



Dear Parents of EMW Primary,

We wish you all a festive and restful holiday during the upcoming winter study break for students.

The past couple of weeks a festive atmosphere has permeated the school. Students were entranced by the exciting and festive decorations which our amazing PSG put up on the first floor. Our music team, Mr Smart, Ms Valentyna and Ms Ange, took to the halls with the choir and orchestra to delight our students with their lovely music of the season.

We celebrated Kindness Week, which took on new levels as students went out of their way to show kindness in many different ways. We loved the student agency that students demonstrated in their ideas to create a kind, positive school environment.

This past week we have sent out travel updates to parents for the winter break and procedures for students return to school on 4th January. Please read the information carefully and follow the specific guidance if your child has traveled outside Shanghai.

January is sure to be an exciting month for students as we gear up for our Chinese New Year celebration on 14th January, where we will welcome in the Year of the Tiger.

Please enjoy this issue of our newsletter-it is filled with student learning from Unit 2 and also has some parent tips from our school counsellor!

We wish you all a safe and happy end of 2021. Can't wait to see you all in 2022!

Kind regards,
Karen & Clara
Co Heads of Primary/Co-Vice Principals

Dec. 30- Jan. 3

Winter Study Break

Jan.19

Last school day of 1st semester

Jan.20 – Feb.16

Winter Holiday

Feb.17

2nd Semester Starts

Unit 2 Grade 1

In Unit 2 of Grade 1, the students have been inquiring into how people understand the world through their senses. Students have explored the role of each sense in collecting information through a variety of fun experiments. They have learned how their senses are connected to one another and what happens if they lose one of their senses. Furthermore, they learned how they can protect their sense organs in their every day life.

The Grade 1 students had the opportunity to apply their understanding of the role of their senses through an interactive fieldtrip at the Shanghai Public Safety Education Training Base. They experienced simulated earthquakes, typhoons, and smoke from fire to name a few. The children learned the proper procedure when dealing with these dangerous circumstances. This unit has helped the students to become inquisitive and knowledgeable. Most importantly, they have learned the importance of using their senses to keep themselves and others safe at all times.



Unit 2 Grade 2

During our second Unit of Inquiry in Grade 2, we learned how to organize ourselves, why we help living things, the functions of organizations and how communities take action.

The unit started with the students understanding what a need is. They learned that there are different types of needs such as physiological, emotional and safety.

We explored both local and international organizations such as orphanages, elderly homes, environmental protection agencies, and social enterprise. In addition, we were fortunate to have multiple guest speakers who gave insightful presentations. The students were very engaged, took down notes and asked a lot of questions. After being exposed to these organizations, the students took responsibility to take action to help their chosen organization during our Caring Day.

Our Caring Day was the highlight of this unit. The students worked in groups and took action by creating awareness, donating, making lifestyle choices or informing people how to volunteer. Our Grade 2 students learned how to effectively work with their groupmates and they worked on their presentation skills. All Grade 2 classes opened their doors to other grade levels to present their action plan. The whole Grade 2 team, teachers and students, were very pleased with the responses and support from the school community.

It was indeed a special UOI unit since the students did not just learn about being caring and reflective but also gave back to the local and international community.



Unit 2 Grade 3

Unit 2 was an interesting inquiry journey through the lens of the central idea “The Media Influences People’s Thinking and Decision Making”. The children inquired into different types of media and learned the connection with social and digital media. Grade 3 discussed the meaning of communication and how messages are being sent to us in different ways all the time.

We also looked at different messages and advertisements from the school neighborhood. After a meaningful inquiry, we were able to conclude that messages are sent with a purpose (persuade, inform, entertain or teach) and are all around us. We were also treated to a very informative parent presentation. Mr. Zhang, who works for the Shanghai Media Group, told us about different media-operated services run by the company. He also told us about the importance of being safe online and recognizing fake news.

In our year group assembly, different classes shared their learning of this unit. There were very informative and entertaining presentations about our media. Mr. Richard and Ms. Hattie’s class sang a song about the different forms of media, such as the radio and internet. Ms. Jennifer and Ms. Joyce’s class acted out several skits demonstrating the different purposes of media. This included a role play of a stranger offering money to add someone as a friend on WeChat. These are good reminders of making safe, smart choices with media and not being persuaded by false advertising. This was an action-packed inquiry into the many different forms of media, the purpose of media and how it influences our lives every day. Our Grade 3 students are now more aware of this important communication tool. They also know how to use their critical thinking skills to reflect and make better choices from the messages of media.



3E' s Assembly performance



3I sorting different types of media



Our guest speaker, Mr. Zhang

Unit 2 Grade 4

Unit 2 was a fascinating unit as the students learnt about different forces and how they affected our everyday lives. Various experiments were carried out throughout the unit to help students understand multiple knowledge points. Experiments included the 'Egg Drop', to understand air resistance and the 'Pull Back Car Surface Test' to test friction.

As the students carried out experiments, students were taught to write up a detailed scientific report. Essential features covered were aims, hypotheses, fair testing, methodology, and conclusions.

With these skills covered, students were ready to complete the final assessment. They had to inquire about a force they were interested in and create a scientific experiment, including constructing a detailed scientific write-up. Once students carried out their projects, they presented them using their scientific knowledge to their teachers and peers.



Unit 2 Grade 5

Unit Two: How the World Works

Our Grade 5 students inquired into the theme “Scientific Inquiry Helps Us Understand the Physical World” for Unit 2, tuning in on matter, materials, and their uses. Students made connections between materials they use in their daily life and properties of those materials that make them effective for their use. Additionally, the field trip to the *Glass Museum of Shanghai* provided students with a visual representation of how matter can change forms and be utilized for many different uses. Then, students started their own scientific inquiries with matter and its material uses, completing various experiments to further spark their interest on the topic. Students also reflected regularly on how to collaborate more efficiently with their group members, how to better self-manage their time and resources; and how to present scientific procedures in a clear way. At the end of the unit, students worked on their communications skills by presenting their science knowledge at the science fair while at the same experimenting with their questions about materials and their uses. This unit really empowered our students to work together and showcase their scientific curiosities while working on presentation, collaboration, and self-managing skills.



Kindness Week

Between December 6th and December 10th, we ushered in a warm Kindness Week. We expressed kindness and friendship to our friends and teachers in different ways. When we arrived at school in the morning, we politely greeted our teachers. During the breaks, we played friendly games with our friends. We cultivated sincere friendships with smiles, tolerance and warmth. During this week, according to the proposal of the Student Council, we expressed our gratitude to the teachers and friends around us using gratitude cards; recorded the words of friendship on star-shaped stickers; Placed little droplets of encouragement in the small buckets; Used kind eyes to capture and learn from the small acts of kindness around you. These acts of kindness allow our children to shine and let the warmth flow in our campus.

One of the highlights of our Kindness Week was the dress up day, which took place on December 10th. Students came dressed in a wide array of heart focused clothing, which created a friendly atmosphere in our school hallways.

Although the Kindness Week activities have come to an end, the seeds of friendship have taken root in the hearts of the children. We hope all members of our learning community can continue their kind actions each and every day throughout the entire year.





Raising Independent Children

Denis Waitley, one of America's respected educational consultants and keynote lecturers, once said the ultimate goal of parenthood is to raise children to independence. It is always so tempting for us adults to intervene, fix and resolve problems for children. However, when we intentionally let go more and let children experience themselves more, we are giving them the greatest gift of autonomy and responsibility.

- 1. Instead of telling them what to do, teach them how to do it.** Instead of saying "Don't run" or "Don't fight", you can say "walk quietly here" or "share toys, take turn etc". Asking questions is another great way to involve them in the thinking process. Instead of telling them "do your work", you can ask "what are we supposed to do next?"
- 2. It takes time to train any skills.** Practicing patience is often the biggest challenge as we hope to see the changed behavior quickly. We want children to always tidy up and do their work without reminders. However, adapting a skill takes time for anyone, let alone children, and it is completely normal if we have to teach child over and over before they master.
- 3. Offer choices.** Choices allow children to take responsibility and ownership. Give limited choices and have your child decide. "What is the first thing we should do when we get home, put the groceries away, or read?" By including them in the decision making process, children feel a sense of power and autonomy.
- 4. Your attitude is everything.** Children know who believe in them. Show faith that you believe they are capable. When they make mistakes and fail to do a task, don't take the behavior personally. Remind yourself that it's the skills they have not learned. Allow children to make mistakes, go through disappointment and work through negative feelings. All of these are important skills and valuable experience for them to learn and grow.



Unit 2 Art

The Grade 1 students made self-portraits with textured frames while drawing connections between their five senses and art.



The Grade 2 Students explored the elements of art by exploring diverse art and then creating art with different media.



The Grade 3 Students explored graphics and design elements including spacing and layout to create their own name logo and a neat, organized, readable and eye-catching poster.



4th grade students explored the art of Italian Futurism and created art using illusion of movement and speed.



5th grade students designed and created collagraphs using printmaking skills.



Unit 2 Drama

In Drama, Grade 3 created their first script from one of Aesop's fables and enthusiastically presented the story to the class.



In Grade 4, students practiced developing their voices through applying volume, pace, pauses and different voices and then recited poetry.



Grade 5 students innovated a script based on fairy tales where each student had an important role in producing and acting the story.



Unit 2 Music

Grade 1 students learning about senses and music – feeling and movement; hearing and listening; singing and sight- using the body and instrumental percussion.

Grade 1 students learning about pitch through hand signs, solfege, colours, letters and numbers.



Grade 3 Students collaboratively composed creative advertising jingles and learned to play the recorder in an ensemble setting.



Grade 2

Students explored The Carnival of the Animals by Camille Saint-Saens' and created their own composition, while practising their musical skills such as listening, rhythm, and ensemble playing.

Students enthusiastically learned to play the xylophone as a group.



Grade 4

During Unit 2, Grade 4 students prepared enthusiastically for their performance, practicing how to vary pitch and tone in singing, and using movement with music.



Grade 5

In Unit 2 Grade 5 worked on 'transformation' in music, studying the music of an existing song and then creating their own version of the song using music elements.

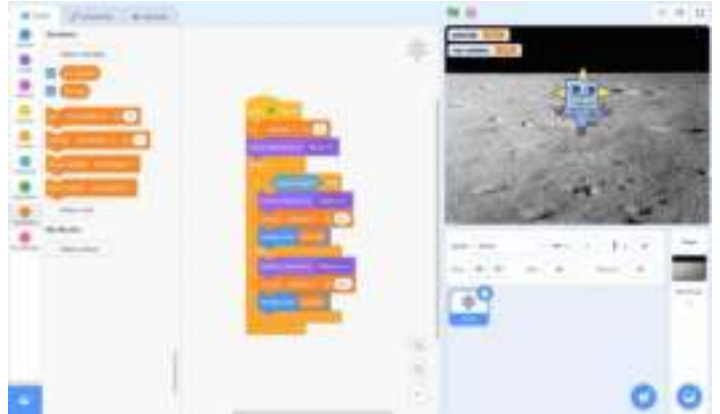


Unit 2 ICT

Grade 3 students learned how to use greenscreens as part of media while developing their social and communication skills.



Students in Grade 4 using Scratch to create simple programs and practicing their computational thinking skills.



Students in Grade 5 collaborating to prepare a survey, using their communication and social skills .



Sport Updates

Semester 1 Sports Competitions

We have had some very exciting sport this semester with competitions almost every weekend in a range of sports and activities; basketball, dance, cheerleading, rugby, badminton and football.

Here are some of the highlights

We are also very happy to introduce the newly formed Under 9 mixed gender football making history in the first of its kind competition within the SSSA. Thanks to Mr Nathan for supporting this venture and bringing home a second place trophy! Well done all!



Also, success in the boys basketball with trophies at the two recent SSSA competitions. Thank you to Mr James for your energy and dedication to school basketball! You can check out this link for further photos and highlights:

https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/ggOgR_Ngq03uB4uHQaxktQ

Outstanding improvements for the girls' football teams, coming second place in October and then becoming champions in November! Well done to all the players for their hard-work and special thanks to Mr Richard, Mr Yash, Mr Christian and Mr Nathan!



Sports Day



虹桥校区小学融合班G2-G5年级运动会
EMW Stream G2-5 Sports Day

We had some small but mighty changes to our annual Sports Day. Our PE lessons and assemblies in the buildup prepared students for a combination of physical and teamwork skills. We also explored the real meaning of sportsmanship. House captains opened the event with a welcome speech that gave highlights of sporting behaviour from their own examples and experience. Highlights of the day included archery, caterpillar races and the sponge relay! True tests of teamwork were also seen in the Grade 4 and 5 human wheel and tornado. For further photo highlights please follow the link:

<https://live.photoplus.cn/live/pc/26226314/#/live>

Sportsmanship Cup

We are delighted to announce and recognize the following classes for displaying outstanding sportsmanship during the recent Sports Day:

Sportsmanship Cup Winners

Grade 2	2C
Grade 3	3C
Grade 4	4H
Grade 5	5E



Unit 2 PE

Grade 1 explored their use of senses within PE. We used blindfolds and bell balls in a range of different challenges and activities. We helped others safely complete tasks when they had no sense of sight.



Grade 2-5 students completed fitness tests focusing on a range of activities for different grades including skipping, 50m run, sit-ups, jump rope and more! Our students showed determination to beat their previous personal best. Well done all!

Grade 4 reflected on the forces used in a range of different sports. They looked at the effect of friction, air resistance and elastic force within archery and completed a range of fun activities and challenge such as balloon popping and archery tag.

