

Year 1 Update - Week 20

UPCOMING DATES

DATES TO REMEMBER

Chinese New Year Holiday 4th - 8th February

Monday 11th February - First day of school after the CNY break

Tuesday 12th February - Sports Day - Please see the eNotice sent to all Year One parents.

Friday 15th February - Inclusivity house day. Children in the Inclusivity house can wear something [blue](#) and bring a donation of \$10 - \$20.

Tuesday 26th February - Year One Immunizations.

Friday 1st March - 1P Assembly

Friday 22nd March - 1L Assembly

Friday 29th March - 1W Assembly

THIS WEEK IN YEAR 1

Year One Dim Sum and Flower Market Trip Thanks to all the families who joined us for the trip on Wednesday. Back at school on Thursday and Friday, the children were still talking about how much fun they had eating with their friends and family. It was lovely to see so many happy faces at the flower market when the children were choosing what they wanted to buy.



Chinese Cultural Day It was wonderful to see all the Year One children dressed

up in Chinese clothes today. The children all had a wonderful time participating in the activities that they chose. This afternoon we were treated to an amazing Chinese New Year assembly put together by the Mandarin team which included many students across the school.

Educational Assistants from Tsing Yi This week we were very lucky to have some Educational Assistants from Tsing Kindergarten come and help us in the classroom. Many of the children who attended Tsing Ti Kindergarten remembered who they were. Our visitors all commented on how much the children have grown and how independent they are.

UNIT OF INQUIRY

Where We Are in Place and Time

Central Idea: Exploring evidence helps our understanding of people's histories.

After the holidays we will start our third unit of inquiry. Please carefully read all weekly updates as you maybe asked to send in information in the form of photos, responses to questions or items from the past. Many thanks in advance for supporting your child with their learning.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Immunisations

Last week you will have received information about the next round of Year One immunisations. Please **can you help us by returning all relevant forms and paperwork to school in a zip lock bag or plastic pocket. This helps us to ensure that documents do not get lost.** Thank you.

Health awareness

Thank you for your help in minimising the effects of all the winter illnesses that are around at the moment. Please continue to check your child's temperature in the morning before they leave for school. The aim is to prevent the spread of

illness and ensure that children are fit and ready to learn. A child with a temperature of **38 degrees or higher should not be coming to school**. We would also suggest that if your child has had a temperature overnight it would not be appropriate to send them to school. As always please talk to your child about the importance of thorough hand washing.

Thank you for your support.

Action in the PYP at BHS

It has been great celebrating the talents and achievements of our students through the 'Student Achievement' section in the newsletter. We would like to do something similar with Student Action. Action in the PYP is when students are inspired through their learning and their experiences to make a difference to their lives or the community connected to real life issues and opportunities. We would like to celebrate our students taking action outside of school.

Please could you email examples to kannis.tsui@bhs.edu.hk and they will be shared through our newsletter.

There are different types of Action. We would like to start with a focus on Participation. See below for a definition and examples

Type of Action	Examples
<p data-bbox="320 1496 560 1536">Participation</p> <p data-bbox="180 1552 703 1697">Being actively involved in their learning and contributing as an individual or a group</p>	<p data-bbox="847 1335 1401 1429">Getting involved with community projects</p> <p data-bbox="799 1444 1453 1538">Making appropriate choices and taking responsibility to help people</p> <p data-bbox="778 1554 1474 1700">Taking on different roles e.g. being a leader, completing my chores, working in a group, looking after my pet</p> <p data-bbox="831 1715 1417 1809">Taking part in any decision making process</p> <p data-bbox="967 1825 1273 1861">Joining a new club</p>

MATHS

Place Value

Numbers can be used in many ways for different purposes in the real world

This week we finished our unit on place value, the children continued to consolidate their understanding of the value of ones, tens and hundreds. We used place value dice, place value cards, tens blocks, hundreds squares, small and large pieces of paper and toothpicks. Ask your child about some of the experiences that they had making and breaking up numbers!

Next Week - Whilst on holiday we encourage you to play games with your children. You could play games with rules such as board games or create your own games with dice or cards. When playing strategy games please think about asking the following questions; How did you work out your answer? Is there a different answer? What could you do differently? Show me what you did...

Mathletics: - There are now some more activities open. Please enjoy supporting your child with these tasks. If your child is not yet logging onto Mathletics independently please support them to do so.

Please help the children to complete the Mathletics tasks that have been assigned to your child. The children can also enjoy Maths Live and play other children live across the world.



ENGLISH

An Author Visits Us - This week we were very lucky to have a visit by the author Sarah Brennan. She is a Hong Kong based author who has written many stories for children. Her most popular series features the animals of the Chinese Zodiac. On Monday she read the latest book in her series titled The Tale of Ping Pong Pig.

Next Week - Whilst on holiday next week please continue to enjoy reading to your child in English as well as other languages that you may speak at home. Please encourage your child to write emails, notes and text messages to friends and family. During role play please support your children to make and create menus, instructions and directions. Role play includes playing house, dressing up, playing with cars and trains and acting out memories and stories. Reading and writing during play can be very meaningful and enjoyable for all.

Unit 4 Phonics:

The phonemes for this unit are: ll, ss, ff, zz

The camera words for this unit are: you, play, this, come, my and have

Please support your children in learning to read and write the camera words from unit 1, 2, 3 and 4. When you are playing the suggested phonic games please use the letter sounds rather than say the name the letters of the alphabet. If you need guidance about how to pronounce the letter sounds this link should help you <http://www.getreadingright.com.au/phoneme-pronunciation/>

GOLDEN BOOK



Due to the author visit on Monday the Year One children did not attend the Golden Book assembly.

OTHER INFORMATION

[Here is an article from Scholastic about the benefits of playing board games with your children.](#)

The Benefits of Board Games

Playing games with your kids is a perfect way to spend time together and build learning skills at the same time.

What your child most wants — and needs — is to be with you with no goal in mind beyond the joy of spending time together. He wants you to take pleasure in him, play with him, and listen to him. Nothing bolsters his self-esteem more! So why not pull out an old board game tonight? Playing games is an easy and excellent way to spend unhurried, enjoyable time together. As an added bonus, board games are also rich in learning opportunities. They satisfy your child's competitive urges and the desire to master new skills and concepts, such as:

- number and shape recognition, grouping, and counting
- letter recognition and reading
- visual perception and colour recognition
- eye-hand coordination and manual dexterity

Games don't need to be overtly academic to be educational, however. Just by virtue of playing them, board games can teach important [social skills](#), such as communicating verbally, sharing, waiting, taking turns, and enjoying interaction with others. Board games can foster the ability to focus, and lengthen your child's attention span by encouraging the completion of an exciting, enjoyable game. Even simple board games like Chutes and Ladders offer meta-messages and life skills: Your luck can change in an instant — for the better or for the worse. The message inherent in board games is: Never give up. Just when you feel despondent, you might hit the jackpot and ascend up high, if you stay in the game for just a few more moves.

Board games have distinct boundaries. Living in a complex society, children need clear limits to feel safe. By circumscribing the playing field — much as tennis courts and football fields will do later — board games can help your child weave her wild and erratic side into a more organized, mature, and socially acceptable personality. After all, staying within the boundaries (not intruding on others' space, for example) is crucial to leading a successful social and academic life.

A Word About Winning

Children take game playing seriously, so it's important that we help guide them through the contest. When a playing piece falls to a lower level, our kids really feel sad; when it rises up high, they are remarkably proud and happy, even if we adults know that it happened only by chance. Therefore, you need to help balance your child's pleasure in playing the game with his very limited ability to manage frustration and deal with the idea of losing.

For 3, 4, and even 5 year olds, winning is critical to a feeling of mastery. So generally, I think it's okay to "help" them win. By about 6, kids should begin to internalize the rules of [fair play](#), tenuous as they may seem to a child who is losing a game. So I am also fine with a 6 year old "amending" the rules to win if he feels she has to. I encourage you to acknowledge your child's need for special rules. At the start of the game, you might want to ask, "Are we playing by regular or cheating rules today?"

Choosing the Right Game at Every Age

While in the long run we need to teach values, ethics, academic skills, and the importance of playing by the rules, in the early years the primary goals are helping your child become more self-confident and ambitious and to enjoy playing with others. If you're playing with more than one child, divide the family into teams, giving each player a job he can do well: A younger child may be responsible for rolling the dice (which he considers important, since that is where the luck comes from), and an older child the job of sorting the Monopoly money.

As children approach 5, they have more sophisticated thinking skills and can begin to incorporate and exercise their number, letter, and word knowledge in literacy-based games. By 6, children may prefer more cognitively challenging games like checkers, which require and help develop planning, strategy, persistence, and critical thinking skills. Here are some of our favorite game picks for 5 and 6 year olds.

Scrabble Junior (Milton Bradley): This is the younger cousin of the tremendously educational and challenging Scrabble, which we all know and love. Using large yellow letter tiles, players match letters to words already written on one side of the board. The reverse side has an open grid where older children can create their own words.

Learning highlights: Fosters literacy and language skills.

Boggle Junior (Parker Brothers): The prelude to Boggle — one of the best learning games for older kids — is Boggle Junior, in which players link pictures to letters and words. The game comes with 6-sided letter cubes and numerous picture cards that have the name of the object spelled below. Players place a card on a blue tray and use 3- or 4-letter cubes to copy the item's spelling. Older children can hide the written words and spell the word just using the picture.

Learning highlights: Teaches letters, words, spelling, and matching skills.

Zingo (Think Fun Company): One of this year's "hot" games, this Bingo-style matching game relies on a player's ability to spot pictures (of a dog, say, or the sun) and match them quickly to the words and pictures on his play card. As in Bingo, the first one to finish a complete line of items wins.

Learning Highlights: Encourages matching skills and quick thinking.

