

Perse Post

The Perse School Singapore Friday Bulletin from
Benyna Richards

Friday 23rd September 2022



THE PERSE
SCHOOL
SINGAPORE

Dear Parents and Carers,

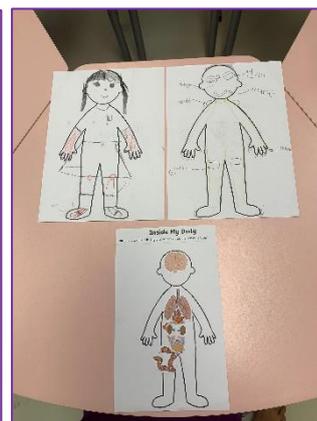
This week we were lucky enough to have Mr James Riley visit. Mr Riley is the Head of Geography at the Perse School Cambridge. Mr Riley is currently on a 10-month expedition of the globe, learning about and exploring the world around us from different cultural viewpoints. We were delighted to have him take time out of his traveling schedule to come and share some of his journey with us. Mr Riley hosted a special assembly for our year 4, 5, 6 and 7 pupils. Whilst sharing photographs of his journey, Mr Riley asked our pupils questions, and was delighted by the confident and correct answers he received. After the assembly, pupils were able to ask Mr Riley about his travels or traveling in general. Our pupils also took this time to share some of their traveling stories. A big thank you Mr Riley, and to Mr Holland who helped organise the visit. Make sure you read the rest of this week's Perse Post to find out about more events with our UK colleagues.



Subject Spotlight: Science

Exciting times in the science department this afternoon as we unboxed the new equipment that arrived! Including 6 microscopes! Thinking and working scientifically is a part of our curriculum and that includes being able to use these scopes proficiently! So excited for year 7 who have been studying cells! They will get the first scope training in the very near future! Younger years may not get to use them on their own just yet, but all year groups will be able to see images projected onto the boards and they can take a peek with guidance too!

Year 1 – Our bodies We started the term thinking about parts of our body and our organs. We have also started to think about the word 'offspring' and matched some animals with their offspring including frog spawn and frogs and caterpillars and butterflies! We then linked this to our study of family trees in humanities, we discussed offspring in both humans and animals. Children made connections linking back to their own family tree. Discussion revolved around the number of offspring their grandparents had, siblings to their parents. Then comparing the number of siblings between their 2 parents. What an interesting start to the term for our year 1s.



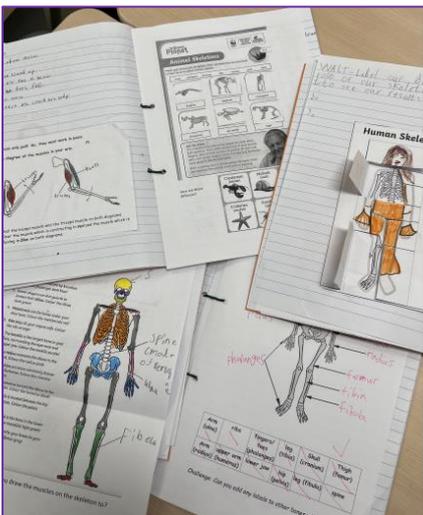
Year 2 - Light and Shadow In year 2 science we have been thinking about light and shadows. To apply our knowledge on how shadows are made, this week the children created their own shadow puppets! They played with them and torches to explore how the distance from the light changed the shadows created. They understood how the closer the object was to the light source the larger the shadow would be. You must agree that the results of their hard work are fantastic



Year 3 - Living things In year 3 science we have been exploring the topic living things. We learnt what a plant needs to live and the parts of a flowering plant. We also learnt about germination and the life cycle of plants and we brought some plants into school to look at the interesting ways that they were the same and different. We also did some research into different types of plants by collecting information from around our lab! The big excitement this week was a walk out near the nature reserve to collect some photographs of different species of living things. We used a brilliant app on the iPads called Seek iNaturalist, that is easy to use and shows us information about all living things (including the long-tailed macaques that we see so much of near school!) Thank you to year 3 for their enthusiasm with this topic and for bringing in so many lovely plants for us to look at! Why not try downloading the app at home and your year 3s can show you how it works!



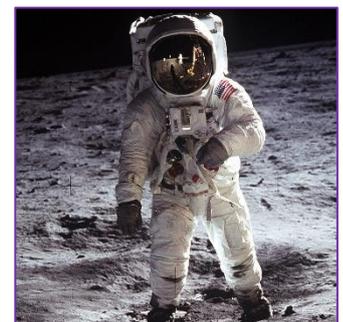
Year 4 – Skeletons In year 4 science we have been looking inside our bodies and learning about the skeleton! Pupils have learnt the names of the main bones in their bodies and explored how bones are moved by muscles. We have used some models to explain what is happening inside of us. We moved on to look at how similar we are to other animals and at the difference between vertebrates and invertebrates. We used a matching task to classify some living things as one or the other. This has been an exciting first topic for our year 4 classes who have SO many questions about their own bodies.



Year 5 – Plants In year 5 science we have just finished a topic on plants which began with labelling the anatomy of a flowering plant. To help with this many pupils in the class brought in flowers for us to compare, finding a pattern that most flowers are bright and colourful to attract bees. This naturally brought us onto learning about plant pollination and then seed dispersal. The class took part in a research task where they had to investigate different seed dispersal methods and present their findings back to the class. They completed brilliant, thorough research and their teachers even learnt a new fact or two!

Year 6 – Forces and movement In year 6 science we have started our forces topic with a focus on gravity and the difference between mass (kg) and weight (N). We did a practical that involved measuring the mass of objects accurately and converting it to weight to show the effect of gravity on each object. We then thought about gravity elsewhere in our solar

system and (after a little history and watching some of the 1969 lunar landing) hypothesised that there must be less gravitational on the moon if the astronauts could carry their own body weight in suit and equipment and 'look light'. We spent a little time recalling what we knew about the solar system and used clues to match planets (and the moon) with their gravity. We took Neil Armstrong's mass at the time of the lunar landing mission and used that to calculate what his weight would be if he was able to visit other planets and stand on them (obviously he couldn't stand on the gas giants – but we understood this limitation to our task!). Our next step will be using some graphing skills



to present our answers to this task before we move back to Earth and think further about different forces that are at play on Earth.

Year 7 – Cells In term 1 year 7 are studying Biology, starting with the cells and organ systems topic. From the start Year 7 have been thoughtful and creative in their questioning about the topic showing their



eagerness to learn. After we learnt about the organelles of the cell, I asked the pupils to bring in sweets or stationery in order to make models of their cells. This helps the pupils remember the organelles but also illustrate how cells are 3D. The cells turned out brilliantly, ranging from a clay model to a cake covered in mentos and oreos! All very different but illustrating the same concept, which hopefully Year 7 won't forget now!

Year 1 and 2 Boffin Club with Ms Claudia The children continue to love this ECA. This week, we conducted the skittles experiment. Children had to write the equipment, method and result for this experiment. We discussed key words such as diffusion and concentration. At the end, we discussed what

we could change in this experiment. Suggestions included pouring tap water or cold water instead of warm water. Questions included: would it work with carbonated drinks like sprite? Would it dissolve faster or slower in cold water? Why not look it up and try it at home!

Years 3-7 CREST ECA with Dr King This term our intrepid scientists and engineers have been getting used to working in our science labs safely and doing some hands-on tasks. This week our ECA fell on the day of Queen Elizabeth II's funeral, so in memory of my monarch we made some tea! We tried to make teabags using a variety of things (cupcake cases, netting, baking paper, felt etc) and filled them with loose tea. We assessed our success on the colour of the tea and the amount of loose tea that escaped the homemade bag. This was problematic when we realised that the purple material found in my sewing cupboard turned our tea purple! A Perse coloured cup of tea! The lab had a most wonderful tea fragrance, but we knew we couldn't drink any of the tea as we were using science lab equipment to make it! So, many of the pupils took an actual teabag to make a cup of tea at home that was safe to drink! Best of all this activity will count towards the British Science Association CREST Superstar award!



Perse Parent Association

PPA Family EVENINGS are BACK! Get ready to put on your thinking caps and flex those brain muscles at Perse's very first *British Themed* Quiz Night! Bring in the whole family for the popular event that promises to be a great night of competitive fun and big laughs! The funds raised from this evening shall be put towards the school piano.



As space is limited, **kindly use the link below to fill in the registration form to secure a place.** The food and drinks can be pre-ordered, *kindly note that there shall be no extra food & drinks available for sale later.* Do not miss out! Deadline for the registration form is **28th Sep, Wednesday.**

You can sign up for the quiz [here](#). Space is limited so make sure you sign up early! We look forward to seeing you for an enjoyable evening full of laughter and good company!

The Perse Parent Association, Sumbal Waqas (Head of PPA)

Referral Program

As some of you may or may not be aware we run a PARENT REFERRAL program. Any parent who refers a family that starts at The Perse will receive \$500 off their next school invoice. Contact Arabella if you would like more information.

Please do spread the word and tell your friends about our wonderful school.

Parent Workshops Term 1

Week 6

- Focus: PANTS Program (the Underwear rule) Year 1 and 2
- Workshop Lead: Ms Natalie
- Date: Monday 26th September
- Time: 17:00 – 17:45
- Location: Online

To sign up please use [this link](#) or scan the QR code below.



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| - Monday 3 rd October – Tuesday 11 th October | Perse UK Visit (Simon Armitage and Tom Knowles) |
| - Tuesday 4 th October | Meet the Perse UK sign up here |
| - Friday 7 th October | Family Quiz Night |
| - 21 st October | Deepavali Celebrations (Non-uniform day) |
| - 24 th October – 28 th October | Half Term |
| - 31 st October | Staff Inset (No pupils in school) |
| - 31 st October | Year 1 - 3 Parent Teacher Conference (8:00 – 18:00) |
| | Further details to be shared nearer the time |
| - 1 st – 4 th November | Year 4 – 7 Parent Teacher Conference (daily 16:00 and 18:00) Further details to be shared nearer the time |
| - Monday 7 th November | ECA's Start |
| - Thursday 10 th November | Enrichment Starts |

House Points Houses are back! The Barbarians have got off to another strong start, once again closely followed by the Foresters.

	1.1	2.1	2.2	3.1	3.2	4.1	4.2	5.1	6.1	7.1	Total
Barbarians	17	0	31	12	27	9	34	26	16	8	404
Corinthians	25	0	31	9	13	14	30	22	15	5	330
Foresters	20	0	10	31	17	8	52	26	6	8	373
Nomads	28	0	14	10	36	17	32	9	14	2	331

Golden Spoon Winners



Congratulations: Gregory, Claire, Aden, Minwoo, Thomas, Ruby, Damar

We value endeavour, intellectual curiosity and scholarship, breadth and balance, one another and our environment.