

Grade 1 Newsletter

15 February 2013

Happy Chinese New Year! We hope you enjoyed the break and we wish you all the best for the Year of the Snake. Our Chinese New Year celebrations were a great success and the children were excited to share all the Mandarin they have been learning in their language classes. We were very proud of how well they performed on stage.

There have been some minor changes to our timetables to enable uninterrupted blocks of time for core subjects taking place within the homeroom. Please check the 'Reminders' section below to see the new library times.

Literacy

In Literacy, the learners have had the opportunity to create their own online stories using an exciting website called 'Storybird'. This is a learning tool that provides a vast array of pictures that can be placed onto a storyboard. The children can then add text to the storyboard to tell their tales. The learners have thoroughly enjoyed this activity and many have been choosing to use the website during their Learner Directed Activities to further develop their writing. If your child has not yet shared this with you at home, please ask them to do so as they have created some very imaginative stories.

Mathematics

In Mathematics, we have been reinforcing addition and subtraction strategies. Last week, the children learned how to partition numbers by looking at place value. This provided a solid foundation for the introduction of column addition and subtraction with numbers that involve carrying over and borrowing. This is an important skill that will be reinforced through mental mathematics work and group activities as we continue through the semester.





Unit of Inquiry

We have just begun our new Central Idea '*Systems in Our Body Keep us Alive*'. The children have been tuning-in to this topic by sharing their knowledge on this subject and thinking about the different organs and systems within the body. The first system we have looked at is the skeletal system and the learners have had great fun making bones and putting together skeletons. Next week we will begin to look at how the human heart works and the circulatory system.

Reminders

Tuesdays : G1SSA Library

Wednesdays : G1NPA Library

PE : Land-based until the beginning of Term 4