



Kiddy

**The DOMINICAN
TORCH**



Lower School Edition

2nd Quarter 2016-2017

DOMINICAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL STUDENT NEWSLETTER

Contributions from Homeroom and Subject Teachers, compiled by Ms. Petro Venter

MERRY CHRISTMAS
HAPPY NEW YEAR

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. (Luke 2:13 -24 KJV)

**The Dominican
KiddyTORCH**
Lower School Edition



Lower School Science Museum Field Trip

The National Science Museum visit was a huge success, loved by all our students. Some Grade 5 students were even brave enough to challenge themselves on the Gravity Bike... meters above the ground! Courageous they were! Kindergarten enjoyed the Learning area on B1 where they could explore more, and the 3D theatre was a favorite, as usual.

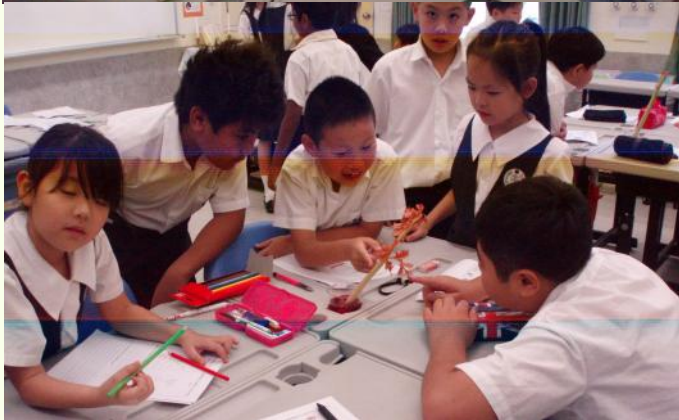
We are proud of our responsible students who know how to behave and show the true spirit of being Dominicans.



National Science Museum Field Trip



Learning



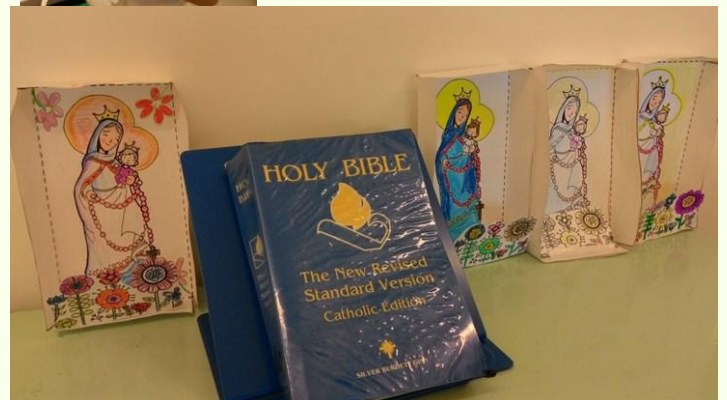
Parts of a Plant (Science) Gr 4 Ms. Rachel

We studied the shape and form of celery stalks. Students looked for the parts of a plant, i.e., roots, stems and leaves, and studied the tubes inside the celery using magnifying glasses.

Students studied the transportation of nutrients in celery stalks through the movement of colored water. Food coloring was used so as not to damage the plant. We observed that the leaves of the plants turned red, making it obvious that plants carry water from the roots to the stem and then to the leaves, from the intensity of the redness in different parts of the celery stalk.

Religious Studies Gr 2 Mr. Beck

October is the Month traditionally dedicated to the Holy Rosary. Our Grade 2 students created a giant paper rosary to explore this form of prayer used in the Catholic Church.





Learning

Lower School English Department Event - Language Laughter 2016

Sapphire House proved to have the most skillful language learners and the best teamwork to win the all-grade outdoor house challenge!

It was a gloriously sunny day, and as our LS students arrived on the school field and separated into their Houses, the sound of laughter welcomed them to the annual Language Laughter competition.

The students were perhaps surprised to find themselves on the field, doing hands on language games instead of plain old sports. They would need plenty of quick thinking skills and team work, as each grade only had 6 minutes to rack up as many points as possible for their house.

Activities ranged from identifying initial sounds in words for the Kindergarten students, to sorting nouns and verbs, finding the correct definition of a word, then building a sentence with the word, to finally building whole stories from jumbled sentences for the Grade 5s.

Amidst shouts of encouragement from their teammates, everyone did their best to obtain the highest scores. Teams were neck and neck throughout the entire day, but Sapphire triumphed in the end by just 2 points. Three cheers to Sapphire!





Chinese

Trip to TSSE

by Kelly Yumi Park Hsu & Clio Leung

On 9th November, we went to Taipei Special School of Education. It was a joyful morning. When we got there, we followed the teacher from TSSE, who showed us around the school. Right after the tour, we went to see the children. Eun Bin and Kelly were responsible for Kaka. Since neither Eun Bin or Kelly can speak Chinese, Ms. Lillian asked Danny to help. We laughed a lot while playing with Kaka, and Danny laughed so much he even cried! It was so funny. Hien and Reina were taking care of a girl beside us, called Yun-Yun. Yun-Yun got tired and put her head down, then Hien put his head in front of her. However, she had a tambourine in her hand, and she hit him with it! Everybody laughed a lot. The teacher at TSSE sang a song and played a game with everyone. The first time we sang, we were not really good, but after a few practice sessions, all of us improved and we all had fun.

After a while, Team A and Team B separated. I (Kelly) was in Team B, so I had to go to an exercise room. We built a castle, so when Kaka slid down, he would break the castle. After a short while, we were teaching him how to roll, it was a fun time. Then, we swung him on a swing before finally taking photos with all of the kids.

I (Clio) was in Team A. We did bowling with the kids. We needed to help the children roll the ball. Although some children cried during the game, we still had fun. One thing that was very interesting was that a girl was really good at steering her wheelchair, she even steered herself around the classroom. It was so amazing.

Soon, it was time to go home. We had all had lots of fun, but this trip also taught us that everybody can do things, even those with special problems, like many of the kids at TSSE. We also discovered how hard it was for some kids to communicate with others. We experienced a lot on this trip!





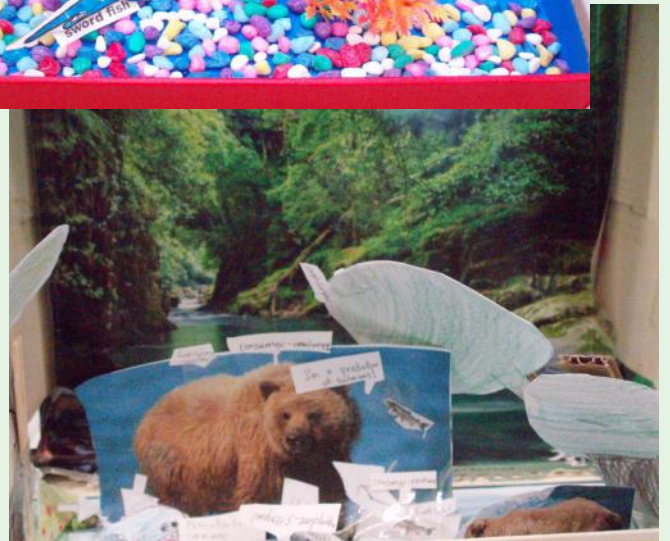
Science

Ecosystem in a Shoebox

Grade 4 Ms. Rachel

The students formed groups of 3 or 4 to build their own ecosystems out of shoe boxes.

The ecosystems are, in order of attached photos: Antarctica, Rain Forest, Sahara Desert, Ocean (x2), and Pond or River. Students could use any materials they wanted to.





Learning

Letter Writing and Mailing!

Grade 1 Ms. Tersia

We had to learn how to write a friendly letter. What a privilege it was to write a letter to our parents and thank them for everything they do for us!

We first wrote a draft, corrected it and then rewrote it into a neat friendly letter. We put the letters into envelopes and then we walked to the post box to mail our letters. We had asked our parents to reply to us and send the letter to school, which they did! It was so exciting waiting for, and receiving the letter. This shows that snail mail is still intimate and personal! Our parents and we enjoyed it so much!



Science Project

Grade 1 Ms. Tersia

The Grade Ones have developed into a bunch of little scientists. We learnt about living and non-living things. The first things we studied about were animals. Instead of going on a field trip to look at animals, some animals came to visit us in class. We had some miniature Australian monkeys, and bunnies from England and America. Not all of us liked touching the monkeys, but the rabbits were touched and adored. We could touch and hold the bunnies, caress them and smell them. This way we really experienced the animals and learnt a lot about them and about ourselves, whether we like touching animals or not. We also learnt about what animals eat, and we fed the "animal visitors".

After learning about animals, we learnt about plants, how they grow and how we can use them. We let seeds germinate and watched and documented their growth constantly. We pressed leaves and made beautiful Christmas cards for our families. For our exam we had to do a presentation about relating the parts of plants to our bodies. We had to make costumes and give a presentation. We could perform songs or poems. The Grade Ones did wonderful work and everyone tried their best!!





Learning

Creative Writing

Grade I Ms. Tersia



It was a sunny day, Snow White was making a tea pot and some cups. She was going to have a tea party with her seven dwarf friends. The seven dwarfs were at work, finding



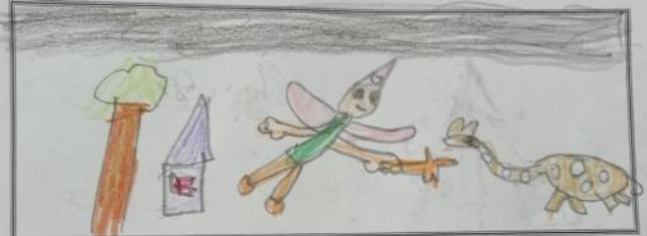
Suddenly they saw one house beside their house. They were scared because no houses were beside or near before. Then many houses appeared on the road.



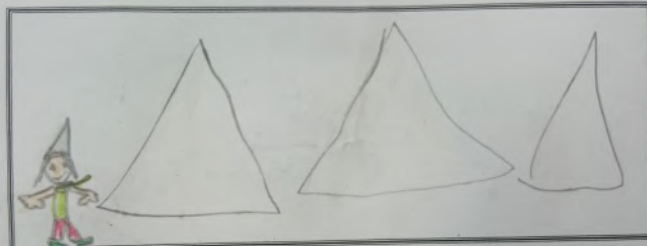
Then Snow White saw a shadow with a long neck. Suddenly she saw a big whole forest in front of their house. No forest was there before. They got very, very scared.



Suddenly they saw many animals coming out from the houses and the forest. Snow White and the dwarfs were very surprised. Then they all enjoyed a good party.



But who sent the animals to Snow White's party? It was a fairy! The animals were sad, so she sent the animals and made the houses and the big forest.



Next time see other many adventures about Snow White and the seven dwarfs.



Learning

A Visit from Grandpa Mike

Have you ever heard Grandpa Mike's stories? His Bible stories are amusing, especially when he brings along masks so we can volunteer to act along! Grandpa Mike comes to our school every year. He loves to tell Bible stories. This year, Grandpa Mike told us the story of Adam and Eve. When Adam was given the job of naming the animals, Grandpa Mike imitated all the voices of the animals Adam named. Goodness, how real they sounded! When he roared like a lion, I had to double check if there wasn't a lion hiding behind him! Oh boy! I was very disappointed when the story ended. It only felt like TWO MINUTES!

Luckily, he had another Bible story in store for us. I was very..... very..... intrigued..... It turned out the story was about David, a boy that in his lifetime defeated a lion, fought a bear, and shot a giant. David did all this with just a sling shot. Grandpa Mike pretended to be David, and he asked somebody to wear a mask acting the lion. Then he grabbed a sling shot that looked suspiciously similar to a belt and a rock that was actually a pair of socks. The rock hit the lion, who fainted. Wow! It was so comical! When Grandpa Mike had finished, everybody was obviously still laughing over the rock made out of socks! I do admit, I had to control myself from clapping and cheering. Grandpa Mike's story is just that good!!

Later, Grandpa Mike took out a stringed instrument and sang a song. Ooh..... It sounded just amazing. He told us all about his awesome string instrument! I really hope Grandpa Mike will be coming again next year!

By Ocean Mengyou Tang

From G4 St. Margaret of Hungary





PE — Ms. Elle

At DIS the PHYSICAL FITNESS of students is of the utmost importance. The vision of the School's Physical Education (PE) program focuses on:

Practicing and mastering appropriate motor skills and movement.

Developing and maintaining lifelong, family-oriented, health related fitness.

Being able to cooperate with others. Being nice. Being careful. Being respectful.

Exhibiting good sportsmanship and leadership.



Students learn sportsmanship through competition.

When you take part in team sports you develop friendship, cooperation and teamwork skills.





Art

Grade 3 Poster Art

In Quarter 2, all the Grade 3 pupils were asked to make a poster in response to the invitation of the Order of St. Camillus Poster art contest. This is a call for children's awareness and voice towards our responsibility as human beings, to participate and be engaged in protecting and preserving our planet. Children are considered the heart and soul of this responsibility for they represent our future. In this project they were challenged and gained more awareness in using graphics and symbolic elements to communicate effectively, rather than only using text or words alone.

The contest was open to all grades 1- 6 pupils of Taiwan for this level. Then, the winning entries will be sent to Italy for the selection of international winners. The winning entries will receive a monetary prize.

Title/theme: "***Laudato Si...Protect and respect our Sister, Mother Earth, common home like a garden***".



Allison Hsieh

General comment:

The challenge generally showed positive responses from the pupils, for this concerns them and helps them believe they have something to say about the issue, while expressing it through the use of colors, drawing and other elements of art.

Billy Fu



Jessica Jung





Fun



CAREER AWARENESS WEEK 2016

On October 17-21, 2016, DIS had its Career Awareness Week for Lower and Middle School students. The theme for this year's Career Awareness Week was **Live Your Passion**. The objectives of the Guidance Office was to give DIS students the opportunity to learn about specific occupations and the importance of the subjects they study in school. The Guidance Office wants to encourage the students to follow their dreams, live their passion and pursue their happiness in choosing their career path.

Career Week started with a Career Fashion Show. Students dressed up in the outfits of their dream career. They dressed up like lawyers, teachers, movie stars, singers, cheerleaders, football players, nurses, doctors, and many others.

The lower school students also had mini field trips throughout the week. The preschool, K1 and K2 students went to Baby Boss to explore the world of work through pretend play and dress-ups last November 9. The Grade 3 and 4 students went to the Fire Station to find out how firefighters spend their work day. For their mini field trip, the Grade 5 students went to the local police station to see what a policeman's job is like and what a police station looks like.

The aim of these field trips was for students to learn more about community helpers. The community helpers were able to talk to the students and show the students what their worlds are like.

We also held a career talk for the Lower and Middle school students. A K2 Parent, Captain Melquiades Luna, came to school to speak to the K1 to Grade 2 students about his job as an airline pilot. The second speaker was Mr. Tobie Openshaw, a filmmaker and photographer whose work with the Taiwanese Indigenous people is really impressive. The Grade 3 and Grade 5 St. Dominic students learned about translating passion into work. Mr. Andrew Tiffany, a resource speaker from ACI Prep, came to school to talk to the Grade 4 and Grade 5 St. Martin de Porres students about what careers there are, to prepare them for the world of work.



Fun

Career Awareness

K1 to Gr 2 visited Baby Boss to experience “adult life” in working in a variety of career areas.

The students had great fun. This was a definite highlight of the Second Quarter.



Baby Boss

Masquerade Night



Fun

