



20th December 2012



# The Wen Lin Journal

## The EPC Primary Newsletter

[www.taipeieuropeanschool.com](http://www.taipeieuropeanschool.com)

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Volume No: 08



Welcome to the current edition of the Wen Lin Journal - the fortnightly newsletter for the European Primary Campus.

Inside this newsletter you will find all the latest goings on for the French Section, German Section, British Infant Section and British Junior Section. We also frequently have articles from other parts of the school community such as the library staff and PTA.

### Inside this week's journal...

- Merry Christmas from the British Infant Section
- And a happy New Year from the British Junior Section
- The French Section go to Gamaña
- Father Christmas comes to visit the German Section

### We also have...

Our usual letters from Mrs Martin and Ms Corry and contributions from the library staff.

### School Website Links



**British Infant Section**

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



**British Junior Section**

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



**French Section**

<http://www.taipeieuropeanschool.com/eft/index.php>



**German Section**

<http://www.taipeieuropeanschool.com/tgs/index.php>

# British Infants



December 20th 2012

Dear Parents

Well, it's certainly been a long term, but it has been a very good one. The children have been very productive, and I am very proud of what they have all achieved. Year 1 and Year 2 children will be coming home today with their first report of the year, and a covering letter will be going to all Year 1 and 2 parents, via email, to explain the small changes that have been made to how we are now recording the children's attainment and progress.

We are saying good bye to Mrs Sally Colverson, who has been working as a Learning Assistant in Year 1. She is relocating to Singapore with her husband and 2 sons. Thank you for everything you have done for us Sally , we will miss you. Sally is being replaced by Mr Greig Richardson, welcome to our team Greig.

I hope you all have a restful and enjoyable festive season with your families. My husband and I are going on a cruise along the east coast of Malaysia, followed by a few days in Singapore. We have never been on a cruise before, and my husband is not sure about the prospect of spending so much time on a ship, I'll let you know how we get on when we return to school on Monday 7th January.

Thank you for your continued support of the British Infant Section.

Best wishes

Ruth Martin

# British Juniors

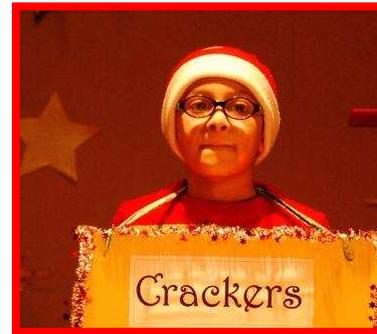


Dear Parents, Students and friends of the School,

The spirit of Christmas has been alive and well in the British Junior Section of Taipei European School with the two excellent productions, 'A Magical Christmas Jigsaw' and 'A Very TES Christmas Carol', performed by Years 3 and 4 and Year 5 respectively. The shows give our children an opportunity to shine through acting, singing, dancing and instrumental music playing, and if you had an opportunity to watch either or both of the shows I am sure you will agree they were of an exceptional high standard this year. Thank you to all the staff who have worked very hard over the last few weeks putting them together and many thanks to parents who have



## The Magical Christmas Jigsaw



# British Juniors



## A VERY TES CHRISTMAS CAROL



**Thank you year Five for helping me realise how important it is to have fun at Christmas!**

I am travelling to England tonight to celebrate a family Christmas and am very much looking forward to it. Wherever you are over the holiday period I wish you joy and happiness. Today is the last day at TES for quite a few children and their families and I would like to take this opportunity to wish them every success at their new schools.

The new term starts on Monday 7th January and I look forward to seeing everyone refreshed and energised after their holiday.

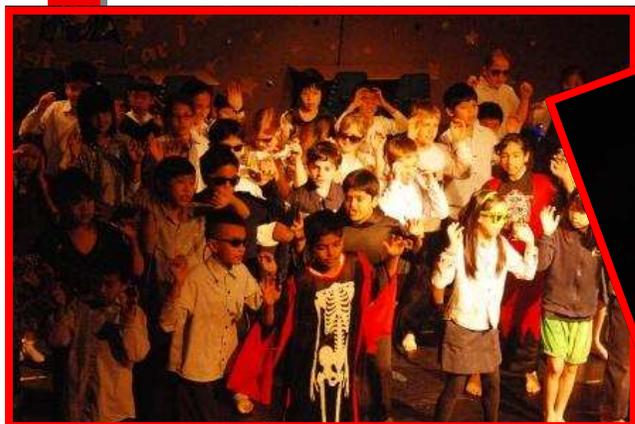
**MERRY CHRISTMAS TO YOU ALL**

*Adele Corry*

Head of British Junior Section

[britishjuniorhead@tes.tp.edu.tw](mailto:britishjuniorhead@tes.tp.edu.tw)

Tel: (02) 8145 9007 Ext 1501/1502



# British Primary ICT

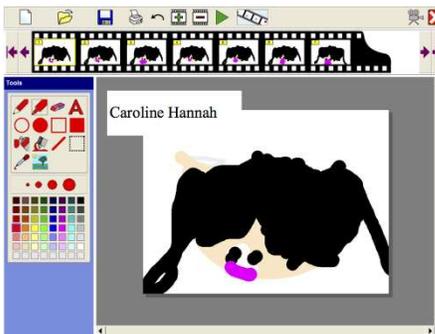


Dear Parents and friends of TES,

What have we been learning in ICT? What have the children created this term?

At the end of this article there are some links of interest both based on our learning and some holiday puzzles.

In Reception the children have been using the PC's to log in for the first time and learning about turning the iPads into musical instruments. The Reception children now work on a rotational basis of about 5 weeks learning with the iPads and then to the PC's. We hope that the balance of mobile and PC-led ICT will be stronger as a result.

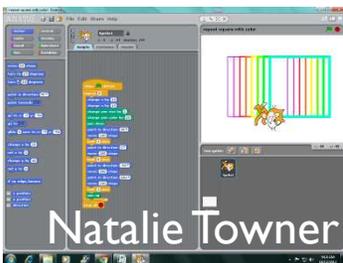


children now work on a rotational basis of about 5 weeks learning with the iPads and then to the PC's. We hope that the balance of mobile and PC-led ICT will be stronger as a result.

In Year 1 the children have been making animations with faces and combined with an online animator called Blabberize.

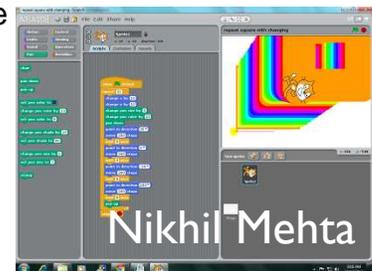


In Year 2 you may have attended the Year 2 VIP day that showcased a culmination of the children's learning using iMovie on the iPads to make a short film about the children's families. I have to say that this was a feat of logistics to get all 80+ students' films complete without the iPads practically exploding. The children learned about how to storyboard and frame their films by topic and also how to use more than one App at a time to import media to and from the iPad. With Mr. Dawes they have also been making geometric shapes in Scratch. They have written programs to automate their sprites to draw and manipulate shapes.



manipulate shapes.

The result was spectacular. After 5 1/2 weeks we had a finished film that all parents could download and keep. Well done Year 2!



In keeping with the iMovie lineage ( You should be able to spot a general spine to our Multimedia theme) we

# British Primary ICT



## THE STAG AND THE GOLDEN ANTLERS



The Greeks took over this term in Year 5 and they also took over the Mac suite as well. We have just purchased 5 Macbook Pros to go with the 5 iMacs we have in school already and the Year 5 team are the first to get to grips with them. We set up the temporary Mac suite and got to grips with creating our Greek Myth films. The films were designed to utilise the improved green screen provision next to the ICT labs.

The children made something different in each class with Miss. Winfieldale's making an audio based film, Mr. McKelvie's a class-made version of the 12 labours of Herecles and MR. Fagg's students filming their unique adaptations of the 12 Labours.

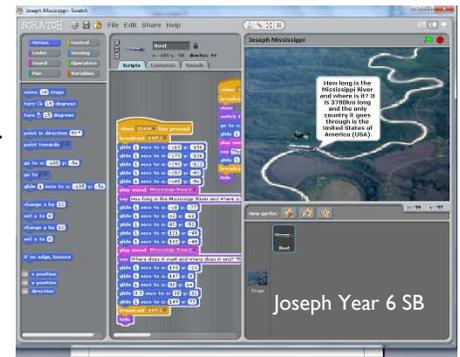
The topic was very ambitious, used a huge amount of new and unfamiliar equipment and we hope to see all finishing touches edited in January.



Presenting in school is part of demonstrating your in-depth knowledge on something you've been learning about. In Year 6 the rivers topic requires you present to the class the facts you have learned about with particular river. In the past, PowerPoint has been the staple and goto presentation tool. With this being used for nearly all events of this kind everybody expects it to be used. So, we thought we'd used something else: Scratch. Scratch is an application that we use to make

simple programming in the primary school. We can also make animations like you can in Flash. This is what the children produced:

To continue with the game making and programming theme the Year 6 also made computer games for the XBOX 360 with a game builder called KODU. KODU is free from Microsoft should you wish your child to be able to continue their learning at home. All you need is an XBOX controller with a USB connector (usually in the box when purchased).



This is what they made and you can view these on the screens outside the ICT labs:



You may have heard from your child that we have installed Minecraft Edu edition onto the computers in school. Minecraft is an online game in its raw format where over 10 million people mine materials and craft these into usable objects to further their evolutionary advancement within the game. There are two modes survival and creative. In school we play 24 strong all within the same world where I set mini-tasks that a small team have to complete together against the rest of the teams in the class. From January this will no longer be an 'invite only' ECA for students at lunchtime as the test phase is now over. We will send out the official ECA sign-up alongside Mr. Milner. In terms of numbers 24 is the initial cut-off raising to 48 for any single session. We will make a judgement when we see the reply slips.

All the links just search in the iTunes store for...

#### Infants:

**Toca Boca** (All their Apps are fantastic. Shop Keeper especially)

**Little Digits** (Counting and addition)

**Drawing Pad, How to Draw (by Mind the Kids Ltd), Puppet Pals, Toontastic,**

In the Bookstore: Horrid Henry, Peppa Pig and Aliens Love Underpants.

Book Apps: Dr. Seuss, Little Fox Music Box, Moo Baa La La Laa

#### Juniors:

The iBookstore has the Roald Dahl collection plus many adapted for the iPad from Jimmy McCrue and Cathy Cassidy.

Book Style Apps: Marvel and Comixology

Apps:

Dolnk, Comic Life, DK The Human Body (Year 6), Brain Pop, Action Movie and KODU.

And finally, this time of year the Royal Institute, London run their Christmas lectures which are always excellent. They are aimed at children but always provide differentiated material for children to understand very complex science and adults to reaffirm what they missed at school.

<http://bit.ly/christmaslectures>.

Merry Christmas and a prosperous new year.

# British Juniors

## 2012 Taiwan School Team and Club Chess Championships



On Sunday, 9th December, the TES Primary School Campus hosted the 2012 Taiwan School Team and Club Chess Championships. 212 of the best chess players from around Taiwan came to our school to participate in one of the most prestigious chess competitions on the chess calendar. TES was represented by 19 children who played in the following teams:

### **Team 1—Red, White and Deep Blue**

Neel Bhimani (6.2)

Aidan Mayall (5.2)

Qi Heng Ng (Year 7)

### **Team 2—The Fischermen**

Qi Jiang Ng (6.3)

Faris Weinrich (5.1)

Kai Wu (6.1)

Joseph Lin (6.1)

### **Team 3—Don't Throw in the Tal**

Baltazar Zuniga Ruiz (5.2)

Shubh Lashkery (5.2)

Bhuvan Arora (5.3)

### **Team 4—Queen a Rook and a Hard Place**

JunWen Tham ( 6.3)

Ben Grigsby (4.3)

Sean Chen (5.1)

### **Team 5—Here's Rooking at You!**

Alex Visuri (4.3)

Sam Wang (3.2)

Toby Van Mook (4.3)

### **Team 6— The Good Knights**

Lawrence Lin (3.1)

Dhruv Lashkery (Year 2)

Ethan Wang (Year 1)

All of the TES teams played in the primary school section of the tournament. This competition had 41 teams altogether, and included a team who had just returned from the Chess Olympiad in Slovenia. Not surprisingly, this team won the overall competition. I am pleased to say that all of the children representing TES played fantastically well and were able to beat opponents who were often much older and more experienced than themselves. In the overall standings, 3 of our teams finished with 4 out of 7 points (Teams 1, 3 and 5), 2 teams had 3 points (Teams 2 and 4) and our youngest team managed to win 2 points. Although we did not win any prizes, all of the children showed a big improvement from the previous school team championships and they all played with an excellent spirit of sportsmanship.

# British Juniors



I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the parents who helped out on the day. As well as hosting over 200 chess players, there were around 150 spectators who came to support the children in the competition and we wouldn't have been able to hold the event without their help. I would like to thank the 'Dads' Team' (Inaki Torrecilla, Warwick Mayall and Ulrich Weinrich) who faced some very tough competition in the Open Section and bravely soldiered on to finish 12th out of 13 teams. Another parent, Prakash Meghnani, kindly offered to sponsor the event, so I would like to thank him and his company ([www.kqualitygifts.com](http://www.kqualitygifts.com)) for generously providing all of the players with a free gift. Finally, I would like to thank the ESC students who volunteered to help out on the day and were excellent marshalls. Here are some photos from the event.



Most of the TES participants in the competition



Ulli from the TES 'Dads' Team' in trouble against Tony Lee, the primary school's professional coach.



Dhruv and Lawrence beating two much older opponents.



The canteen transformed into a chess arena!

# British Juniors

## 2012/13 Junior School Chess Championships



On Friday, 9th November, the final of the junior school chess championships took place in the amphitheatre. This game was the climax of a chess tournament which had been taking place at school for the previous four weeks. 88 children from all 3 sections took part in the competition, which is the highest number of participants since the annual tournament started 5 years ago. The winners of the different year group competitions were as follows:

**Year 3 Champion**—Sam Wang (3.2)

**Year 4 Champion**—Toby Van Mook (4.3)

**Year 5 Champion**—Aidan Mayall (5.2)

**Year 6 Champion**—Neel Bhimani (6.2)

In order to find the school champion, the four year group winners played against each other to earn the right to play in the school final. In two close matches, Aidan beat Sam and Neel beat Toby to set up an exciting finale between the Year 5 and Year 6 champions. Over 100 children and adults watched the final in the amphitheatre. In a close and tense game, Aidan beat Neel to become the 2012/13 TES school chess champion.

I would like to thank all of the children who took part in the competition. The level of play in the competition generally was much higher than when I first ran it in 2008. Let's hope the children continue to make excellent progress with their chess skills at TES.

If you would like your child to play chess, there are a number of options open to you:

1. I run a free weekly chess ECA after school on Thursdays from 3:00—4:15. I usually teach the children a particular strategy and then look at how to apply it in a game. If you would like your child to come to my ECA and they are a pupil in the junior school, then they are very welcome. Children of all abilities can come to my chess club.
2. The school has a professional coach (Tony Lee) who teaches more advanced players. This is a paid ECA. Due to its popularity, Tony will be coming to school twice a week next term (Tuesdays and Fridays) to teach the children strategies for competition chess.
3. Come along to one of the monthly chess competitions around Taipei. These are normally well attended by TES primary school pupils. If you are interested in your child taking part in a chess competition, let me know and I'll send you the details.

Please let me know if you have any chess related questions.

By Matthew Fagg (Year 5 Class Teacher/Primary Maths Coordinator) email: [matthew.fagg@tes.tp.edu.tw](mailto:matthew.fagg@tes.tp.edu.tw)

# British Juniors



The chess champions from each year group.



A friendly handshake before the school final.



An excited audience watching a tense final.



Lots of children watching and participating in the early rounds of the competition.



Neel beating Toby in the semi final.



More children deep in thought!

# Section Française



Sortie à la société de jeu vidéo Gamania de la classe de CM2.



La société taiwanaise de jeu vidéo en ligne Gamania occupe à Taipei un immeuble de 18 étages, emploie plus de 1000 personnes et possède des agences dans plusieurs autres pays de la zone Asie comme à Tokyo, Shanghai, Pékin, Hong-Kong, Séoul, ainsi que plus récemment en Europe et aux Etats-Unis.

*Gamania is a taiwanese PC online game and digital entertainment corporation with its headquarters located in New Taipei, Taiwan. It was the first Taiwanese online game brand to expand globally, with overseas branch offices publishing and developing digital entertainment contents in Tokyo, Seoul, Shanghai, Beijing, and Hong Kong and also now In Europe and in the US.*

# Section Française



Visite du «centre e-sport» où s'entraîne l'équipe professionnelle de sport électronique de l'entreprise et qui a remporté de nombreuses compétitions comme en témoignent les coupes à l'entrée.

Visite du studio « Red Gate », studio de développement de l'important projet vidéo-ludique Core Blaze avec une courte présentation du jeu. *Visit of the "Red Gate" development studio and important project videogame Core Blaze with a short video presentation of the game.*



# Section Française



Un grand merci à Hervé ! *Many thanks to Hervé !*



Merci également à Madame Calandreau pour son aide ... et le goûter.

A big thank you to our chaperon Mrs Calandreau who provided the snack.



Pour en savoir plus sur Gamania :

To know more about Gamania :

<http://www.gamania.com/eng/>

# Deutsche Sektion



Deutsche Sektion

## Kindergarten

### Die Adventszeit im Kindergarten

von Annegret Arnold

"In der Weihnachtsbäckerei, gibt es manche Leckerei.

Zwischen Mehl und Milch macht so mancher Knilch eine riesengroße Kleckerei."

Um die Adventszeit traditionel einzustimmen, versammelten sich alle Kindergartenkinder um den großen Tisch bei Bäcker Wendel. Es wurde geknetet, Herzen und Sterne ausgestochen und anschließend alles schön verziert.

Die Kinder gaben von ihren leckeren Plätzchen einen Teil ab, um für den Adventskaffee mit den Eltern den Tisch schön zu decken. Es wurde gesungen und viele Leckereien genascht. Bei Kaffee und Tee saßen dann alle gemuetlich zusammen.

Der Nikolaus besuchte uns zwei Tage spaeter im Kindergarten.

Die Kinder begruessten ihn voller Aufregung und Vorfreude mit einem Lied und einen Gedicht . Auch staunten die Kinder nicht schlecht, wieviel doch der Nikolaus von den einzelnen Kindern

Was Weihnachten ist, haben wir fast vergessen

Weihnachten ist mehr als ein festliches Essen.

Weihnachten ist mehr als Lärmen und Kaufen,  
durch neonbeleuchtete Straßen laufen.

Weihnachten ist: Zeit für die Kinder haben,  
und auch für Fremde mal kleine Gaben.

Weihnachten ist mehr als Geschenke schenken.

Weihnachten ist: Mit dem Herzen  
denken.



# Deutsche Sektion



Elternbeirat

Danke schön! Thank you very much!



Dear TES-parents:  
the Cakes & Cookies  
Team wants to thank  
all of you for the  
huge support for the  
Christmas Bazaar!

No other stall  
depends so much on

Dear TES-parents: the Cakes & Cookies Team wants to thank all of you for the huge support for the Christmas Bazaar! No other stall depends so much on the support of the parents as the Cakes & Cookies: The donated cookies, cupcakes, chocolate houses, cakes and even one or two hours of your precious time to help selling at our stall - this is highly appreciated from all of us - and we want you to



# EPC Library



Dear Parents,

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from the Library Team!

Reading over holidays is so much fun, because we are doing it for enjoyment. I couldn't agree more with Kathy Doyle Thomas, the executive vice president of the bookstore chain, Half Price Books, who once said "Reading doesn't have to mean sitting at a table with a boring school book for a set amount of time each day. You can easily 'sneak' reading into daily activities."

That's why we found some tips on holiday reading for you and your little ones to do together!

- Have your children read holiday cards when they are received in the mail, and let them write a message in outgoing cards.
- Let children read ingredients from holiday recipes while you bake together. It's a great way for them to learn measurements and temperatures.
- Set aside time for kids to "show off" their new reading skills to visiting relatives. Children love being the focus of attention, and grandparents are usually more than willing to see their progress.
- Make special holiday readings a tradition. Find a special book for Hanukkah or Christmas, and have each member of the family read from it at the same time each year.
- Even if no books make your child's wish list, make sure you give at least one as a gift, and encourage them to read it.
- Find books that focus on an interest your child has. For example if they ask for a bike, find a book on Lance Armstrong, or a children's book that includes a bicycle adventure. There are books out there to suit every interest under the sun – it just takes a little browsing.

Happy Holiday!  
Primary Library Team

