

Leapfrog Newsletter



Autumn Term - September 2010

Kindergarten

- All our parents have received an email regarding our **Duty Parent** programme. Please remember to let Louise know if you can participate.
- On October 6th at 6.30pm we will invite all interested parents for an Information Evening "**Open House**". Afterwards we will offer our current Kindergarten parents a more in-depth chat about our programme. Please join us for both. More details later.
- We want to thank our parents for a great start to the **Autumn** term.

Playgroup

- We still have spaces available in our unaccompanied **Super 2's** on Tuesdays. A great way of encouraging independence in your super 2 year old in a small group.
- We still have a few spaces available on **Wednesday** afternoon playgroup.
- Thank you so much for not leaving **nappies** around and using the only designated nappy bin in the children's toilet.
- Also, many thanks for respecting our "**one child per adult**", policy in the playgroup classroom.

Dates to Remember:

October 6th—Information Evening/Open House and Parents Evening, Kindergarten
September 27th—Halloween Planning meeting in Sai Kung
November 6th—Halloween Party!!



Annual Halloween Party

- Our famous **Halloween Party** will be held on November 6th this year. Please reserve the date. The party is our biggest fundraising event where we offer games for children, costume prizes, BBQ, Cash Bar, Face Painting, disco etc. Make sure you bring your friends and families to this fantastic event.
- **Planning meeting.** Our Halloween party is organized by our parents. The first planning meeting will be held on Monday, September 27th at 7.30pm at one of our committee parent's house in Sai Kung. Please come along if you can spare any time at all to help us prepare for this fabulous event. Contact Ailish for more details.

Science Morning

The children in K2 had a 'Science morning' last week when Mr. Chan from **Kid Sciences** (www.kidscience.com) came for a visit. We did a lot of interesting experiments. We switched on a hair drier, and the hot air kept the ball up in the air, even when we started walking around the room at the same time! It took a long time to fill a huge hot air balloon using the hair drier, but when we did, the balloon rose right up into the air, and nearly got stuck in the lights!

We had a great time and learned a lot during our 'Science morning', and hope to have another one very soon. Many thanks to Kid Science for their contribution!

Leapfrog Kindergarten Patents Evening and Open House October 6th.

All parents are welcome to visit our Kindergarten on **October 6th at 6.30pm-7.30pm**. Please drop in and get to know our programme and meet our staff and current parents.

6.30pm—Open House
7.00pm—Guided tour
7.30pm—Exclusive Parents Meeting



Letter from the Principal

Dear Kindergarten Parents

We have now finalised our weekly schedules for both K1 and K2 classes, and copies of both of these are available and on view around the school if you have not yet received one. We allow a short time at the start of a session for the children to settle and put their things away, before welcoming them and moving straight into the first Circle Time, which focuses on numeracy. We spend a week at a time looking at each of the three aspects laid down by the Early Years Foundation Stage (UK 2008), upon which our curriculum is based. These areas are 'Numbers as Labels and for Counting', 'Calculating' and 'Space, Shape and Measures'. We plan specifically for each age range, with plenty of practical problem solving activities and recording opportunities in which the children can develop and demonstrate their skills within their group. The children are keen to participate and



making good progress in their understanding of mathematic concepts.

Our daily phonics programme is based on the 'Get Reading Right scheme'. Groups of sounds are introduced gradually, with the aim of reading and writing simple words within each group before moving on to the next unit. Games, such as 'Bingo' and 'Snap' are reinforcing the activities and adding an element of fun.



The K2 children have already made a great start with the first set of letters and 'camera' words (which need to be memorised), also learning how to form each letter correctly. They have now moved onto the second set of letters.

The K1 children are enjoying matching up and saying each of the first set of sounds, and will also be learning how to write each one soon.

Our stories and art work are often linked to the themes that we have planned throughout the year. The three-week section on 'Myself' seemed to fly by. We made skeletons out of cotton buds (much commented on by visitors), houses out of lolly sticks, faces out of dough and life-sized versions of ourselves out of paper. There is always an alternate, usually messy activity on offer outside, and here, the children enjoyed making finger, hand and foot prints. 'Places' included identifying different countries on the globe and painting flags, and we have just started our 'Colours, Shapes and Sounds' theme. The children have made some lovely mini 'stained glass windows' and will be creating colourful lanterns for the Mid-Autumn Lantern festival.



Next, we are moving on to 'Food, Shops and Shopping', during which we are hoping to create our own Leapfrog Store. Following Halloween, a further topic will be 'Animals' before we embark on the Christmas festivities!

Thank you for your continuing support,

With very best regards,

Louise Heap

Leapfrog Principal

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Leapfrog Kindergarten and Playgroup

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