

# LOWER SCHOOL NEWS

BROMSGROVE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL THAILAND

PLEASE JOIN US ON FACEBOOK [HTTP://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/BIST4EY](http://www.facebook.com/bist4ey)

[WWW.BROMSGROVE.AC.TH](http://www.bromsgrove.ac.th)

4 OCTOBER 2013

## FROM THE HEAD OF EARLY YEARS

Dear Parents,

Welcome to our first Lower School Newsletter of the new academic year!

I have been very fortunate to take part in a range of exciting learning opportunities whilst visiting Early Years classes since the beginning of term. Highlights include exploring different fruits with Pre-Nursery, learning new songs with Nursery, Phonics lessons with Reception, cake baking with Year 1 and creating a wonderful electronic storybook with Year 2. It has been very rewarding to watch the children complete set tasks so enthusiastically and to share in the fantastic learning that is taking place daily.

During this half term we have enjoyed both Breakfast with Mum/Meet your child's class teacher and the Teddy Bear's Picnic events at Early Years. I know that the children were really excited about having their parents visit for these occasions and, although the weather forced the picnic to move into the school hall, both events were enjoyed by all.

We have also held more formal meetings for parents; Parents' Orientation included information about the school as a whole while the PE Curriculum meeting explained the skills taught to our children during PE and Swimming lessons. In addition, our first BPTA meeting was held this week. If you were unable to attend and require further information on the topics covered please ask at the school office.

Mr Chris Edwards and Ms Rachel Scannell were able to visit Early Years from Bromsgrove UK this week. The children were keen to show our visitors their school and their Thai dance performances were wonderful.

The new school year has seen a number of new specialist teachers joining our Early Years staff team in addition to the class teachers that we welcome to our Bromsgrove family. Ms Pook visits every week in order to offer the children specialist music lessons, Mr Martin offers German sessions to children with German speaking parents, Mr Darren, professional coach, runs a football After School Activity every Monday and Ms Thanya (Denny's Mum) supports both Gymnastics and Dance. I am very pleased to be able to offer the children support from subject specialists and thank all of these teachers for their work to date.



Making our own picnic treats

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

<b>Halloween</b>	- 31 October
<b>Loy Krathong</b>	- 14 November
<b>Breakfast with Dad</b>	- 4 December
<b>Parents' Consultations</b>	- 9 December
<b>Christmas Concert</b>	- 12 December
<b>Santa Visit/Christmas Dinner and Class Parties</b>	- 13 December

Kind regards

Mrs Emma John - Head of Early Years



Year 1 and Year 2 trying to Place the Nose on the Teddy



Sharing teddy bear stories



We all enjoyed the Teddy Bears' Picnic

## PRE NURSERY BUTTERFLIES NEWS

What a beautiful start to the year the Butterflies have had. We're learning all about ourselves and our alter ego as Butterflies. We can fly like butterflies between classes, sit on our butterflies in circle time, and we've even decorated our own butterflies to fly on our Birthday Butterfly Tree.

As well as our butterfly selves, we've been learning about our real selves: what we look like, what things we like and dislike, what we can do, how we are feeling, and about all of our senses that help us to explore the world. The children drew around each other, then decorated their bodies with things they like their handprints and footprints, and even chose a different colour of hair for themselves.

We've also been learning to take care of others. Both pre-nursery classes learnt about guinea pigs, then we visited our guinea pig, Princess. We talked about what she needed to be healthy, and it's quite similar to the things the children need to be healthy. The children fed Princess, and saw that she ate carrot, and cucumber sticks, and needed to drink water just like they do.

Along the themes of things we like and being healthy, we made a fruit salad together. The children picked their favourite fruit to cut up into a fruit salad to enjoy at snack time. They could name the fruit, peel the bananas and oranges and practise their cutting skills, then enjoy the "fruits of their labour".

Ms Amy  
Pre Nursery Butterflies Teacher



Pre Nursery visiting the guinea pig



Pun and Sainum drawing around Megan



Canon feeding Princess



Namcha changing her hair colour



Megan and David and their fruit salad

## PRE NURSERY LADYBIRDS NEWS

All the children in the Pre-Nursery Ladybirds class have settled well and we've had a great start to the school year. The children are learning the routines and are beginning to use more of their language at school. Listening skills are vital for learning a language, so all Pre-Nursery children have been singing lots of songs, and playing games with instruments to help develop these skills during Circle Time and Music and Movement.

As there are two Pre-Nursery classes this year, we join together for child initiated play. A variety of learning experiences are set up across both classrooms, and we encourage the children to 'free-flow' between them. So far the most popular activity has been exploratory play with rice when there are a mixture of containers and utensils available for the children to pour and scoop. This is just one of a variety of sensory experiences we have had already in Pre-Nursery this term: the children have explored the sensation of 'gloop' made from both tapioca and cornflour; they have made salt dough to shape and decorate; they have practised their scissor skills by cutting noodles; they have made hand and footprints with paint.

Although we have only been at school for a month, the children have already had two exciting celebrations to share with their parents. At our 'Breakfast with Mum', the children served their parents with chocolate cornflake cakes and iced biscuits we had made for them, which were enjoyed by all. We followed our breakfast with some parachute games outside with the parents. We also recently joined the whole of the Early Years to take our teddy bears for a picnic, making jam sandwiches with parents before going to the hall for the picnic, teddy bear songs and games.

Ms Asha  
Pre-Nursery Ladybirds



Alfie feeds his bear some food at the Teddy Bear's Picnic



Khmin cutting noodles



Megan making sandwiches with Daddy



Parents and children playing parachute games after Breakfast with Mum



Phupha making salt dough

## THAI NEWS

เรียน ท่านผู้ปกครอง

สวัสดีค่ะ ยินดีต้อนรับสู่ปีการศึกษาใหม่ สำหรับภาควิชาภาษาไทยของโรงเรียนแผนกอนุบาล มีกิจกรรมต่างๆที่จัดขึ้นตั้งแต่ชั้นเตรียมอนุบาลถึงระดับชั้นประถมศึกษาปีที่ ๑ ทั้งเด็กนักเรียนไทยและชาวต่างชาติ จะมีการเตรียมความพร้อม ร้องเพลง เต้น กิจกรรมเข้าจังหวะ ออกกำลังกาย ฟังนิทาน ร้องเพลง ลากเส้นระบายสี ฝึกเขียนพยัญชนะ-สระไทย เรียนรู้ทั้งภาษา ประเพณีและวัฒนธรรมไทย แต่ละระดับชั้นจะมีความแตกต่างตามความพร้อมและให้สอดคล้องกับระดับความสามารถของนักเรียนในแต่ละชั้นเรียน นักเรียนแต่ละคนมีความสุข สนุก และได้รับความรู้ที่ได้ร่วมทำกิจกรรมต่างๆ

ในภาคเรียนนี้จะมีการจัดกิจกรรมงานวันลอยกระทง ซึ่งนักเรียนจะได้ฝึกร้องเพลง เต้น รำไทย และกิจกรรมอื่นๆอีกมากมาย ที่ผ่านมามีเด็ก ๆให้ความร่วมมือในกิจกรรมต่างอย่างดี ขอขอบพระคุณท่านผู้ปกครองที่ให้คำแนะนำ ความร่วมมือ และสนับสนุนภาคภาษาไทยที่ดีเสมอมา

ครูกิตติมา นุรักษ์  
ครูภาษาไทย

## BUMBLEBEE NURSERY NEWS



Rungkha showing the body she made out of shapes

What a wonderful start to the year the Nursery children have made. Everyone has settled into their new class and routine very easily and with very few tears, so well done children for being so brave!

The theme for this term is 'My-self' and we have been discovering all about ourselves. The children have been learning about their bodies through Maths and English and have created a picture of themselves using various different shapes. We have looked at how we are different

from each other through looking at the things we like and dislike. The children made collages using old magazines and catalogues and cut out and stuck onto card the things that they like, we also made a graph of all the things we like and counted how many people like each fruit and which toys.

The children have also started looking at the differences between themselves and babies by talking about what they can do now and what they couldn't do when they were babies as well as bringing in old pictures of themselves to see how they have changed.

During Understanding and Knowledge, the children have been going on nature walks around the school to see what they can find. They were very excited when they found a bird's nest on the floor and have been looking at it in detail with a magnifying glass.

The children have been enjoying many songs and dances. Their favourites are "Lazy Day" and "Apples and Bananas." I often hear them singing the songs while they are playing during child initiated and I am sure you may have heard them at home too!

It has been a fantastic start to the year and a real pleasure to teach our happy Bumblebees. I am very impressed to hear so many of them speaking English during child initiated.

Miss Charly Greaves  
Nursery Teacher



Aimee finger painting



Bumblebee nursery creating a graph of the toys they like



Ryuichi, Yngwie and Rungkha looking for items on their scavenger list.



Jaquer showing the class which shape was a circle

## Year 1 NEWS

The Year 1 class started off the new school year with a topic on 'Ourselves and other Animals'. First they looked at parts of the body and senses and found that some animal senses are far better than human senses. They particularly enjoyed smelling and tasting activities. Then they observed how animals move and sorted pictures accordingly. They found that they can move in all the different ways apart from flying! Next the children saw how humans grow from babies to adults and matched animals to their babies. They also compared baby and adult animals to find out that some change quite a lot!

Andy Warhol's work was used for inspiration to use bold colours to produce self portraits using a variety of media - crayon, chalk, paint and pencil. The children also drew self portraits using a computer program. They produced some great work when observing someone walking, kicking and running to try to convey movement in their drawings.

The children performed well when acting out the stories in the books 'Oi! Get Off Our Train' and 'The Gingerbread Man'. They composed their own stories using the repeated phrases from the books. After listening to the story of 'The Tiger Who Came To Tea', the children wrote invitations and lists of things the tiger ate.

In Numeracy the children have been practising counting on from a given number and applying addition to solve problems. They are also beginning to use a variety of coins to make amounts up to 20 baht. Maths has focused on measuring length and height using arbitrary units such as cubes, straws, feet and hand spans. They discovered that they did not all get the same answers when measuring with their hands or feet and understood why they were all correct.

Miss Karen  
Year 1 teacher

## Year 2 NEWS



Just a few weeks into the new term and the Year 2 classrooms are becoming more and more colourful as the children's completed work is displayed.

In English the children have been looking at stories with familiar settings. The children have been looking at the book 'A Lion in the Meadow'. They retold this story using pictures and each pupil had the chance to record themselves retelling the story to create a digital story book.

In Maths the focus has been on understanding the value of numbers. A number of activities have been completed by the children including number games, number line work and splitting given numbers into tens and units. In becoming familiar with

number bonds to 10 and 100, children have also been building on their confidence to add and subtract quickly and accurately.

Science lessons have involved learning about having a healthy body. The children have been looking at different food groups and considering the things that we need in order to stay healthy.

In Topic, the children have been studying 'Famous People'. They have been looking at how famous people live their lives and comparing and contrasting it to how they live their lives. They have been looking at the famous authors, J.K Rowling and Roald Dahl and comparing similarities in the books they have published.

We are delighted to welcome four new pupils to Year 2 this year: Paopao, Philip and Shi. They are settling really well into our class and have made lots of friends already. Philip made an excellent start to the year not only within the curriculum but he was also the first pupil to win 'star of the week' for his excellent effort and behaviour in class. Well done, Philip!

Paopao and Shin have settled in well and they have already made lots of friends in early years. They were both very quick to show their strong ability in our math lessons. Super effort!

I am sure you will all agree that the Breakfast with Mum and the Teddy Bears' Picnic were a great success. Year 2 loved preparing the food for Mum's and Dad's on both mornings and we look forward to more social mornings in the coming months.

Ms Nichola  
Year 2 Teacher

## FROM THE HEAD OF PRIMARY

It has been a fabulous start to the new academic year, with all the children and staff returning to school refreshed and full of enthusiasm. This promises to be a great year for teaching and learning in Primary.

### New Staff

We have been lucky to welcome four new teachers. Mr Ryan Mann (Year 5), Mr Dylan Jones (Year 6), Mrs Natasha Mann (EAL) and Ms Pook (music). Also, Ms Philippa Boyd (Year 6) has joined us from the Early Years campus. We also have a two new teaching assistants, Ms Fon (Year 6) and Ms Yim (Year 5). Please join us in wishing them a long and successful career at BIST Primary.

### Mrs Scott and Year 4

Mrs Scott will soon be starting her maternity leave until the end of January. We wish her and her family well. We have been busy interviewing cover teachers for Year 4, and we have some excellent candidates to choose from. An announcement will follow shortly.

### New Students

We have had a number of new children join us over the holiday. I would like to extend a big welcome to them. In particular, the Year 6 class has grown to the point where the group has now been split into two classes. This is to ensure we keep a low student-teacher ratio, and provide the best possible provision for the class.

### Reports and Parents' Consultation Meetings

In order to improve home-school communications, there will be some changes to the schedule of reports and parents' consultation evenings this year. To keep consistency across the whole school, settling in reports will now only be written for children new to Windsor Park. In their place will be a parents' consultation meeting this half term. At the end of term one a full report will be written, as before. A letter explaining the full schedule will be sent out shortly.

### Hats

As part of our sun safety policy for the protection of the children from harmful UV rays, children will not be allowed to play outside unless they are wearing a hat. Please ensure your child has their Bromsgrove hat at school at all times. Please could you also ensure their hat has their name clearly written in it.

### Homework Diaries

To help us in our record keeping, it would be beneficial if you could sign your child's homework diary each week. This also keeps you up to date with your child's learning.

Mr Chris Pearce  
Acting Head of Primary

## Baby Bear Playgroup

A place for kids to socialise in a safe and friendly environment

Native speaking English teachers and playgroup leaders in charge

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

## Football Academy

Register at  
[Footballacademy@bromsgrove.ac.th](mailto:Footballacademy@bromsgrove.ac.th)  
Contact: Darren Scott 081 080 4286



**Year 3 NEWS**



**THE YEAR 3 CLASS**

We have had a great start to the new academic year. Last year's transition arrangements have really paid-off, and the children have settled seamlessly into life at Windsor Park.

The whole class is still together from Year 2, and we have had a number of new arrivals to boost numbers to eleven. We welcome Peily, Golf, Bam Bam, Ryan and Leah to the class.

We are having a busy half term. In literacy, our focus is writing stories set in a familiar place. We have been looking at different sentence structures, especially writing compound and complex sentences, and also at using interesting adjectives.

In numeracy we are working on place value, and calculations using all four operations. We will also look at time and symmetry. An ongoing target for the children is to learn number facts, such as number bonds and the times tables. Knowledge of these underpins all mental maths ability, and I cannot emphasise

enough how important these are. Please support your child's learning of them.

We have linked our science, geography and art topics together this half term. In science our topic is habitats, and our geography and art topic is rainforests. In ICT we are learning how to use the internet, and putting that into practice researching lots of interesting information for our topic work.

Mr Chris Pearce  
Year 3 teacher



**ICT IN THE CLASSROOM**



**OUR NEW YEAR 3 STUDENTS**

## Year 4 NEWS



The children in Year 4 have made a fantastic start to the new academic year and shown great enthusiasm towards their learning.

Our first big project has been The Rainforest and the children have been

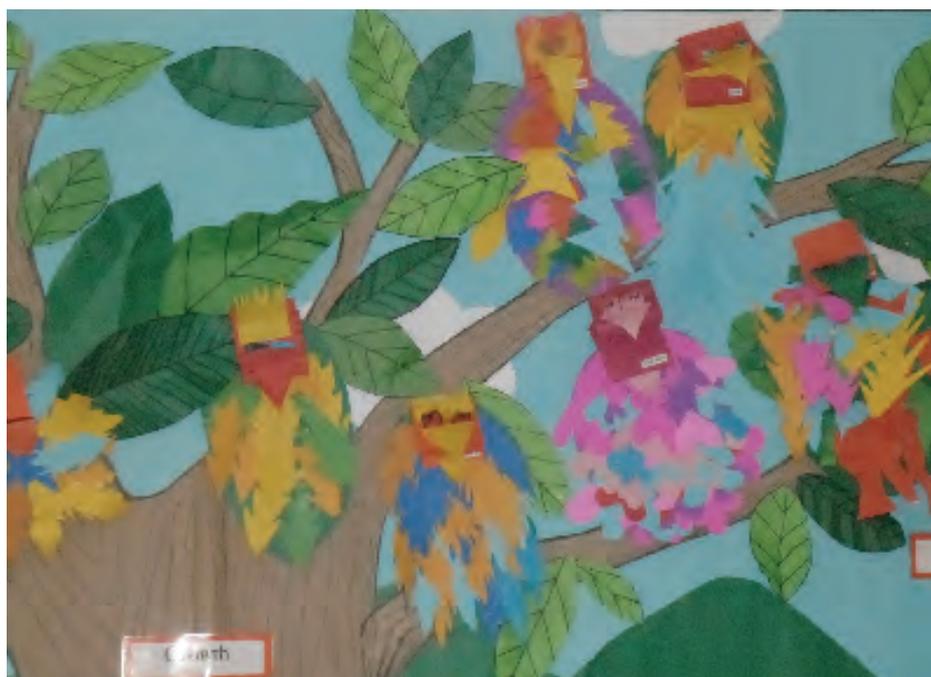
keen to learn many aspects of this topic. We have combined together many subjects and covered a wide range of activities including map work in Geography, rainforest habitats in Science, making different rainforest species in Art and DT and designing inventions and board games in Literacy. We have also been developing our communication and research skills by using ICT and reference books to help collect information for this project.

Team work and collaborative learning is a huge part of Year 4. We have been taking on different roles within a group and learning how to become group leaders and group designers. These skills help us to become better at problem solving and working together to take on learning challenges!

It's all made for a terrific start to the year and I look forward to all children making very pleasing progress in the terms ahead.

A wonderful team effort. Well done Year 4!

Mrs F Scott  
Year 4 Teacher



## Year 5 NEWS



### THE YEAR 5 CLASS.

The year is off to a great start and we are all excited about the new things that we have been learning.

In literacy we have been focusing on biographies and autobiographies. The students have looked at short autobiographical stories by Roald Dahl and identified features that are common to biographies and autobiographies, such as the use of first person, including dialogue, and using descriptive language. During this unit, the students will also be writing some autobiographical stories about small moments from their own lives and they will focus on using appropriate dialogue and vivid language.



Anna and Emily are identifying characteristics of autobiographies.

Our first topic in maths involved place value with addition, subtraction, and multiplication. We then moved on to number sequences where the students worked on identifying number patterns. We are now working on shapes, which involves identifying characteristics of different shapes such as parallel and perpendicular lines, angles, and diagonals.

We are off to a great start in science where the students are

learning about space. So far we have studied the planets that make up our solar system, our closest star, the sun, and the eight phases of the moon.

Our history topic, World War II, has been very enjoyable for the students. As well as learning about the history of World War II, we have also been incorporating the topic into our art classes. The students have made an evacuation poster based on a World War II film called Good Night Mr Tom and have designed their own World War II aeroplanes.



Our World War II aeroplane designs

Finally, in ICT we have been working on our times tables by doing maths activities on the internet. We have also started learning about PowerPoint. The students will be making their own PowerPoint presentations about a planet of their choice.

Mr Ryan Mann  
Year 5 Teacher

## YEAR 6 NEWS



A new/old teacher to BIST – although many will know me from Early Years where I have been teaching Reception for many years. I join the Primary team here at Windsor Park this year as half of the Year 6 teachers. I am looking forward very much to the challenge that Year 6 offers me and am also delighted to be seeing many familiar faces and reacquainting myself with the children who are much bigger and scarier than they were when I taught them before.

Firstly, Mr Jones and I would like to say to members of Year 6 and their parents a huge Thank You for welcoming us to Windsor Park so warmly.

This term has been extremely busy so far with Year 6 as one group all studying together in one room with me! We are now split into 2 groups and are feeling more settled. Maturity and the ability to adapt to a changing environment are all important attributes of a good Year 6 student and the children all helped us enormously through a difficult time. Now we are in 2 groups we are continuing to work hard and learn well.

Our Science topic of Food Chains saw us take our first field trip into the dark and far reaches of the school field. The rain we have had recently has made the pond outside our gate very prosperous and we were able to identify many different producers and consumers in the food chains in our locality. Likewise our banana garden is looking very lush and green and the children were able to see some different habitats and food chains there too.

Our Geography topic of Rivers has shown the children, with a little help from Bill Nye the Science guy, how and where rivers begin. Again we explored the banana garden where we used a big heap of soil to represent a mountain and by pouring water slowly from above showed how water erodes a river bed and creates a complex river system. All good learning and fun too!

We have been learning about fiction in English and have been identifying types of stories and fitting them into the different genres. Discussing the types of stories that we like has generated some interesting conversations and discussion. We also took a deeper look at Roald Dahl and the motivations for his story writing. We celebrated Roald Dahl Day by designing a Charlie and the Chocolate Factory inspired candy treats.

In Maths we have been learning what part each number plays in a whole number. Multiplying by 10, 100 and 1000 has also been a feature of our Maths lessons. Place Value, decimals and halving and doubling have also had some of us tied in knots, but we have all been working hard to learn strategies in Maths to untangle the knots. So much in such a short time.

Best Wishes from Year 6  
 Philippa Boyd  
 Year 6 Teacher

THE MOST  
**HIGH-TECH**  
MUSIC SCHOOL IN ASIA

**SUPERSTAR**  
ACADEMY



**The most advanced music and performing arts school in Asia.**

Located in the heart of business district on Thong Lor Road, Superstar Academy is a world-class music and performing arts school for Thai and international students ages 2 years old to adults. We offer Full-Time and Part-Time Programs with courses in voice, dance, acting, personality, MC,VJ, modeling, musical instruments, band, DJ, beatbox, and music technology for students who want to become confident individuals and/or those who want to become professional actors, singers, musicians, and dancers. Our curriculum is designed to make students believe in themselves. Our mission is to produce local and international superstars of the entertainment industry and leaders of all industries. The school is certified by the Ministry of Education.



For more information, please contact :  
**Superstar Academy** 087-710-7999  
 946 Thonglor Rd., Wattana, Bangkok 10110  
 Tel. 02-714-7500 Fax: 02-714-7650 info@superstar-academy.com  
[www.superstar-academy.com](http://www.superstar-academy.com)



# Samitivej's Children Hospital



ศูนย์โรคภูมิแพ้  
Allergy Center



บริการเคลื่อนย้ายทารกและเด็กภาวะวิกฤต  
Babies & Children Medical Transportation



คลินิกสมอง  
และระบบประสาท  
pediatric  
Neurology clinic



ศูนย์พัฒนาการเรียงหน้า  
Learning center



คลินิกโรคทางด้านไต และทางเดินปัสสาวะ  
pediatric Nephrology clinic



Intensive Care

คลินิกโรคทางเดินหายใจ  
pediatric pulmonary clinic



ศูนย์โรคหัวใจในเด็ก  
pediatric cardiology center



ศูนย์ธาลัสซีเมีย (โลหิตวิทยา ไขกระดูกในเด็ก  
และการปลูกถ่ายไขกระดูก)  
Thalassemia

คลินิกกุมารศัลยกรรม  
pediatric surgery clinic

0-2378-9000  
www.samitivejhospitals.com



facebook.com/Samitivej

