



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

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NEWSLETTER

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KEY STAGE 1 SPORTS DAY

Our Year 1 and 2 students shone bright at this year's KS1 Sports Day, showing off their team spirit, determination, and impressive sporting skills! From running and jumping to throwing and space hopping—they did it all with enthusiasm and heart.

A big thank you to everyone who took part – it was a joy to watch you in action and cheer alongside your proud families. What a fun and memorable day!



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Swimming Starts

- Monday 28 April (Year 4)
- Wednesday 30 April (Years 5&6)

Labour Day Holiday

- Thursday 1 and Friday 2 May

STEAM Week

- Monday 19 - Friday 23 May

Upcoming Principal's Lunches

- Please register here:



 **Register
now.**



[More photos.](#)

EARLY YEARS SPORTS DAY

Not even the rain could dampen the excitement of our Early Years students on Sports Day! Thanks to our spacious indoor facilities, the event went ahead just as planned—filled with energy, laughter, and plenty of cheering.

With activities specially designed for our littlest learners, the children took part in a variety of fun challenges, proudly competing in front of their enthusiastic families.

A huge well done to all our young athletes for showing such fantastic spirit, teamwork, and joy!

[More photos.](#)



GROWING AND CHANGING UNIT

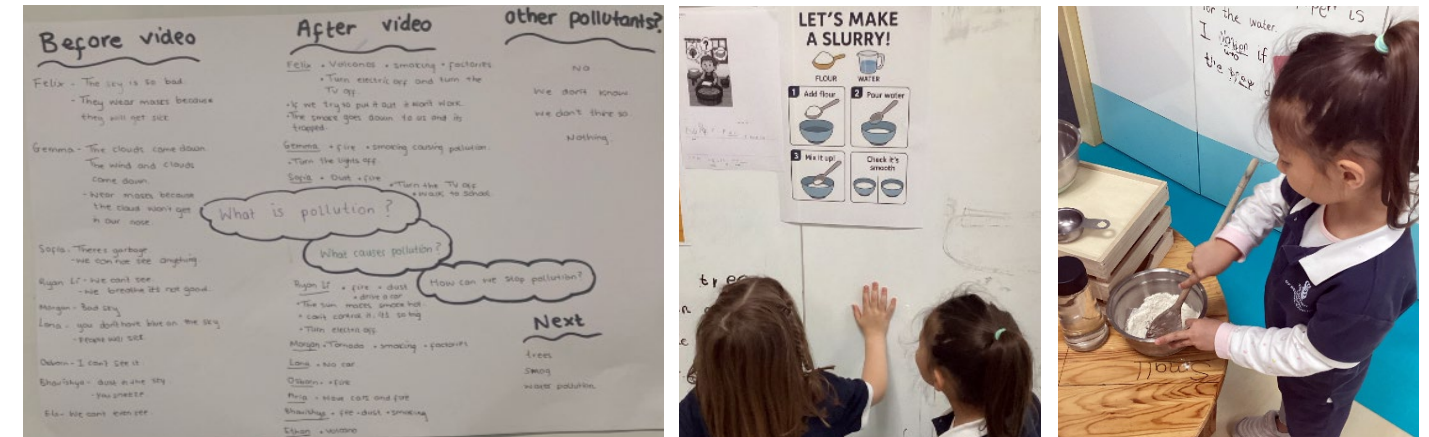
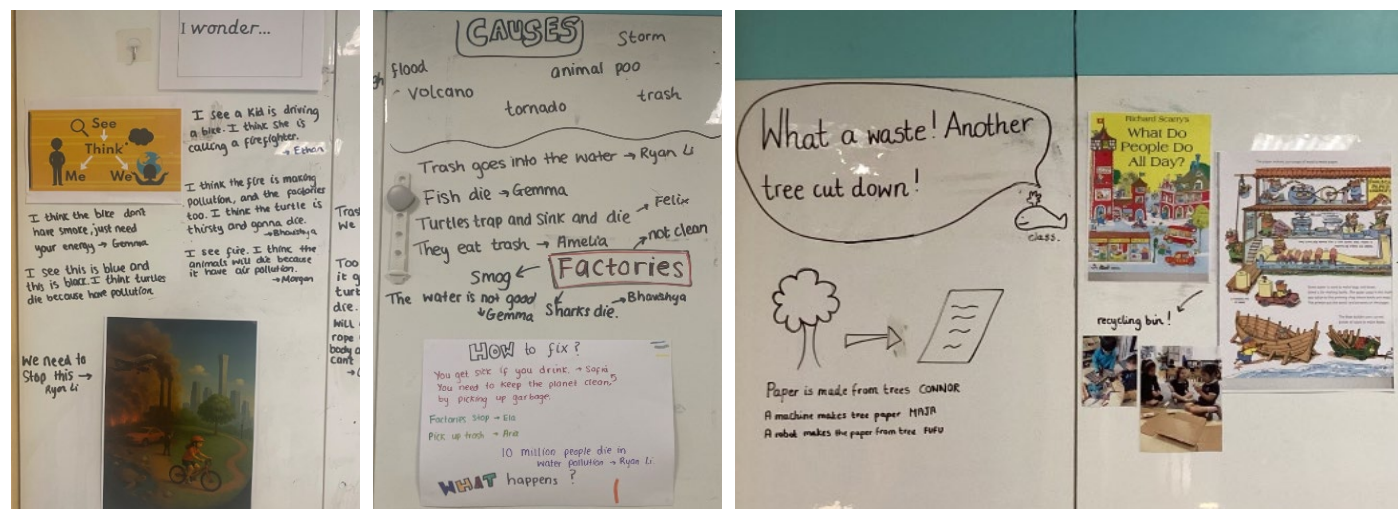
By Mumbi Mulenga, Reception Dolphins Class Teacher

This term, our **Growing and Changing** topic has sparked real curiosity and purposeful learning. Through our seed diaries, the children have been observing what plants need to grow and recording their ideas, building their early writing skills and developing scientific understanding. One child shared, "I water mine every day and it's getting so tall!" showing how closely they're connecting with the process.



Our conversations have naturally led the children to thinking about how to care for the planet. They have been exploring recycling and are working on making their own paper slurry, practising measuring and comparing textures. Some children decided to make class recycling bins, showing real teamwork and a growing sense of responsibility.

The high pollution days have given us lots of time to reflect and naturally, the children have been asking lots of questions, so we've looked closely at images of pollution and discussed its causes. These conversations have sparked thoughtful dialogue, building up their vocabulary, with ideas already bubbling up about how they can help the world around them.



To deepen our understanding of life cycles, we've also begun observing silkworms. Their arrival led to questions like, "How do we know they like the leaves?" and "Do these worms have eyes?" These curious inquiries have opened up rich opportunities for research, close observation, and developing early scientific vocabulary as children begin to document changes and make predictions about what might happen next.

Our Reception children are not only discovering how living things grow and change, but also how they can grow as thoughtful, curious citizens of the world.



YEAR 1 LEARNING ABOUT VERTEBRATES

By Poppy Thompson, Year 1 Tigers Class Teacher

This term in Topic, the Year 1 children have been diving into the world of vertebrates, learning about animals with backbones and what makes them unique. They've explored the five main groups of vertebrates and have started to compare their characteristics.

Our focus this week has been on fish. The children discovered that fish are cold-blooded animals that live in water, breathe through gills, and have fins and scales. They enjoyed learning about the different types of fish and how their bodies are specially adapted to their underwater environments.



To link our learning with art, the children were introduced to a new technique called scraping. Using this method, they created vibrant ocean scenes, layering colour and using tools to scrape away parts of the paint to reveal textures and movement in the water. The results were beautiful and really brought their new knowledge of fish to life!



YEAR 5 LAUNCHES EXCITING NEW ENGLISH UNIT: SURVIVAL NARRATIVES

By Steve O'Leary, Year 5 Leader, Kookaburras Class Teacher

This week, the Year 5 students embarked on an exhilarating adventure as they launched their new English unit focused on writing survival narratives. The Upper Primary Hub was transformed into a vibrant jungle, creating an immersive environment that engaged all their senses.



As part of the launch, the children stumbled upon the campsite of a missing adventurer. This intriguing discovery sparked their imaginations and curiosity. Armed with iPads, they captured photos of the mysterious campsite and took time to write predictions about the possible stories behind the adventurer's disappearance.

This unit is inspired by **"The Lost Book of Adventure"**, and we are eager to see how this experience will enhance their final written survival narratives. With the creativity ignited by their jungle adventure, we are confident that the students will produce some truly captivating stories. [Watch a video clip and stay tuned for updates on their progress!](#)



THE IMPACT OF CREATIVE EAL LEARNING

By Kerry Barnard, Deputy Head of Primary, EAL Teacher

English as an Additional Language (EAL) withdrawal lessons are a crucial part of supporting multilingual learners in primary schools.

Our targeted sessions, where children leave the main classroom for small-group learning, provide focused language development tailored to the needs and levels of the children. In a quieter, supportive environment, children can build foundational vocabulary, grammar, and communication skills without the pressure of keeping pace with the wider class.

This personalised approach allows them to gain confidence in their English abilities, which in turn helps them participate more fully in mainstream lessons and social interactions.



Creative approaches within these lessons are especially powerful in aiding language development. Through activities such as storytelling, role play or, what was the case this week, art, children can explore and practise English in fun, hands-on ways. These methods support different learning styles and encourage expression beyond spoken or written words, making it easier for students to connect meaning with language. By fostering imagination and emotional engagement, creative lessons make the learning experience more memorable and enjoyable, helping EAL learners not only improve their language skills but also develop a positive attitude toward school and communication.

For example, this week in one of the Year 1 EAL groups, the children were learning vocabulary related to clothing and patterns. The children applied their new language skills by designing and decorating their own patterned T-shirts. As they worked, they described their choices using key phrases like “stripy sleeves”, “flowery” or “red zigzags” reinforcing vocabulary through meaningful, hands-on practice. This creative task not only deepened their understanding of the topic but also gave them a tangible way to express themselves in English with pride and enthusiasm. You can see their enjoyment and enthusiasm from the photos.

