

OCTOBER 2015

The British Preparatory School

PRE-SCHOOL 2

After a tearful start the children have now settled and are beginning to learn the classroom routine. First let me introduce our staff members.



Mrs Ferguson, Mrs I'Anson, Mrs van Hoecke



Mrs Concesso, Mrs Lachama, Mrs Kang

Mrs Watson missed her photo opportunity as, unfortunately, she was sick on this day.

We have now started our first topic which is Transport. The children are making a hot air balloon, boat, car, rocket, train and aeroplane using colouring, painting, and collage techniques. They are also having fun with their junk modelling making a car from a shoe box and a rocket using an empty kitchen roll holder. They are in the process of making a book based on the story book 'Emergency' by Margaret Mayo.

The children have been busy colouring an ambulance, a train and a police car and making the backing pages using different mediums such as painting with cars (tracks) and bubble wrap printing. They are also learning a song to go with their book called 'I see a Police Car' which I am sure they will be singing to you in a few weeks.



Within the classroom the children are using various equipment to help promote their fine motor skills. We have been doing lots of threading using bobbins and buttons, pencil control activities, cutting practice, building blocks, and working with lots of different connectors.



After each session the children are learning to tidy up the classroom and put all the equipment back into the trays. They then sit on the carpet where we sing our 'Good Morning Mr Sun' song before heading over to the hall to play with the bicycles, cars, slides and ball pit. Once the weather cools off a little we will be able to have our playtime outside in the garden.



We have our first 'circle time' at 9.45am where the children are learning their colours, shapes and numbers, along with a discussion about our ongoing topic. It's snack time at 10am and the children are being encouraged to wash and dry their own hands and take their snack box to the table. They are then encouraged to tidy up their own snack (with a little help of course!) and return their bags to their cubbies. After snack we have our second 'circle time' with lots of stories & discussion promoting language development.

The children are learning social skills such as sharing, taking turns, to be kind to their classmates, and saying good morning, please, thank you and goodbye.

We have daily structured language sessions, particularly for children who have English as a second language. The children are taken out in small groups where they learn new vocabulary and sentence structures, as they are ready, and we reinforce the rhymes we are learning as a class. They have also been introduced to flashcards displaying their names which they post in the post box every day, initially with a lot of help but eventually they recognise their own name and some even recognise those of friends.



The children enjoy creative play and we have a playhouse where they can make breakfast, go shopping with the shopping trolley, dress up in different costumes and play with the doll's house.



Regarding toilet training, if you feel your child is ready to be potty trained, please let me know so we can discuss your method and terminology, such that we offer continuity at school.

The children enjoy listening to stories daily so feel free to send a reading book in at any time with your child and they will be read during our second 'circle time.' The children do enjoy sitting with the teacher when she is reading 'their' story book. Also if your child's birthday is coming up, you are more than welcome to send in cupcakes and a camera so that your child can celebrate with their classmates. The children are now beginning to sing along with some of the songs we are learning so hopefully before we finish school in December we will be able to invite parents in for a little sing-a-long.

All in all it has been a pleasant start to the school year.

Mrs Mandy I'Anson
Year Group Leader