

# April Newsletter



KINGSTON INTERNATIONAL  
KINDERGARTEN

30 April 2024



## Welcome to Our Newsletter!

*Kingston Team*

For the rest of this school term, we will publish a monthly newsletter to send out to families. In each publication, you will find celebrations of learning, school activities, links to books and articles of interest, teacher spotlight and reminders of upcoming events. Please let us know if you have any feedback or suggestions on content!

## Playgroup

In the playgroup classroom, our youngest students have been immersed in a delightful world of learning as they have been discovering the wonders of farm animals, jungle animals, zoo animals, and sea creatures. Through a variety of engaging activities, their senses came alive with excitement and curiosity. Sensory play allowed them to touch, feel, and explore different textures, fostering a deeper understanding of the animals' characteristics. Arts and crafts unleashed their creativity as they crafted animal themed artwork, created colourful collages, and

Painted beautiful pictures, bringing these creatures to life on paper. Role play ignited their imagination, enabling them to step into the shoes of their favourite animals, mimicking their movements and sounds. Songs and rhymes filled the air, as they joyfully sang along, learning about the distinct features and sounds of each animal. Interactive activities, such as sorting and matching games, puzzle solving, and storytelling, further enhanced their knowledge and cognitive skills. In this vibrant and dynamic learning environment, our playgroup students embarked on a captivating journey that sparked their love for animals and nurtured their early educational development.







## 2 Year Old Class

In the 2 Year Old Class, young learners embarked on an exciting adventure as they delved into the world of transportation. With boundless enthusiasm, they discovered a multitude of vehicles that traverse the roads, waterways, and skies. Through hands-on exploration in the classroom, they had the opportunity to examine and interact with various transportation models, fostering a deeper understanding of each vehicle's purpose and unique features. The highlight of their learning experience was an engaging airport role play, where they took on the roles of pilots, flight attendants, and passengers, allowing their imaginations to soar. They also explored the concept of buoyancy through a sink and float experiment, and joyously collaborated to

decorate a large boat, adding their personal touches to make it truly their own. As part of their unit, the students embarked on their first school field trip, accompanied by their teachers. The destination was Kowloon City Ferry Pier, providing the perfect vantage point to observe the bustling activity of boats in the harbour and buses at the nearby terminus. The return journey back to school held delightful surprises, as they caught sight of a fire truck at the fire station and witnessed the comings and goings of trains at Kowloon Tong Station. This immersive transportation unit not only expanded their knowledge and vocabulary but also served as a memorable introduction to the wider world of vehicles and how they connect us all.







## 3 Year Old Class

The Three Year Old Classes have just finished their unit "How We Organise Ourselves," which explored the topic of transportation. Many students had travelled during the Christmas holiday, and their experiences, documented through photographs, facilitated meaningful discussions and sharing among the children.



The children's engagement continued through hands-on activities, as they constructed their own 3D vehicles. After exploring various forms of transportation, the focus shifted to how transport systems are utilised within their community. The classes delved into the MTR system, a prominent mode of transportation in Hong Kong. They discovered that people rely on the MTR to travel around the city, often requiring transfers between trains.



As part of this exploration, the students had the opportunity to visit the MTR and ride the trains, with some experiencing train travel for the first time. The MTR trip provided a practical application of the students' learning. They demonstrated their knowledge by identifying different types of transportation during the journey and exhibited principled behaviour by following rules such as waiting



behind the yellow line and using seats or handrails. Along the way, they were able to notice various signs providing information for passengers and drivers.



Furthermore, the 3 Year Old Classes visited the Hong Kong Railway Museum, where they had the chance to examine different types of engines and coaches up close. The museum visit provided an enriching experience for the students as they expanded their knowledge of trains and observed the differences between modern trains and their predecessors.







## 4 Year Old Class

Our 4 Year Old Classes are now half way through their final IB PYP Unit of the year "How We Express Ourselves." Their journey began with a captivating exploration of books, where the children eagerly shared their favourite stories and discussed the different elements of a book. They discovered the distinction between fiction and non-fiction books, and the children enjoyed practising sequencing the events in stories. Role play has played an important role in their exploration, allowing students to take on different roles, develop creativity, imagination, and language skills. The students have enjoyed adapting and creating new stories based on the ones they have read together.



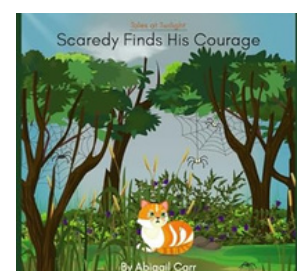
The classes delved deeper into story structure, focusing on elements such as characters, settings, problems, events, and solutions for their stories. We are thrilled to celebrate each child's unique creativity and imagination as they embark on their storytelling journey.

A highlight of the unit was a mesmerising puppet show, where a talented puppeteer showcased the art of storytelling through puppet manipulation. The children were captivated by the lifelike movements of the puppets and the stories they conveyed. We also had a visit by the author Abigail Carr who shared her story "Scaredy Finds His Courage" and her inspiration for the story!



## Book Mum and Book Dad

The Book Mum and Book Dad programme has been a tremendous success in strengthening the home-school links within our school community. It has been a delightful experience to witness parents coming into their child's class and engaging in the wonderful tradition of reading stories. The presence of parents during these sessions has not only fostered a love for reading but also created a warm and inviting atmosphere where children can connect their home and school lives. These shared storytelling moments have proven to be invaluable in promoting literacy, nurturing parent-child relationships, and building a strong sense of community within our school. In May, parents of children in the 2 Year Old Class will also have the opportunity to come in and read to their child's class. Don't forget to sign up!







## Star of the Month

We are delighted to congratulate Onyx Cheung from the Pandas PM class for winning the Best Model Award at the MT Modelling International Super Model Contest 2024. Onyx's exceptional talent, charisma, and dedication have earned her this well-deserved recognition. We applaud Onyx for her achievement and look forward to witnessing her continued success. If you would like to share your child's achievements with us please click the link below or scan the QR code and fill in the form!

[Celebrating Our Students' Success Beyond the Classroom](#)

## Early Years Insights

Toilet training is a hot topic for many parents as they navigate this important milestone in their child's development. We understand the challenges and want to provide some helpful information to support parents during this process. There are several effective strategies and techniques that can make toilet training easier and more successful. Click here to read a [Parent Easy Guide on Toilet Training](#).

Additionally, we recommend incorporating books on toilet training into your child's reading routine, as they can be valuable tools for introducing and normalising the concept.

These books can engage and educate children about the toilet training process in a fun and relatable way. Remember, every child is unique, and patience, consistency, and positive reinforcement are key elements in achieving successful toilet training.

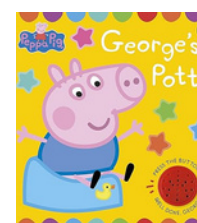
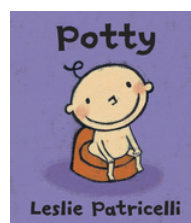


## Upcoming Events

- 1 May - Labour Day Holiday
- 8 May - 3 Year Old Class Pantomime Show
- 10 May - 4 Year Old Class Mini Exhibition
- 14 May - Jockey Club Children's Oral Health Project Dental Check Up (Kindergarten)
- 15 May - Buddha's Birthday Holiday
- 21 May - 3 Year Old Class trip to Noah's Ark
- 24 May - 2 Year Old Class Little Chef Cooking trip



SCAN ME







## Teacher Spotlight

My name is Anna Lee and in 2002 I made the big leap to move from my home town in the United Kingdom to Hong Kong. I was originally brought up in Wolverhampton, a city in the West Midlands around 1 hour from the second largest city in England, Birmingham. Growing up I never dreamt about moving across the world to live but after meeting my now husband at university I did! Twenty two years later Hong Kong is home for my family and I.

Prior to moving to Hong Kong I worked in schools with children with special educational needs and after moving to Hong Kong I continued to teach but as a kindergarten teacher. I moved to Kingston in 2009 and this will be my 15th year teaching here. Time has passed so quickly....many children have been on learning journeys throughout this time and as an educator I have supported them on these journeys too.

Throughout my time at Kingston I have taught children in the two, three and four year old classes. Currently I am the teacher for the three year old Starfish class and every year things are so different! As a teacher an open minded, flexible approach is so important as things are always evolving, changing and thought provoking. I like teaching in the early years sector because even the smallest thing can be an achievement for a child of this age and as an early years educator my involvement in their learning is crucial as it's the beginning of the children's educational journey. The children at this young age can absorb so much and the experience I provide enables them to move forward.

Kingston is a big family and I'm pleased to be part of it not only as a teacher but as a Kingston parent too. I chose for my daughter to study at Kingston and she began her journey in playgroup and she is currently in Year 4. Kingston has given her the confidence to be a bilingual learner, open-minded and an active inquirer in-charge of her own learning journey. As a Kingston parent and Kingston educator I really like how children are at the forefront of learning and they are encouraged to be active learners even from a very young age.

Every day children learn something new and I believe it's important as a teacher to always be learning too!

*Thank you for reading!*

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