

## Highlights over the past two weeks...

Gong Xi Fa Cai!!!! It has been a busy and an exciting fortnight in the Pre K classroom. We continued on with our theme of "All About Me" and preparing for the forthcoming Chinese New Year and our celebrations. So of course many of our activities were dedicated to this festive time of the year.

- We have had a great time cleaning the classroom, making mini lions (for the dance), performing the lion dance, matching zodiac animals, making Tiger masks, listening to books and generally learning about Lunar New Year traditions. Wow, we were busy!!! We learned about the importance of red for luck, that the lion dance scares away all the bad luck and the monster. We also were introduced to the twelve zodiac animals.
- The children looked wonderful all dressed up in their Chinese New Year Costumes/Clothes today. The children thoroughly enjoyed the powerful music and drama of Teng Yang Dragon & Lion Dance Troupe. It was great to see so many of you attended our Chinese New Year Celebrations.
- For **Jolly Phonics**, we looked at the letters 'b' and 'c' introducing their letter name, sound, action and their formation. Outside the children found much glee and exciting over enjoy fully **blowing bubbles** for 'b' and for 'c' we patiently took turns to help measure, pour and mix the ingredients to make **Chocolate Chip Cookies**. These were o so yummy!
- Last week for cooking we baked '**Cupcakes**' in line with our discussion of birthdays. This is when the children demonstrate their working proud less of their cooking ability and co-operative skills. Miss Anita and I were so proud of them. What fantastic little chefs we have in the Pre-K am class!
- During one of our group times, we discussed how the children have grown so far from a baby, toddler and child and how they will continue to grow into adolescents, adults and senior citizens. We used the photos of the children as a baby, toddler and child to visually demonstrate this growth. Independently and individually each of the children attempted to sequence their growth so far, some of the children needed a little guidance but most of them were able and capable at completing the activity correctly themselves.

## At home...

- Cook and bake at home with your child. Cooking requires hands on use of math concepts, planning, thinking, and time management. Please at a look the website link for benefit of cooking with young children. <http://www.consistent-parenting-advice.com/children-cooking.html>



## Our Superstar is...

Fadil

because he is terrific at counting and listens and responds appropriately at mat time.



## Coming Up...

We will be hosting Dads or Granddads to our classroom on Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> Feb for our Jolly Phonics letter 'd' activity. Please send in a photo of your child & dad/granddad taken together (size 3R) by next Wednesday.

## Dates for your diary...

**Mon 15<sup>th</sup> & Tues 16<sup>th</sup> Feb** – Chinese New Year holidays – Kindergarten closed

**Thur 4<sup>th</sup> Mar** – Pre-K excursion to My Gym

**Fri 5<sup>th</sup> Mar** – K2 excursion to Cheng San Library

**Tues 9<sup>th</sup> Mar** – 'Bear and Chicken Get Ready for School' Whole Kindy excursion. All the children come to Kindy in the morning. Professional Development for the staff in the afternoon.

**Thur 11<sup>th</sup> Mar** - K1 excursion to a bumboat ride

## From Justine...

**"Gong Xi Fa Cai!"** In all the classrooms this week the children celebrated Chinese New Year at the kindergarten, with an assortment of exciting activities. Our Chinese New Year celebration today was brilliant with the children dressing in their beautiful Chinese New Year costumes/clothes. Of course the highlight of the day was the very colourful and loud wonderful performance by Teng Yong Dragon and Lion Dance troupe! Thank you to all parents for your contributions by sending in the celebratory food and spending the day with us. We look forward to the many other events where parents, grandparents and helpers are welcome to join us.