



# NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 26  
11 APRIL, 2025



## AMAZING ANIMALS

By Demi Dale, Year 1 Lions Class Teacher

This week in Year 1 we started an amazing new Topic: **ANIMALS!** First, we used the 'rally robin' discussion strategy to work with a partner and name as many animals as possible. Then, we dived into the fascinating world of animal classification. The children learned that scientists group animals into two main categories based on whether they have a backbone or not - vertebrates (like mammals and birds) and invertebrates (like insects and jellyfish). The Year 1s were amazed to learn there are over 17,500 butterfly species!





## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### KS2 Residential Week

- Year 3:  
Monday 14 & Tuesday 15 April
- Year 4:  
Wednesday 16 - Friday 18 April
- Year 5:  
Tuesday 15 - Friday 18 April
- Year 6:  
Monday 14 - Friday 18 April

### School Photo Week

- Monday 21 - Friday 25 April

### Summer Term ASAs Begin

- Tuesday 22 and  
Wednesday 23 April

### Parent Workshop - Assessments

- Wednesday 23 April,  
8.30am @ San Building, led by  
Ms. Barnard and Mr. O'Leary



Register  
now.

To deepen the students' understanding, we started to explore the five main groups of vertebrates: fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals. The children made vibrant classroom posters and sang along to a catchy song to help remember the names. Each class discussed different animal diets too - carnivores, herbivores, and omnivores - and then had lots of fun working together to gather information about animals and put them into the right category.





The teachers are super proud of how engaged all the children have been in this exciting new topic and the Year 1s can't wait to learn more!







# RECEPTION MAKING ANIMATED MOVIES

By Shannon Barry, Reception Sharks Class Teacher

Reception students have been diving into the exciting world of movie-making, starting with iPads to create animated films. At first, they followed instructions to make their own animated movies on the iPad, but soon realised they enjoyed creating their own characters and filming in person even more.



The next phase involved stop-motion animation, where the children worked together to build a large rollercoaster using blocks. Some added to the rollercoaster, while others focused on creating characters and seats for the bears in the movie. They collaborated to give instructions, guiding their peers on when to move objects, press buttons, and adjust scenes. Once their stop-motion movie was complete, the children added voiceovers telling stories. We had a variety of stories like “Bears Falling Off a Rollercoaster” and “Fred the Frog Takes Treasure.”

Finally, inspired by photos online, the students created their own puppet theaters. They used shoeboxes, painted and decorated them, and even made miniature audiences. The children crafted puppets from paper and straws and worked with friends to record their puppet theater movies.





**Storytelling** has become a key part of life in Reception, with the children now regularly creating their own stories through various types of movie-making. This hands-on approach has sparked creativity and collaboration, encouraging them to express their ideas in exciting new ways. Along the way, they have developed important skills in communication, teamwork, problem-solving, and creative expression, with a particular focus on enhancing their communication and language skills through storytelling, instructions, and collaborative work.



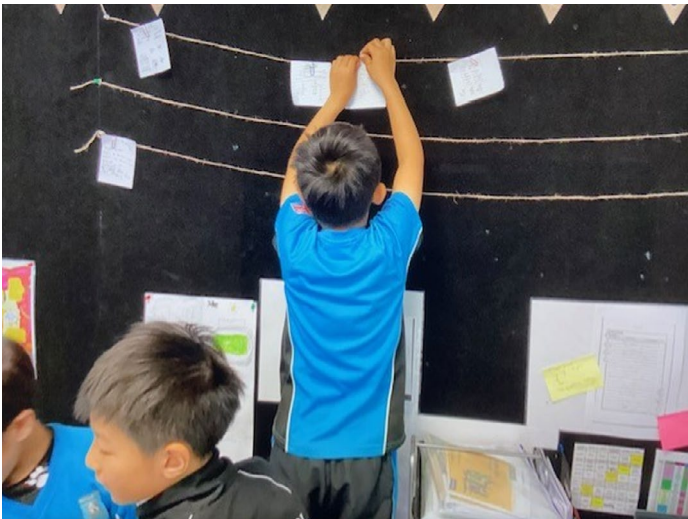




# DIGGING INTO THE PAST: YEAR 4 BEGIN THEIR ANGLO-SAXON JOURNEY

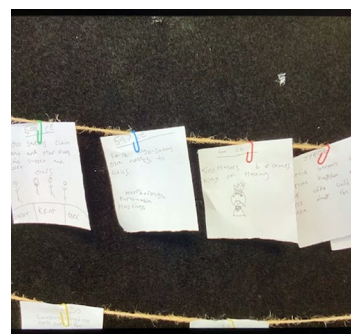
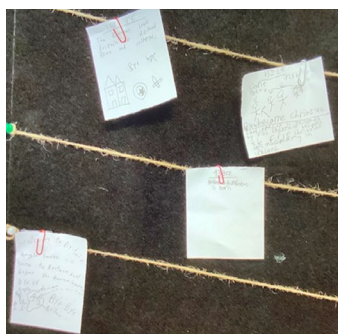
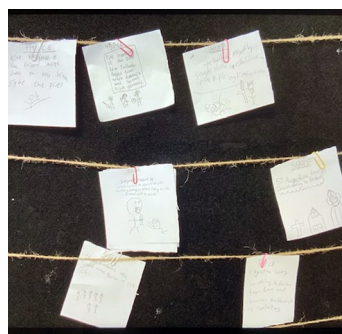
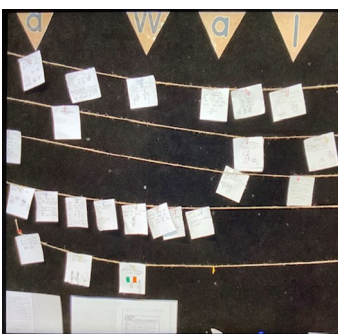
By Remy Obayoriade, Year 4 Storks Teacher

Year 4 have enthusiastically launched into their new Humanities unit, exploring the fascinating world of the Anglo-Saxons. To ignite curiosity and develop historical thinking, pupils began by investigating mysterious Anglo-Saxon artefacts using the **'See, Think, Wonder'** thinking routine. This strategy encourages close observation, inference, and questioning—an effective way to deepen understanding and spark meaningful classroom discussion. It also aligns with the UK National Curriculum's focus on developing historical enquiry skills.



Pupils then collaborated to create a large-scale interactive timeline, using string, clips and hand-drawn cards to plot key events in chronological order. Each group researched significant moments in Anglo-Saxon history, illustrated them creatively, and added them to our classroom "Working Wall." This hands-on approach made history tangible, while also reinforcing key Year 4 learning objectives such as sequencing events, using historical vocabulary, and making connections across time periods.

The classroom has been buzzing with engagement as students work together like historians—asking questions, organising evidence, and building their understanding of Britain's past. We're so proud of how they've embraced the topic so far and look forward to uncovering more about life in Anglo-Saxon Britain in the weeks ahead.





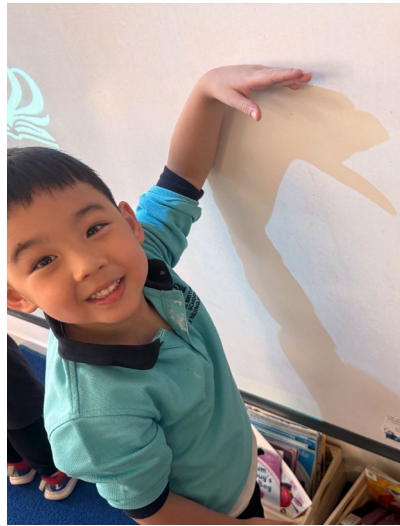


# CHINESE LEARNING UPDATE: WHERE FUN MEETS CULTURE

By Chrissy Zhang, Head of Chinese

## Reception: Discovering Light and Shadows

Our Reception students have been exploring the fascinating world of light and shadows in their Chinese lessons. Through games and experiments, they observe how shadows change and describe their discoveries using simple Chinese words like “亮亮的” (bright) and “影子” (shadow). The children also create shadow stories using flashlights and toys, making language learning fun and interactive.



## Year 2: Mastering Phone Calls

Year 2 students are learning how to make phone calls in Chinese. They practise real-life scenarios, using polite phrases like “你好, 请问.....” (Hello, may I ask...) and “谢谢, 再见” (Thank you, goodbye). The lesson focuses on conveying key information—such as time, location, and details—clearly in Chinese. Through role-playing, the children improve their speaking skills while gaining confidence in everyday communication.

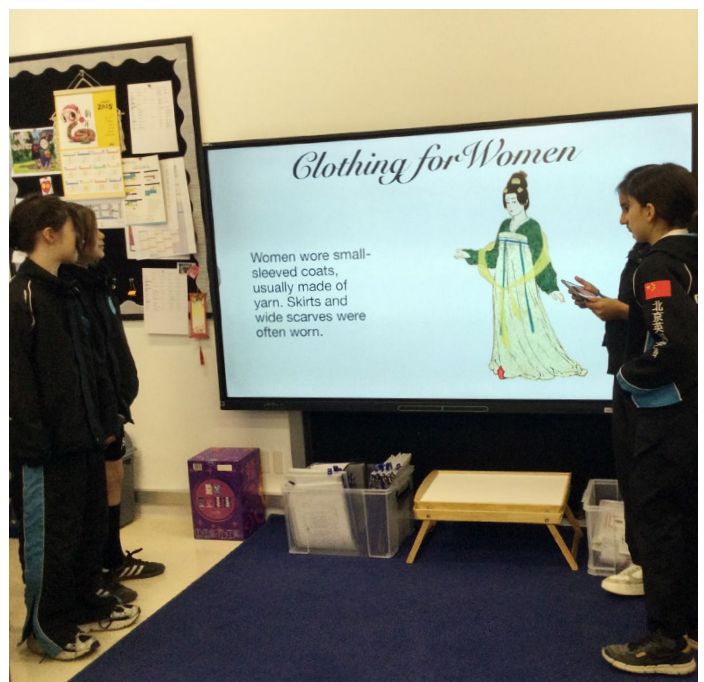
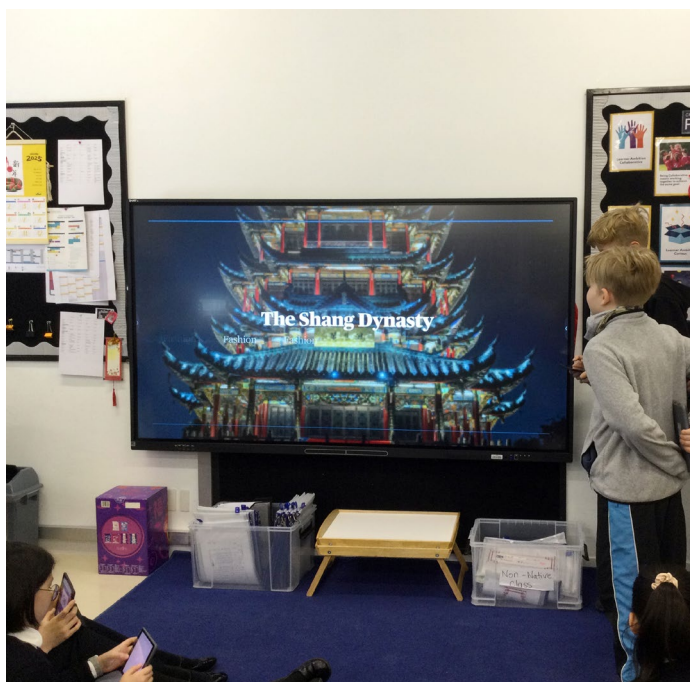
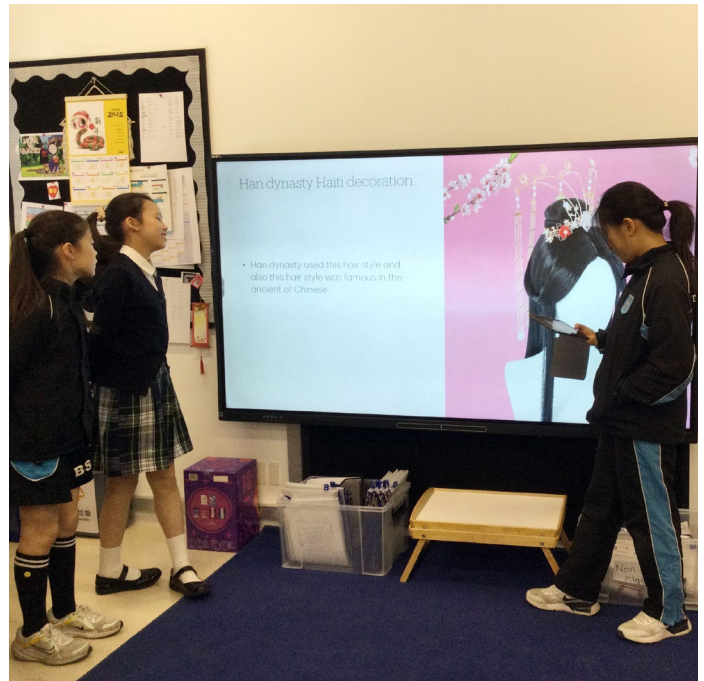






### Year 6: Ancient Chinese Fashion Showcase

Year 6 students have been working in groups to research and present traditional Chinese clothing from different dynasties. From the flowing robes of the Han dynasty to the vibrant styles of the Tang dynasty, they explained the cultural significance of each outfit in Chinese. Some students even designed mini costumes using recycled materials, delivering confident presentations that impressed their classmates.

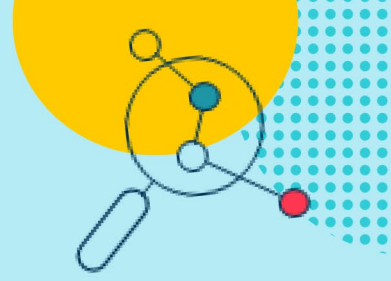


From shadow play to phone call practice and historical fashion shows, every year group is engaging in creative, hands-on Chinese learning. These activities not only strengthen language skills but also deepen students' appreciation for Chinese culture. We look forward to more exciting adventures in Chinese learning!





THE BRITISH SCHOOL  
OF BEIJING, SANLITUN  
A NORD ANGLIA EDUCATION SCHOOL



Registration for our popular **Baby Groups** is now open - visit our [website](#) for more information and to sign up.

Please share the link with your friends if they have babies and would like to join us for Stay and Play in our soft play area, Dancing in our Dance Studio or Book Club in our Library!

## BABY BOOK CLUB



Mondays, 9am - 9.30am  
Library, Li Building



## BABY GROUP



Wednesdays, 9am - 10.30am  
Soft Play Area, Li Building



## BABY DANCE CLASS



Fridays, 9am - 9.30am  
Dance Studio, Li Building



# REGISTER TODAY!



Where Tiny Steps Lead to Big Adventures:  
Read, Explore, Dance!

5 Xiliujie,  
Sanlitun Road.







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# PARENTS LUNCH



Friday, 18th April

from 12pm, Pebbles Courtyard

74 Wudaoying Hutong, Andingmen, Dongcheng District.



Price: 150 RMB per person  
(for a set menu including a soft drink  
and coffee.)

Payment in advance.



Sign up now!  
Places are limited.