



The Official Newsletter of Beathfield International School

## 7th November 2018 HEADMASTER HEADLINES



Dear Parents, It has been a fantastic first week back after half term with our students and parents having a wonderful time with our Hallowe'en celebrations. It was really pleasing to see how many people got involved in the spirit of the day. The amount of effort that went into the spooky door competitions was quite astounding; the winning door from Class Year 4 was judged the overall winner in Primary, with a special recognition to Class Year 5B and Year 3B for their effort as well. Early Years 1st place winning door was Reception 1A, followed by Reception 2B and Nursery.

Don't forget to check out our <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Facebook</u> feeds for photos from the day. It's not often you get to see two dinosaurs walking around our school.

On the last Friday before half term, Mr. Holmes and the secondary staff held the first inter-house sporting competition of the year. Shakespeare house was the overall winner of the event, but all houses participated admirably and the battle is now on to see who is the winning house this year.

There are lots of sporting activities this month with our girl's football team participating in the Phuket 7s, TISAC Secondary and Primary Athletics, friendly football at Wellington International School and we will be entering our first ever golf tournament this weekend.

By now you will all have received an e-letter with a link that takes you to clubs for next term. This is an indicative form, which will allow us to offer a more tailored selection of clubs for our students. It is not the actual club selection form, this will be issued once we have an idea of which clubs are more popular and which don't need to run.

If you have not received this e-letter, then your contact details are not up to date, if that is the case you must update them. The Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Child Welfare have recently updated their child protection laws and it is a requirement that parents have two current and active emergency contact details at school.

Our Year 11 - 13 students will be going to a university fair hosted at Charter International School where they will have the opportunity to speak to 30+ leading UK universities about their future.

I will leave you with the following link to an infographic which highlights the ever-growing concern over screentime and young people.

Screentime infographic

**David Aitchison** 

Headmaster

Heathfield International School

# Early Years



A big welcome from Reception 1B!

I can't quite believe how quickly term 1a went by! I am so pleased with how well the children have all settled in, and I have also been impressed at their ever increasing independence and development.

Our topic last half term was all about ourselves and our families. Every child bought in a photograph of their family which we then spent time discussing as a group and asking questions to find out more. The children also explored their five senses. We had fun doing tasting, smelling, listening and touching activities.

This half term our topic is 'All around the world' We will be following Barnaby Bear on his travels to learn about different countries, look at maps, flags, landmarks and ways of life, including climate, food, clothes, games and music.

In literacy we are learning our alphabet letter and sounds, each week focusing on a new letter. The children have been practising pencil control and letter formation as well as making crafts to related to the letter of the week. So far the children have made: apple trees, butterflies, cats, dinosaurs, elephants, frogs and foxes and ghosts.







In maths the children have been counting, ordering and sequencing numbers. We had fun producing a class graph about our favorite smells after taking part in a smelling activity. This term we children will be learning to match sets of objects to the corresponding number and identifying and sorting 2D shapes.

I am very much looking forward to seeing how far the children continue to progress during the second half of the term!

Ms Gaynor Britten, Reception 1B



### PRIMARY

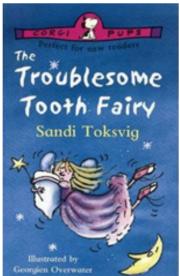


A big hello to all parents and children at Heathfield International School! It is hard to believe that half term has already passed and we are already 9 weeks into the school year with Christmas just around the corner. I am pleased to report that all of the children in Year 3 have been working extremely well in all areas of the curriculum and have produced some fantastic work so far.

Long, long ago, during our first week back, Year 3 looked at VCOP in Literacy. This was to refresh their memories after the summer break. They were reminded how to punctuate and make sentences more interesting by using WOW words. They particularly enjoyed meeting literacy superheroes such as 'Captain Connective', 'Violet Vocabulary' and 'The Punctuator' and helping them defeat 'Sergeant Snooze' and 'The Depunctuator', the villains that make writing boring.

We then looked at non-chronological reports. Year 3 researched information about their own favourite landmark to help them write their own reports which we put on display outside our classroom. Should you wish to learn about Big Ben or even the Kelpies in Scotland, please pop by and have a look at our wonderful posters. Upon completion we then began studying Narrative and Instructions. We read through the thoroughly enjoyable book 'The Troublesome Tooth Fairy' by Sandi Toksvig and focused on the character of the troublesome, trainee tooth fairy who found her job quite difficult. Afterwards, we used our imagination and made a list of instructions to help the tooth fairy do her job properly. Again, these posters are on display outside our classroom.

In History, Year 3 learned about the Wonders of the World and Ancient Egypt. We looked at different Ancient and Modern Wonders and we also looked at chronological order and facts about Ancient Egypt. We then moved on to Hieroglyphics, which I am sure everyone enjoyed before looking at how archeologists such as Howard Carter discovered tombs and artifacts. We then studied the process of mummification, the reasoning behind it and Ancient Egyptian beliefs including their belief in the afterlife.









Science was also exciting last term. We were learning all about how to look after our teeth and what contributes to a balanced diet. We had fun looking inside our mouths and learning about the different types of teeth we have and their functions. We are currently preparing for our Year 3A class assembly on this topic and the children are really excited about presenting what they have learned so far to the rest of the school and performing their song and dance 'The Toothbrush Song'.



In Maths the children revisited counting, partitioning and calculations in a bid to help us develop our knowledge of thousands, hundreds and tens. We also looked at mental addition and subtraction techniques before studying doubles and halves. We then shifted our focus onto 3D shapes, learning their properties and creating our own shapes which we displayed for all to see in front of our classroom. I am very pleased with the attitude of all pupils in Maths class; they are all trying extremely hard and wanting to be challenged in every lesson.

All of the children have so far made a promising transition into Key Stage 2. I have really enjoyed teaching them and it is my intention to have a highly productive year where all children are learning and producing work to a high standard across all curriculum subject areas.

In the next newsletter, Mr. Christies will keep everyone up to date about what Year 3 are currently studying in the new half term.

Please remember my door is always open should you have any questions or queries regarding your child's academic development.

Mr. Lewis Caple Year 3 Teacher

### **SECONDARY**

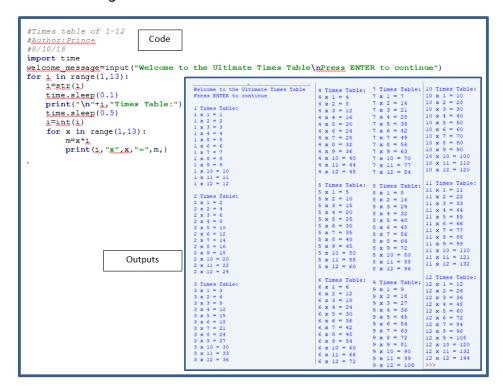
#### Year 10 pupils make an excellent start in Computer Science.

The start of year 10 is often a daunting one, especially when pupils are doing a subject they have little experience of in KS2 and KS3. So I'm sure with some trepidation, pupils who opted to do GCSE Computer Science, started their course. Over the past few weeks the development in this subject has been amazing, with the transition from having little vocabulary in this subject, to the regular utterings of, "I think you're going to need to define three variables to carry out this while loop". My teaching of students has reduced dramatically as I have adopted an independent learning approach to CS. This involves a "Coach-Learner" technique, whereby a stronger student, coaches a less able student in the concepts I have taught them. This has dramatically reduced the gap from the top level of the class to the middle lower level of the class. Pupils approach the lesson with a "wow what problem will we have to solve today". Consequently the level of independent learning is at a level, that in my 20+ years of teaching I have never experienced before. Well done Year 10.

#### Below is an example of a pupils programming

This example is a program used to calculate the times tables of all numbers from 1 to 12. This uses "a for loop within a for loop". Because this displays so fast, a 1 second delay has been added between each number calculated, so the observer can watch the output easier. This student independently of me added a gap between number calculations for ease of reading.

Mr Steve Rodgers Secondary ICT Teacher



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: @heathfieldbkk