



# Newsletter

September 2017



## Happy Mid-Autumn Festival everyone!



### School Director's Message

Dear parents and children,

It is a pleasure to see happier faces arriving each morning for the day ahead and hear the busy *hum* of our students interacting and learning new things in their classrooms! Well done everyone!

#### Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival

This month we celebrate the Chinese *Mid-Autumn Festival* in school. The Chinese *Moon Fairy Cheng Er* has promised to fly in from her moon home to school for the morning of Wednesday, October 4 to help us explain the legend of this festival to our children!

#### Portfolios and assessments

In our classes we are more familiar with our routines, the people who teach and help us and the school surroundings in general. Our themes of study are progressing nicely, teachers are now beginning to save samples of work completed to put into our newly created *Portfolios* for each child and in Nursery we will start to record progress made via our first assessment task for the term.

#### Bayard – Magazines for children

You will be receiving an invitation to subscribe to a children's magazine in the coming days. Please feel free to subscribe if you think your children might enjoy reading and looking at them. I know my own 3 children loved receiving these magazines when they were little. There is something exciting about receiving magazines on a regular basis! Magazines are currently available in English, French, German, Spanish and Chinese. That said, please do not feel *any* obligation to subscribe if you do not wish to. All payments are made directly to the publishing company *Bayard*.

### Important Dates and Events

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| 13 October      | Memorial Day for the late King Rama IX – School closed       |
| 23 - 27 October | Half term holiday – no classes will be held during this time |
| 30 October      | Class resume   |

### UPDATES

- BAMBİ hosted playgroup for children every Thursday 9.30-11.30am
- Kindergarten class for 3-4 year olds opens in October - Enroll now
- English summer camp for 4-6 year olds October 2-20. Please contact administration if you would like to enroll your child.
- Please note the newly confirmed October half term school holiday dates: 23 – 27 October.



### **Classes for 3-5 year olds**

We are happy to be welcoming Ms. Kerrin from New York to our teaching team at the end of this month. She will be teaching our 3-5 year old children in the future and perhaps even a dance class too!

### **Our health and safety policy**

Please may I thank you in advance for observing our health and safety policy as much as you can. Please keep your little ones at home if they show any signs of not being their usual sparkly selves. Symptoms like runny noses, coughs, fevers and general lethargy merit your child having a day of rest at home please. Young children's immune systems are not fully developed yet and we do wish to keep everyone as healthy as we can in school. Please only return to school once your child has fully recovered and no longer shows any signs of illness.

### **Car engines off please!**

In keeping with our health and safety policy, our kind guard Khun Sum Ran will now be requesting that drivers turn off car engines while waiting in front of the school each day in a bid to keep the air around our school environment as clear as we can please for our children. I thank you for your kind cooperation in advance.

### **October English summer camp**

From October 2- 20 we will be holding an *English camp* for children aged 4-6 at Bright Skies. The school day will be full and theme based. Daily activities will include a little bit of numeracy, some literacy including phonics, outdoor and indoor play and lots of singing and movement. Please contact us if you are interested in this camp for your older children.

In keeping with the Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival sentiments at Bright Skies we also wish you all peace and good fortune this month.

Feel free to come and see me anytime for any reason,

Mrs. Shayne  
School Director

## **Kids Corner**

### **Who knows the name of this room?**

Come and tell Mrs Shayne as quickly as you can to receive a small, sparkly surprise!





# Little Clouds Classroom

Dear Parents and children  
Happy first month of school!

Our Little Clouds class have been settling in well to school over the past month. We are definitely more familiar with our daily routine and are getting to know our teacher and helpers. We have also been getting to know our classmates and learning new songs and words together! Our favourite times of the day are singing our *Hello Song* in morning *Circle Time*, going to the art room and playing outside in the afternoon. It's great to see the Little Clouds' happy, smiling faces as they have fun on the playground together!



Our first learning topic is *Tell me a Story* and the first story we studied was *Walking in the Jungle*. We very much enjoyed learning about the different animals in the jungle and the sounds they make. We took a trip through the imaginary jungle every day, listening for animal sounds and stopping to learn about each animal featured in our storybook. The Little Clouds' favourite animals to learn about were tigers and monkeys!

Our current focus story is *Brown bear, brown bear, what do you see?* and we really like exploring colours and animals through this story. This is such a fun story that we all listen attentively when Miss Susan starts reading it!

Well done on the great start to the school year at Bright Skies, Little Clouds!

I'm already very proud of each and every one of you and I look forward to the rest of the school year at our lovely school.

Miss Susan





# Nursery Classroom English Class

Dear Nursery parents and families,

What a great start to our new school year!

Our little Nursery Bees have been busy meeting their new teachers, making new friends, and getting used to the rules and routines of our school day. Now that we are all settled in, we are all looking forward to what is shaping up to be an amazing school year!



Our current unit of learning is *Amazing Me* and we have been learning all about our bodies and how we use different parts of our bodies to do different things. The first two weeks were all about the body parts: learning the names, songs and actions with our bodies, and completing tasks that support this topic. The third week of the unit was about the 5 senses- sight, taste, hearing, touch, and smell. The fourth week is about what we can do by ourselves. The fifth week is about our families and the sixth and final week will be all about our houses and our neighbourhoods! Each day the busy Nursery Bees fly around the classroom visiting all of the



different topic tables we have prepared where they can use different learning strategies to discover even more about themselves and their world!

One of our favourite parts of the day includes *Circle Time* where we introduce and explain the topic based activities for the day, do an interactive activity together, and sing songs. You may have even heard your child singing the class favourite at home- *One Little Finger!* In addition to *Circle Time*, outside play is favoured as we can play in the green grass, on the playground, or at the water table. We are grateful for extra clothes and

nappies after we have had water time play please parents!

As we are getting used to our rules and routines, it is important to practise the rules and routines at home: tidying up after play, taking turns and sharing with others.

I look forward to a great school year with you all here at Bright Skies!

Best,  
Miss April





# Mandarin Class

Ni hao!

I am pleased to announce that my students are starting to say some Chinese words to me already!

The first learning topic of the year is *Amazing Me* and so far, we have learned some new vocabulary related to our body parts, emotions and five senses.

Among other activities we have engaged in, we used our sense of touch to play an activity called *Guess what the object is?*, while being blindfolded. We tried to name the objects correctly in Mandarin. We also played a *Guess what sound this is?* game too and for the sense of taste, we happily tried samples of food items that represent salty, sweet, sour and bitter sensations.

We like to learn Mandarin outside our classroom too and we recently went on *discovery walks* in our grounds to explore and find items which are hard or soft. We also love singing and dancing to the Chinese versions of the *Hello* song, *Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes* and *If you are happy and you know it* songs! Next month we are going to learn about *Our Families* and *Things we can do by ourselves!*

Well done children, on a great start to your Mandarin learning! I am already proud of you all.

Regards,

Zhou Lao Shi

