

HARBOURFRONT INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

February Newsletter



HARBOURFRONT INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL – MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2026 EDITION

Highlights at Harbourfront International School

Culture, Safety and Celebrations

Dear Harbourfront Families,

As we move through February and begin to feel the early signs of spring, the Harbourfront learning community continues to grow through meaningful experiences, shared traditions, and important life skills across all age groups.

Setsubun Celebration

This month, students also explored the Japanese tradition of Setsubun, learning about seasonal change and cultural customs. Through storytelling and activities, children experienced how traditions bring communities together and mark new beginnings.

Safety Drills: Intruder & Earthquake

Safety continues to be a priority at Harbourfront. Students participated in both intruder and earthquake drills, practicing calm responses and listening carefully to teacher guidance. These age-appropriate drills help build awareness, confidence, and responsibility.



Seahorse Class



Yu



Happy Birthday!

Augustus, Quinn, Rena U.



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Highlights at Harbourfront International School

Performance Day: A Moment to Shine

Our students stepped onto the stage with confidence and joy, showing teamwork, responsibility, and growing independence.

Performance Day was more than a show—it was a celebration of their communication skills and self-belief.

Thank you to all our families for your support and encouragement. Seeing the children shine with pride as you cheered them on made the day truly special. We are so proud of every child!

Starfish



Seahorse



Ocean



Harbour

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Classroom Spotlight: Seahorse Class

Our Seahorse Class continues to embody the IB Learner Profile through their curiosity, kindness, and growing confidence as young learners. Even at this early age, they are becoming thoughtful communicators and caring friends.



March Events

This month also brings some fun and meaningful school-wide events:

- **4** – Sumo Stable Field Trip (Kinder and Grade 1 Classes)
- **5** – Dr. Praying Mantis (Guest Speaker)
- **9** – Safety Drill: Fire Drill
- **11** – School Assembly (Birthday Celebrations)
- **16-19** – Cooking Class Week
- **23** – K3 & G1 Performance Day & School Year End Party
- **24-27** – Spring School

Classroom Spotlight: Seahorse Class

In Harbour Class, center time offers a variety of differentiated experiences in arts, literacy, music, and movement, allowing students to explore their interests while developing independence and creativity.



Learner Profile: Reflective & Open-minded

ATL Skills focus: **Research Skills**



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February's Theme - Weather and Temperature

LEARNING

Theme Activity:

This month, we focused on weather and how it affects our lives. We observed how the world changes with the seasons. We also practiced dancing, singing, and playing the bells for our Performance Day show, Walking in the Jungle.

English:

We continue to learn useful English vocabulary and phrases through play and song.

Japanese:

今月の節分イベントでは、練習した“鬼のパンツ”や“豆まき”の歌を大きな声で歌ったり、「鬼は外！」と力強く鬼にボールを投げる頼もしい姿を見せてくれました。2月は、“雪やのペンキ屋さん”や“こんこんくしゅんのうた”など寒い季節ならではのお歌を歌いました♪ また、「多い・少ない」「高い・低い」「強い・弱い」などの比較言葉を2月から学び始めています。

Centers:

We used different types of play and toys to practice fine motor skills and build hand strength.

Social and Emotional Learning (SEL):

We learned how our actions can affect how others feel and react.

WHAT'S ON

This month, we have been thinking about the weather and temperature. Is today hot or cold? What should we wear when we go outside? What clothes do we need for different weather and seasons? We also talked about how nature changes as the seasons change, using what we see at the park as an example.

On February 3rd, we had our Setsubun party. The children were very brave and threw balls at the ogres. We then made our own ogre masks so the children could pretend to be ogres too. For Valentine's Day, we made a cute heart craft. Our cooking activity this month was also Valentine's Day-themed.

The Starfish class practiced for almost two months for their Performance Day, and we are so proud of their accomplishment. It has been amazing to watch their confidence grow as they became more comfortable with the show, Walking in the Jungle. Thank you for your support!



COMING UP

March - Cause and Effect

This month, we will talk about cause and effect. We will first look at how it works with objects, such as pushing a chair or throwing a ball. Then we will explore how our actions can affect our friends. Which actions cause which emotions in others? We can choose to be kind and create positive effects.

This month, we will celebrate Hinamatsuri with a school party. Ria's birthday is in March, and we are looking forward to her Open Day. The weather will be getting warmer, and we will look out for seasonal changes at the park.

There is only one more month of Starfish left! Let's keep working hard as we prepare to level up to Seahorse class.



REMINDERS

- March 3rd - Hina Matsuri Party
- March 6th - Birthday Party
- March 9th - Emergency Drill
- March 20th - National Holiday
- March 23rd - Goodbye Party
- March 24th - 27th - Spring School
- March 30th - April 5th - Spring Holiday



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FEBRUARY'S
THEME:

WHO WE ARE:
HELPING FRIENDS/
CELEBRATING ME

LEARNING

SEAHORSE CLASS



February was a wonderful and exciting month for the Seahorses. We celebrated Setsubun by making themed crafts and bravely throwing beans to drive the demons away. The children also enjoyed Valentine's Day by learning a song and making Valentine's cards.

During circle time, we explored language by practicing past, present, and future tense verbs. We also learned about food groups, animal classifications, and places in our community, such as drugstores, supermarkets, and restaurants. It was lovely to hear the children using these place names when sharing about their weekends.

We continued preparing for Performance Day and were very proud of the children's efforts on stage. We also talked about moving up to Harbour class next year, helping them feel excited and confident about the transition.

February was full of learning, courage, and teamwork, and we look forward to many more joyful moments together.

Fine Motor Skill Stations & Physical Education:

The children continued practicing grasping small objects, threading, and cutting both straight and curved lines

Social and Emotional Learning (SEL):

We have been encouraging the children to continue sharing kindly and speaking politely with their friends. It's wonderful to see how much progress they've made, often using gentle reminders.

Japanese:

今月は節分があり"鬼のパンツ"や"豆まき"を歌ったり節分についても学びました。節分イベントでは"鬼は外!"と泣きながらボールを投げていました。日本語の時間では、引き続きひらがなや反対言葉の学びを進めています。少しずつですが、フラッシュカードを見て答えることができてきました! 今月はフルーツバスケットやぞうさんとくものすなどルールのある集団遊びを楽しみました♪最初の頃に比べるとルールが理解できるようになり成長を感じます。

There was Setsubun this month, and we sang "Oni's Pants" and "Bean Soki" while learning about the Setsubun tradition. At the Setsubun event, the children threw balls while crying and shouting, "Go away!" to the demons.

During Japanese time, we continued learning about hiragana and opposite words. Little by little, the children were able to answer by looking at the flashcards. This month, we also enjoyed group play with rules, such as Fruit Basket.

Compared to the beginning of the year, I feel they have grown and developed a deeper understanding.



MARCH'S THEME: SEASONS AND CELEBRATIONS / SPRING

HOW WE EXPRESS OURSELVES

WHAT'S ON

Vocabulary:

Seasonal Words: spring, warm, windy, rainy, cloudy, sunny, breeze, puddle, rainbow

Plants & Animals: flower, blossom, bud, leaf, grass, butterfly, bee, ladybug, caterpillar, bird, nest, egg

Events & Feelings: St. Patrick's Day, green, lucky, shamrock, parade, new, grow, baby, outside

REMINDERS

Note to Families:*(PLEASE READ)*

- Please regularly check both **Lookmee** and **Class Dojo** for important updates to help ensure a smooth school experience for your child.
- We kindly ask that you bring your child to school **before 9:15**, as that is when we begin our Circle Time lesson. Arriving on time helps your child start the day smoothly and join in all the fun and learning with friends.

For the month of March, we will focus on reflection and reminding the children of all the things we learned and the fun experiences we shared throughout the year. We will celebrate Hinamatsuri and enjoy making crafts for the first month of spring. We will also learn about St. Patrick's Day and how it is celebrated around the world. This will also be a time to talk with the children and prepare them for the expectations of the coming year, as the program will become more academic and they will be encouraged to be more independent. Although we feel a little sad that this will be our last month in the Seahorses class, we will do our best to finish the year strong!

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K1 HARBOUR CLASS



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



WE ARE LEARNING...

HOW WE EXPRESS OURSELVES

Inquiry:

We are exploring different emotions and how they look, sound, and feel. The children are beginning to understand each emotion and how people may move from one feeling to another throughout the day. We have focused on the main emotions—joy, fear, anger, disgust, and sadness—and discussed situations that might cause these feelings. Through stories, role-play, and discussions, the children are learning how to recognize emotions in themselves and others, as well as ways to express their feelings in a healthy and respectful way.

Mathematics:

In math, we have been focusing on patterns, comparing shapes, and sorting and classifying objects. The children explore different types of patterns and learn to identify what comes next. They are also practicing recognizing and comparing shapes based on their size, sides, and attributes. Through worksheets and hands-on activities, the children are developing their logical thinking and problem-solving skills.

Literacy:

In English, we are strengthening the children's phonics skills by practicing letter sounds and blending them to read simple words. The children are also working on their handwriting to make their letters clearer and properly formed. As their confidence grows, they are beginning to read simple books and understand how to sound out unfamiliar words while developing their early reading comprehension skills.

JAPANESE

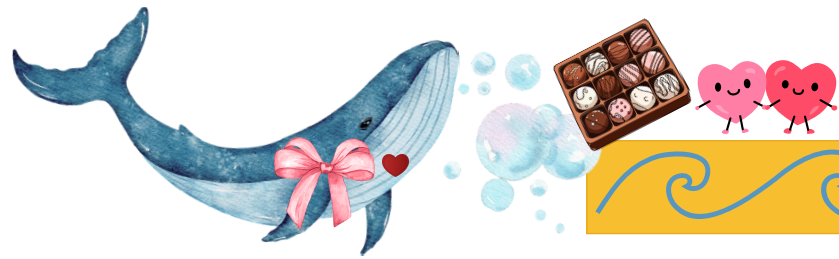
2月は、『ゆき』『まめのうた』『そうだったらいいのにな』などの季節の歌を楽しみながら歌いました。また、引き続き発表会の曲『たのしいね』もたくさん歌い、音楽を通して表現することを楽しみました。製作活動では、バレンタインデーに向けて折り紙でハートを折ったり、メッセージを書くことにチャレンジしました。自分の思いを形にしようと、集中して取り組む姿が見られました。さらに、自分の似顔絵を描いたり、次の学年に向けて「どんなことができるようになりたいか」についてお話をしました。子どもたち一人ひとりの成長への思いを聞くことができました。読み書きの活動では、ひらがなはほとんど自分たちで読めるようになってきています。濁音・半濁音も読めるお友だちが増え、ひらがなを見つけると、ゆっくりではありますが読んでいる姿が見られます。

REMINDERS:

- Please check ClassDojo for daily photos and updates
- We will go to the Sumo excursion on March 4th
- Spring school is from March 24th to 27th.
- Goodbye party will be March 23rd but we'll have a normal school day.



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K2 OCEAN CLASS

LEARNING ...

UOI THEME : WHO WE ARE
HOW THROUGH EXPLORING CELEBRATIONS WE BUILD UNDERSTANDING OF BELIEFS AND VALUES

This month, much of our inquiry learning centred around our Performance Day. The students were actively involved in every stage of the creative process. Together, we selected the story, developed movements, edited lines, designed costumes, and helped create props for the stage. The performance was a collaborative effort that reflected teamwork, creativity, and student agency in Ocean Class. We hope you enjoyed watching the children showcase their learning and growing confidence.

Inquiry

After learning about what celebrations involve, we explored the reasons behind celebrations and how they connect to people and communities. Learners compared different countries by looking at their music, traditional clothing, foods, and dances. They also made connections to Japanese culture, strengthening their open-mindedness and cultural awareness.

Mathematics

Students continued to strengthen their counting skills (1-100 in 2s, 5s, and 10s), number recognition, and addition. We also reviewed positional language and introduced mathematical symbols such as greater than (>), less than (<), and equal to (=).

Literacy

We provided more opportunities for independent reading. During centre activities, students practiced letter recognition, word formation, and blending sounds. We also continued working on sight words and CVC words while developing correct letter formation through our Alphabet Book work.

JAPANESE ...

2月は、「雪だるま」「かまくら」「つばき」など、冬の季節の言葉にたくさん親しみました。実際に雪が降った日もあり、外遊びでは手のひらに雪をのせて嬉しそうに見せてくれる姿が見られ、季節を感じながら楽しく過ごすことができました。また、「鬼のパンツ」や「豆まき」、「ドレミのまほう」など、行事の歌や発表会に向けた歌にも取り組みました。声の大きさを意識したり、体を動かしながら歌ったりと、表現することを楽しむ子どもたちの姿が印象的でした♪文字の学習では、かるた遊びを通してひらがなの復習をしたり、プリントで自分の名前を書く練習をしたりしました。「ちゃ」「ちゅ」「ちょ」などの小さい文字にも触れ、少しずつ自信をもって文字に親しむ様子が見られています。



COMING UP

UOI THEME : WHO WE ARE
HOW CAN WE ORGANIZE AND PREPARE CELEBRATIONS TOGETHER

March will be our final month together as Ocean Class before the students transition to Sky Class in April. This month, we will focus on strengthening key skills to support a smooth and confident transition. We are incredibly proud of the growth we have witnessed and feel grateful to have shared this journey with your children.

To conclude our Unit of Inquiry on celebrations, students will design and organise their own Ocean Class Festival for the school community. Through this experience, they will develop creativity, organisation, teamwork, communication, and perseverance. We will also hold a special cooking activity, where students will make pancakes, inspired by the British Pancake Day celebration, a choice decided through an anonymous class vote.

We look forward to ending our Ocean journey with joy and meaningful learning experiences together.

IMPORTANT DATES

- Mar 3rd - Hina Matsuri Festival
- Mar 4th - Sumo Excursion
- Mar 6th - Birthday Party
- Mar 9th - Emergency Drill
- Mar 23rd - Goodbye Party
- Mar 24th to 27th - Spring School
- Mar 30th to Apr 5th - Spring Break



REMINDERS

- Please **check ClassDojo every day** for updates, messages, and reminders from the Ocean Class teachers, as well as important school notices.
- Please **continue practicing reading** at home to support your child's learning.
- For our upcoming **cooking activity**, please keep an eye on ClassDojo for additional information and important details, which will be shared soon.

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K3 SKY CLASS AND GRADE 1

K3/G1 UNIT OF INQUIRY

SHARING THE PLANET

WE ARE LEARNING... UNIT OF INQUIRY: SHARING THE PLANET- HABITAT

Inquiry

We are learning all about habitats and animals. The children are discovering where different animals live and how they survive in environments such as deserts, rainforests, oceans, the polar regions, and the tundra. We are discussing how animals adapt to their habitats, including how they find food, stay safe, and protect themselves from the weather. The children are asking thoughtful questions, sharing what they already know, and making exciting connections about how animals live in different parts of the world.

Literacy

In Literacy, the children are creating their own animal research information sheets. They are learning how to look for simple facts about animals, organize their ideas, and write short sentences to share what they have learned about their chosen animal. They are also practicing using descriptive words and labels to explain where the animal lives, what it eats, and interesting facts about it.

Math (K3)

In Math, we are working with numbers up to 100. The children are practicing counting forward and backward, recognizing number patterns, and identifying numbers in different ways. Through games, number activities, and hands-on learning, they are building confidence with larger numbers and developing a stronger understanding of how numbers work.



COMING UP

March will be our final month together. We will be saying goodbye to our K3 students and celebrating their growth during Performance Day for K3 and Grade 1. The children have been practicing very hard and doing their best to showcase their skills and dances. We look forward to sharing this special moment with everyone.

REMINDERS

Bring your homework pouch to school everyday.

Don't forget your hankerchief and drink bottles.

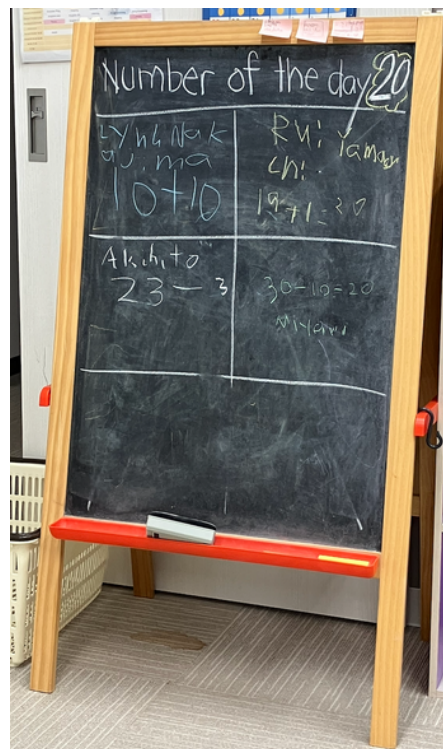
Charge iPads and headphones before school.



GRADE 1

Mathematics

Our Grade 1 students are focusing on numbers up to 20 using a concrete-pictorial-abstract (CPA) approach. They begin by using hands-on materials such as counters, cubes, and number cards to build and count numbers. Next, they represent their thinking with drawings or number models, and finally they practice working with numbers and symbols independently. Through activities such as counting forward and backward, comparing numbers, ordering them on a number line, and exploring simple place value, students are developing a deeper understanding of how numbers work. We also practice recognizing number patterns and solving simple addition and subtraction problems. This approach helps strengthen number sense and builds confidence as students prepare for more advanced math concepts.



Each day, we practice our math skills with a quick activity called **Number of the Day**. Students explore one number in different ways—by breaking it apart, using place value, and creating simple equations. This helps build strong number sense and confidence in math!

Japanese

2月は「ことばあそびをつくろう」の学習をしました。「かばんの中にはかばがいる」など、言葉の中に別の言葉が隠れている文づくりに取り組みました。言葉を見つける楽しさを味わいながら、「いる」と「ある」の使い分けについても学習しました。みんなで考えた文は発表し合い、楽しく聞き合うことができました。

また、「ずうっと、ずっと、だいすきだよ」の物語文を読みました。犬のエルフが小さい頃から亡くなるまでを描いたお話です。はじめは「死ぬ」ということがどのようなことなのか実感がわかない様子で、「どうしてお薬を飲まなかったの?」「年をとるとどうなるの?」など、たくさんの質問が出てきました。人も動物も年を重ねると命の終わりを迎えることを知り、物語への理解を深めることができました。

最後には、「自分だったらどうするだろう」と考え、自分の思いをノートにまとめました。登場人物の気持ちに寄り添いながら、命や大切な存在について考える時間となりました。



漢字の復習がんばっています♪

1年生で学習するすべての漢字の学習が終わりました。これまでに習った漢字を思い出しながら、一人ひとりが漢字カードを作り、授業のはじめに読み方の復習を行っています。

1年生で学ぶ漢字は全部で80字。子どもたちは繰り返し練習を重ねながら、一つひとつ覚えることができました。

来月も復習を続けながら、覚えた漢字を読むだけでなく、文章の中で正しく使えるようにしていきたいと思います。

