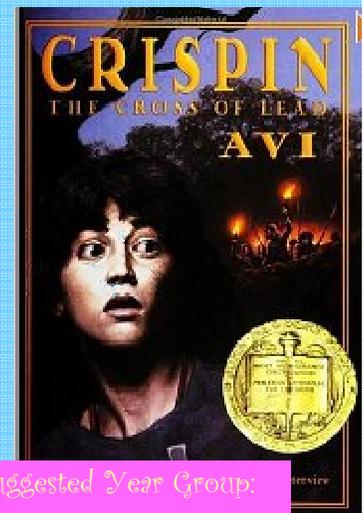
Based on Erin Hunter's popular novel series, *Warriors* is the story of a wild cat—a real one, as opposed to manga's usual teenaged human wearing a short skirt and kitty-cat ears—who's separated from his family and friends. There are no plot surprises in this story of a lost hero, and the artwork is a literal, workmanlike rendition of cats and dogs in suburbia. Graystripe, the protagonist, is a mighty warrior of the beleaguered Thunderclan, which has recently been threatened by a combination of suburban development and a zealous cat catcher. The story opens with him imprisoned in a strangely seductive suburban home. After briefly succumbing to the charms of soft living as a kittypet, Graystripe steels his resolve and vows to make his way back to the wild. Alas, he's lost his edge and finds himself spooked by everything from local bullies to lawnmowers. Luckily, he's joined by a helpful, attrac-



Crispin: The Cross of Lead

Genre-jumping author Avi clocks in here with his 50th book, *Crispin: The Cross of Lead*, an action-packed historical narrative that follows the frantic flight of a 13-year-old peasant boy across 14th-century England.

After being declared a "wolf's head" by his manor's corrupt steward for a crime he didn't commit (meaning that anyone can kill him like a common animal--and collect a reward), this timid boy has to flee a tiny village that's the only world he's ever known. But before our protagonist escapes, Avi makes sure that we're thoroughly briefed on the injustices of feudalism--the countless taxes cottars must pay, the constant violence, the inability of a flawed church to protect its parishioners, etc. Avi then folds in the book's central mystery just as the boy is leaving: "Asta's son," as he's always



Suggested Year Group:
Year 5

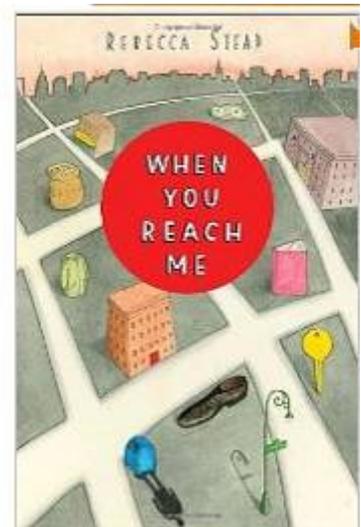
EPC Library



When You Reach Me

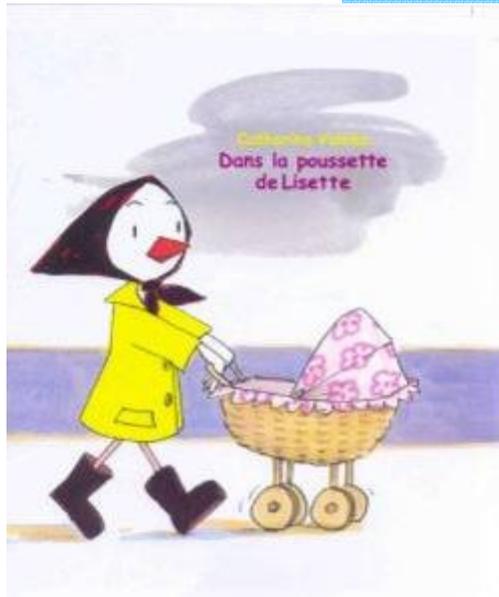
Suggested Year Group:
Year 6

Sixth-grader Miranda lives in 1978 New York City with her mother, and her life compass is Madeleine L'Engle's *A Wrinkle in Time*. When she receives a series of enigmatic notes that claim to want to save her life, she comes to believe that they are from someone who knows the future. Miranda spends considerable time observing a raving vagrant who her mother calls the laughing man and trying to find the connection between the notes and her everyday life. Discerning readers will realize the ties between Miranda's mystery and L'Engle's plot, but will enjoy hints of fantasy and descriptions of middle school dynamics. Stead's novel is as much about character as story. Miranda's voice rings true with its faltering attempts at maturity and observation. The story builds slowly, emerging naturally from a sturdy premise. As Miranda reminisces, the time sequencing is somewhat challenging, but in an intriguing way. The setting is consis-



EPC Library

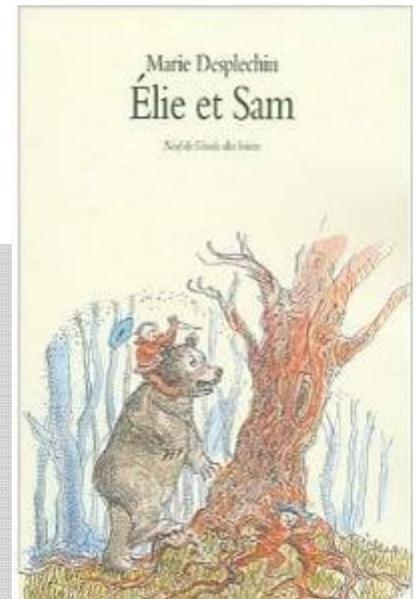
Dans la poussette de Lisette



Quand la pluie se calme, Lisette va jouer dehors et rencontre Yoyo l'escargot. Voilà un nouveau compagnon de jeux mais celui-ci ne marchant pas bien vite rejoint la poussette dans la poussette. Mérédith la cocci-nelle bien tentée elle aussi prend part à l'embarcation mais Popof l'éléphant bien trop gros et bien trop triste de ne pouvoir monter à bord verse une larme. Et si Popof empruntait le landau de sa soeur, il pour-

Élie et Sam

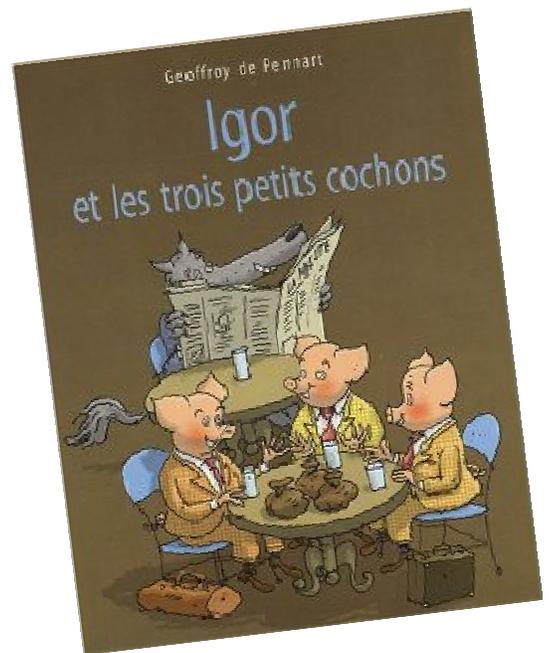
Cette année, à la rentrée des myrtilles, Sam Samarcor et Élie Elifer portent de seyants bonnets bleus. Ce qui signifie qu'ils sont en quatrième année au grand champignon, l'école des lutins, qu'ils ont donc sept ans et à leur actif, déjà, quatre ans d'amitié éternelle. L'amitié éternelle est un art délicat qui demande beaucoup de conversations, de menues activités partagées et d'aventures extraordinaires. Élever un animal, préparer une fête, passer une nuit blanche : voilà le genre d'expériences qui entretiennent l'amitié. Mais il n'y a pas de médaille sans revers, ni d'amitié sans dispute. Aliazar Albuquerque, un cinquième année, va semer la zizanie entre les deux amis. Il a ses raisons. Mais il faudra du temps pour le comprendre. Et s'en dépêtrer. Heureusement, l'amitié n'est pas seulement une aventure à deux. Dans la communauté des lutins, on peut compter sur de précieux alliés. Le maître



EPC Library



Igor et Les Trois Petits Cochons

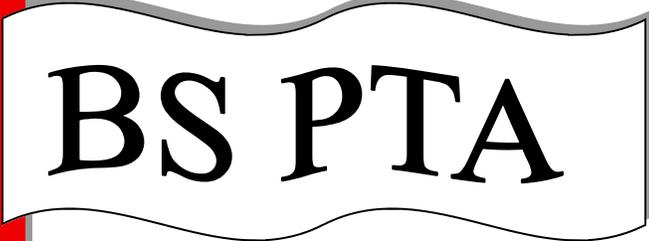


Les trois petits cochons rentrent de tournée, ils sont ravis, ils vont pouvoir dépenser leurs gains, chacun selon son goût. L'aîné projette d'acheter une maison, le cadet voudrait une voiture, et le benjamin, lui, va faire la fête... Mais quel est ce person-

Véro en Mai



Pendant le soulèvement de mai 68, des étudiants affrontèrent les forces de l'ordre dans de violents combats de rue. La police usait de matraques et de bombes lacrymogènes. Les étudiants m'utilisaient, moi, le pavé, comme arme de jet. Je devins l'emblème de ces jours de colère qui furent aussi des jours de fête. Les murs se couvraient de phrases joyeuses, de dessins inspirés et drôles. Je fus souvent représentés et partout on lisait mon nom dans une formule restée célèbre : " Sous les pavés, la plage ", peinte en rouge, en noir, en blanc. Mon prestige tenait aussi, je crois, de façon plus vague, plus secrète, à l'expression " un pavé dans la mare ". mai 68 fut bien un pavé de désirs dans une mare d'ennui, provoquant un grand plouf ! dont l'onde frémit encore. Tout a été dit sur ce mois-là de cette année-là. Qui n'a pas donné son avis ?



British Section Parent Teacher Association (BSPTA)

Helps Fund School Projects

FOBISSEA CAPS

We are thrilled to support our FOBISSEA team. The BS PTA donated NT\$12,600 to cover the cost of purchasing new FOBISSEA team caps for every participant. Our FOBISSEA team will wear these caps to represent TES in Pattaya, Thailand, in early June of this year.

This donation is yet another good example of how the work of our PTA volunteers, with help from the entire school community, directly supports the students of TES.

Good Luck to our 2010 FOBISSEA Team!

RECEPTION GARDEN

You may remember that in February, the BS PTA allocated NT\$120,000 towards the Reception Garden Area Project, headed by Ms. Sharon Coope. Together with funds from the Parents Support Council, our contribution is helping to change the appearance of the space directly behind the Reception classrooms. Whilst Sharon Coope will write about this project in further detail, we are very proud to direct you to take a peak at the two new board decks that have been fitted, which significantly expand the play area behind the Reception.

BS PTA

May 29, 2010



TES Summer Fair 2010

BS PTA and PSC invite You to a Day of Games, Foods, and Shopping!



TES Summer Fair 29th May 2010

The perfect opportunity to buy and sell at the flea market whilst enjoying fun games for children, refreshingly cool drinks, tasty food and delicious ice cream.

*Join us
for a day for the whole family!*



Flea Market & Second Hand Book Sale

Saturday 29th May 2010

11am - 3 pm
At Taipei European School
Swire European Primary Campus
No. 727, Wen Lin Road, Shihlin, Taipei
Interested in booking a table?
(Second hand goods only)

Please contact: Blithe O'Driscoll
At b_s_odriscoll@yahoo.co.uk or
0983-165-444

BS PTA

Join BS PTA!



Calendar & Announcements

- * **May 3, 2010 at 8:30am — BS PTA Meeting (Conference Room)**
- * **May 31, 2010 at 9:30am — BS PTA last meeting this year.**
- * **With summer departures fast approaching, the British Section PTA invites you to join our volunteer body in any capacity that suits your interests and temperament. In particular, we are looking for persons who would like to serve as:**
 - * **Chair person**
 - * **Vice Chair person**
 - * **BSPTA Newsletter Editor — Current editor, Ela Benson, would be happy to work with you on the upcoming issues of the Newsletter. You will write as well as compile short articles for an electronic submission (MS Publisher). Lots of room for data gathering and creative graphics.**
- * **BRITISH SECTION PTA BOOK FAIR — April 26-30. Last two days (12 and 3:30pm) are open to TES parents. Other days are reserved for class visits. You can also volunteer.**