



Overseas Family School Kindergarten

Master Policy:

To maintain a happy, safe and effective school for overseas families living in Singapore

Principal's Message

It has been a busy month in the Kindergarten, with Book Week activities, Field Trips and Professional Development for the Kindergarten teachers.

To foster a love of reading and the importance of books, we spent a week celebrating the joy of stories and of reading. The children especially enjoyed listening to stories read by our Mystery Readers (parent videos, visiting author Brandon Bolger and OFS High school students) and had an enjoyable time participating in the interactive plays and the acting workshops, presented by Centre Stage. The Book Week's festivities ended with a Book Character parade, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all. It was very exciting to see Elsa, Harry Potter, lions, bears, unicorns, Princes and Princesses and many other familiar storybook characters come to life, parading around our Kindergarten.

The Kindergarten teachers spent two days on Professional Development. The sessions included, a motivational talk by Guest speaker, Barnaby Howard on Resilience; working committees to review and refine our International Early Years Curriculum (IEYC) implementation and practices; learning more about Speech and Language development in young children and ways to support children's literacy development through the Jolly Phonics program. We had a productive and inspiring time, reflecting on current practices and taking on board new strategies and ideas on how to further support the children in their learning and development.

The next Parent Student Teacher Conference will take place on Friday, 24 March 2023. We are very excited to be able to hold student led conferences again this year. Student led conferences provide a wonderful opportunity to engage children in understanding and taking ownership of their learning. Your child will play an active role at the conference leading (teacher-supported) discussions with you about their learning and progress by reviewing examples of their work and identifying academic goals that he/she will work towards. We look forward to this celebration of student learning between the student, teachers, and parents. More information about the PST conferences will be sent home in the coming weeks.

Da-Khue Ngo
Kindergarten Principal
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From The Parent Association (PA) Desk

GLOBAL PICNIC 2023: SECOND MEETING FOR COUNTRY COORDINATORS

The annual Global Picnic, an international fair where all the families in the School get together to celebrate as one international community, will take place on Saturday, 29 April 2023. This is a great opportunity for you to represent your country by bringing popular traditional food to your country table, performing a musical or dance number which represents your country, or sharing an activity from your culture.

We invite you to come join us and represent your country. If you have any family recipe item or activity from your culture to share, please come along and help.

The second and final meeting for the Country Coordinators will be on:

Date: Thursday, 16 March 2023

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Venue: Parent Lounge (Level 4 of Administration Block)

If you would like to volunteer to represent your country, please email the Parent Association at (parent_association@ofs.edu.sg) .

More information regarding the Global Picnic is available on the school website (<https://www.ofs.edu.sg/about/pa/events/global-picnic/>).

Book Week



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Pre-K1 News



The Bunnies had a fabulous time participating in various activities as part of Book Week. They had a wonderful week being exposed to a variety of literature, enjoying stories read by parents, storytelling by Kindergarten teachers, and sharing their favorite storybooks with friends in class. The highlight of the week was our Character Parade. The children and teachers dressed up as their favorite book characters for the parade. It was a joy to see lots of children's favorite books come to life.

The Bunnies are enjoying the "Ocean Treasures" unit very much! In addition to having fun and learning about ocean pollution at the beach area in the classroom, the children were fascinated by the hatching of baby sea turtles there and decided to keep one as our class pet. We have made this an opportunity to form a home-learning link and allow each

child to take turns bringing it home to care, which reinforces respect, empathy, and responsibility for other living things.

The children are diving deeper into the ocean, learning more about sea creatures in different zones through stories, songs and crafts. Soon, they will become divers and join a diving school! A covered big tent has been set up in the classroom, which the children can imagine is the dark depths of the deepest ocean. They will soon learn that divers need very special equipment including goggles and an oxygen tank, in order to swim at such depths.

We are also looking forward to our upcoming field trip to Pasir Ris Beach and a fishing farm, where families will participate in a "beach scavenger hunt" and a koi feeding experience.

(Pre-K1 Bunnies)



Pre-K2 News



The Pre-K2 children have loved becoming different characters and acting out the different roles whilst listening to the various fairytales. We have been encouraging the children to use loud voices so that their audience can hear. They loved listening to the story of The Tortoise and the Hare. We made our own tortoise and hares to race, and learned that 'Slow and steady wins the race.' The children were very excited to take part in their own race around the track. Beforehand, we made Hare and Tortoise masks and spectator flags. We split the class into 2 groups so that whilst one group raced the others cheered

on from the finish line. Once back in the classroom we held a medal ceremony, with our very own handmade medals!

We are excited to see their acting skills progress during our next 2 stories: The Gingerbread Man and The 3 Billy Goats Gruff.

(Pre-K2 Team)



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Pre-K2

K1 News



The K1 children had a fun-filled and exciting week as they participated in various Book Week activities organised by the teachers, leading up to the Book Character Parade! They came to school all dressed up as their favourite book characters and did a fantastic performance for their lovely parents! It would be a great time to use this opportunity to encourage the love of reading with your child; you may read their favourite book in your Mother Tongue, look through pictures in books and encourage your child to recount the story or play 'I-Spy Sight Words or Letter Sounds' with your child.

The K1 children are enjoying their new Unit, 'Imagine That!' It is wonderful to see the children becoming little artists and creating artworks inspired by the different artists they learn about each week. They had a very special visitor from the Middle School Art Department who taught them about the Japanese artist, Yayoi Kusama. The K1 children are very busy getting ready for their Art Exhibition – a tie in with our Unit Exit Point on Friday, 24th March 2023. We look forward to showcasing the marvellous artwork created by the little artists at the Art Exhibition/Exit Point.

(K1 Team)





K2 News



This month the children enjoyed celebrating 100 days of school. There was a great deal of excitement leading up to this celebration, where the children counted and documented day by day, leading up to the 100th day of K2. Once the children had reached 100 days, they had fun completing a 100 Days walk and showcasing their creative and fantastic outfits that they made at home. The children engaged in various activities such as making a crazy 100 day hat using stickers and 10 strips of paper, each containing 10 stickers. In addition to this, the children enjoyed building with 100 Lego bricks and 100



paper cups to form the tallest tower. We found that not only did this day encourage children to count from 1 to 100 but taught the children to group numbers in 5's and 10's, through the use of a ten frame and tally marks.

This semester the children will be focusing on identifying 3D shapes, data handling, symmetry and basic addition and subtraction arithmetic. All activities will be consolidated through a practical and hands on approach using various mathematical manipulatives. Furthermore, we will also be looking at measurement, focusing on length in a non-standardised approach as well as, measuring the capacity of different containers, through playful exploration.

We are often asked by parents how they can help their children to continue their learning at home. There are many fun ways in which you can do this. Below are some suggestions that we hope you will find useful.

- 1. Count everything** - Count the number of steps to the car, the number of toys in a box, the number of candies in a jar. Later, introduce estimating the same quantities. Double-check your child's counting when appropriate. Reasonable estimates are one of the most useful strategies for successful mathematical thinking.
- 2. Bake together** - Let your child become familiar with the purpose of measuring, the various measurements (milligram, gram, litre) and an understanding of quantity. At later stages, let them work out amounts naturally, such as doubling or halving a recipe.
- 3. Create a family math night** - Designate a Family night. Play board games and other games that use number cubes (dice), card games, dominoes, four in a row or a game of chess. This not only provides children with the opportunity to problem solve and think strategically but also builds a child's self-esteem and the concept of playing fair and ethical.

By encouraging these types of activities, your child will be learning mathematical skills with you in a fun and meaningful way. Below are some mathematics website links to further enhance your child's learning. We hope you have fun learning together.

https://www.mathplayground.com/kindergarten_games.html

<https://www.abcy.com>

<https://pbskids.org/games/math>



(K2 Team)

