

HARBOURFRONT INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

July Newsletter



HARBOURFRONT INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL – MONTHLY NEWSLETTER JULY 2025 EDITION

Reflecting, Resetting, and Moving Forward

Dear Harbourfront Families and Team,

July marked a meaningful month of reflection, growth, and new beginnings at Harbourfront. As we deepen our shared commitment to a safe, nurturing, and inquiry-driven learning environment, our staff, students, and families continue to build a strong foundation for the year ahead.

☀️ Staff PD: Grounding Ourselves in Our Mission

We began the month with a whole-school professional development session focused on our mission, vision, philosophy, and schoolwide policies. It was a great time for all staff to reflect on our shared purpose and align on how we can support our students each day—especially when it comes to safety, consistency, and creating meaningful learning spaces.

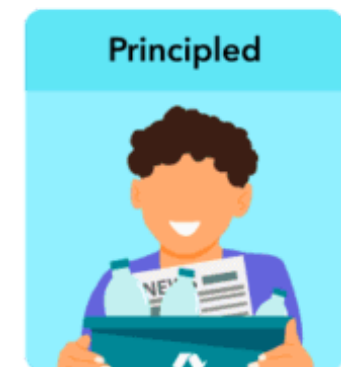
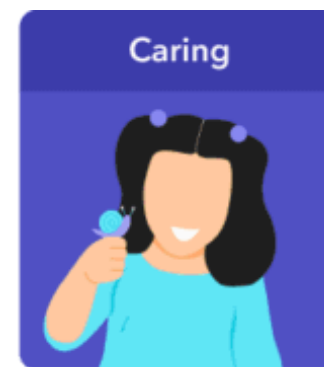


🦷 Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds

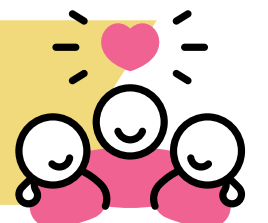
This month, students participated in their annual medical and dental checkups. These health screenings are part of our effort to care for the whole child—ensuring they feel well and ready to learn. Thank you to the families for preparing your children so well for the experience!

🧠 Wrapping Up Our First Unit of Inquiry

Our K1-G1 learners completed their first Unit of Inquiry. It was amazing to see their growth in confidence, communication, and curiosity. Through play, discussions, and reflection, they explored identity, emotions, and relationships—and built a strong foundation for their year ahead.



Learner Profile for July Caring & Principled
ATL Skills focus: Self-management Skills



Outdoor Intruder Drill: Safety with Confidence

We also conducted our first outdoor intruder drill of the year. Using age-appropriate language and preparation, teachers helped students understand what to do if they ever need to keep themselves safe. Thank you to everyone for making this a smooth and calm learning experience.

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Outdoor Intruder Drill

IMPORTANT DATES & REMINDERS

- July 1 – Celebration of Global Cultures Series: Canada Day
- July 4 – School Assembly: Birthday Celebrations
- July 7– Tanabata Festival
- July 16 – Fire Drill

Reminder:

Water Play for Pre-school up to K1 classes starts Tuesday (Starfish & Seahorse) and Wednesday (K1).

**Welcome
TO**
Harbourfront
International School



**Merry
K2 Ocean Class**



STARFISH CLASS

JUNE - Dental Health and Tanabata

LEARNING

Theme Activity:

Our focus is music and movement. We will dance, sing, do yoga, and make and play musical instruments.

English:

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

Japanese:

今月は「歯と口の健康週間」「七夕」についてお歌やダンス、制作などを通して楽しく学びました。お歌では「カエルの合唱」に合わせてペットボトルのマラカスをフリフリと音を鳴らすのをとても楽しんでいました。先生の真似をしてカタツムリを作ってくれますが、少しずつ形になってきてとても可愛いです。ダンスでは「ムシバイキン体操」を踊りました。振りは少し難しかったですが、ムシバイキンになりきり「チクチク」と楽しそうでした。

Centers:

We will use different kinds of play and toys to practice fine motor skills and build hand strength.

Social and Emotional Learning (SEL):

We will start to become aware that our actions can affect others.

WHAT'S ON

This month we learned about dental health and the importance of brushing our teeth, through songs, dance and stories. We practiced how to help mommy and daddy when it's time to brush.

We prepared for Tanabata by reading stories. Everyone got to make a wish and we made a beautiful craft. We made hydrangea jelly for our cooking class.

Yuto's mommy visited Harbourfront for his open day. Everyone was very happy and had fun playing together and showing how much they have been learning at school.



COMING UP

JULY - Music and Movement

In July, we will focus on music and movement. We will move our bodies while dancing and practicing yoga. Our goal is to practice gross motor skills, while enjoying music. In the second half of the month, we will make and play our own musical instruments.

At the start of July, we will have our Tanabata party. The party will include, an entertaining puppet show, fun games and a cool Tanabata craft made with friends.



REMINDERS

July 4th - Birthday Party
July 7th - Tanabata Party
Last Week of July - Cooking



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JUNE'S THEME:

NATURE DISCOVERY
(SHARING THE PLANET)

SEAHORSE CLASS

LEARNING

In June, our focus was on building an understanding of the natural world and learning the importance of caring for living things. With the start of the rainy season, we explored weather changes and observed creatures such as butterflies, worms, and roly-polies. Students showed great curiosity, though some were hesitant to interact directly with the animals. We hope to continue fostering a sense of care, respect, and confidence in engaging with nature.

English & Centers

In English lessons, we explored the vocabulary around the month's theme which included rainy season, weather and animals. While learning at this age is mostly visual, we also engaged students through their other senses both in and outside the classroom. In P.E., we continued to focus on developing balance, jumping skills, and hand-arm strength through fun activities.

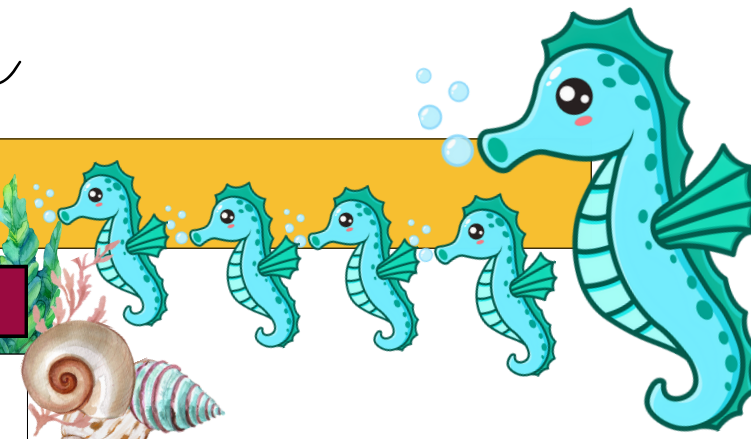
Social and Emotional Learning(SEL)

This month, we supported students in learning how to regulate their emotions independently while showing care and respect for others, and learning about "stranger danger" – how to recognise safe adults and respond safely in unfamiliar situations.

Japanese:

今月は梅雨や歯磨きについてのお話をしました。梅雨については、雨の日に必要なものは何かな？雨が好きな生き物は何だろうということについて子どもたちと一緒に話し合いました。歯磨きについては、歯を磨くことの大切さ、ムシバイキンが虫歯を作っちゃうよなどとお話をすると、「歯磨きちゃんとするー！」と元気に発言する姿がありました。ムシバイキン体操もノリノリで楽しみました♪

We were talking about rainy season and brushing teeth this month. About rainy season, we talked "What do you need on a rainy day?" "What animal likes a rainy day?" And about brushing teeth. They listen a story of how cavities form. After that I ask them "Do you brush teeth?" they said "Yes, I do!". Also, we enjoyed "Musibaikin-taisou"



WHAT'S ON

Vocabulary:

Umbrella, Rain coat, Rain boots, Puddle, Rainbow, Frog, Snail, Worm, Hydrangea, Stormy, Thunder, Rain, Lightning, Hot, Sweaty, Thirsty, Zoo, Farm, Animal, Insect/Bug and an assortment of animal

Songs:

I once caught a fish alive, Rain rain go away, We're singing in the rain

REMINDERS

Note to Families:

1. Please regularly check both Lookmee and Class Dojo for important updates to help ensure a smooth school experience for your child.
2. Kindly check all of your child's belongings and make sure each item is clearly labeled with their name, as we still continue to notice unnamed items mixing up
3. Please return your child's cooking set (apron and hat) as soon as possible in pre of the next activity!

JULY'S THEME:

CREATIVE EXPRESSION
(HOW WE EXPRESS OURSELVES)

COMING UP

In July, our focus will be on exploring the many ways students can express their creativity, personality, and emotions. This will include activities such as art, music, movement, storytelling, and imaginative play—encouraging each child to share their unique voice in a variety of forms.

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K1 HARBOUR CLASS



LEARNING

JUNE'S THEME:

WHO AM I? (WHO WE ARE)

Hello Harbour Class families!

June was full of teamwork and self-discovery as we wrapped up our unit "Who We Are." We explored how to take care of our bodies, how to play safely with others, and what it means to be a kind friend. The children loved sharing stories, solving problems, and building strong classroom bonds.

English & Communication

We practiced using full sentences like:

- "Can I have a turn?"
- "Let's play together."
- We also reviewed sounds like s, a, t, p, i, n and began tracing and writing our names with lots of pride!

Math Fun

We built on our counting skills by sorting fruits and vegetables, comparing sizes (big, medium, small), and matching numbers to quantities. We also played "how many?" games to build our quick-counting (subitising) skills.

Art Highlights

The children designed raincoats, umbrellas, sunglasses, and "block body" outlines! These projects helped them explore how to represent themselves and celebrate their growing independence.

Japanese:

6月は、「歯を磨きましょう」「とけいのうた」「あめふりくまのこ」「でんでんむし」を歌いました。中でもとけいのうたと歯を磨きましょうの歌が大好きで、口ずさんでいる子どもたちの姿がありました。製作活動では、紫陽花やカタツムリ、七夕製作をしました。ハサミを使って折り紙を切ったり、糊で画用紙に貼り付けたり、クレヨンでぐるぐる渦巻きを描いたりしました。ひらがなや数字、物の名前や色、形についても学んでいます。

SEL (Social and Emotional Learning)

We focused on helping others, using kind words, and keeping our bodies safe during play. Through role-play, books, and circle discussions, the children learned how to express feelings and work through small problems together.

Centers

This month's centers included dramatic play with doctors and kitchens, sensory play with soapy dolls and soft blocks, healthy food sorting, and collaborative puzzles – all connected to body care and cooperation.



WHAT'S GOING ON

- Practicing kind words and solving problems with friends
- Learning about how to take care of our bodies
- Exploring healthy food, movement, and rest
- Tracing names and blending sounds (s, a, t, p, i, n)
- Sorting by type, color, and size
- Designing raincoats, umbrellas, and summer sunglasses
- Getting ready to build and create in our next unit: Construction Zone!

REMINDERS:

- Please send in any small boxes, tubes, or clean recyclables for our building center!
- Don't forget to check ClassDojo for daily updates and photos!

JULY'S THEME:

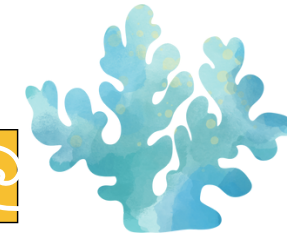
CONSTRUCTION ZONE (HOW WE ORGANIZE OURSELVE)

JUL 17 COMING UP

- Tool Talk & Building Boxes
- Creating with blocks, wood, tape, and recycled materials
- Learning words like: hammer, plan, measure, fix, build
- Exploring jobs like builders, architects, and engineers

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K2 OCEAN CLASS

LEARNING

Inquiry: To wrap up our unit of inquiry, each student became a teacher for a day—planning, preparing, and leading their own mini-lesson. From story time to simple games and activities, they proudly shared what they've learned. We ended with a reflection on what was easy, what was hard, and what surprised them. It was a fun and empowering experience that built confidence, empathy, and appreciation for their teachers!

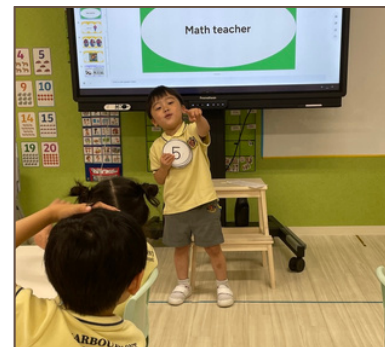
Math: In math class, we've been strengthening our number recognition and understanding number positions, especially those found on clocks and calendars. The children also practiced telling time using their very own handmade clocks. It's been a hands-on and meaningful way to connect numbers to real-life routines!

Japanese:

今月は梅雨がはじまり、みんなで雨の日について話したり、折り紙であじさいを作ったりしました。また、6月10日は時の記念日ということで、みんなで時計の勉強をしました。一人ひとりオリジナルの時計を作って短い針と長い針を動かして遊んでみましたよ♪
「3じ」「6じ」などぴったりの時間は理解できる子が多くなってきました。ぜひおうちでも聞いてみてくださいね♪

Social and Emotional Learning (SEL):

We've been nurturing and developing the learner profiles of being principled, balanced, and caring. Through everyday routines, play, and guided reflections, they're learning to make thoughtful choices, and care for others.



WHAT'S NEXT: JULY

New Unit of Inquiry: How We Express Ourselves

We're excited to begin our new unit under the transdisciplinary theme How We Express Ourselves, focusing on the big idea of Imagination. Throughout this unit, our young learners will be encouraged to explore, expand, and express their imagination in creative and meaningful ways—through stories, play, art, and more!

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K3 SKY CLASS AND GRADE 1

LEARNING

Inquiry: Who We Are

As we concluded our Who We Are inquiry, the children explored what makes them unique and how they connect with others. Through playful experiences and meaningful conversations, they shared their interests, family stories, and special qualities. Toward the end of the unit, we noticed the children beginning to understand what empathy means—putting themselves in others' shoes—and using their critical thinking skills to solve small conflicts more thoughtfully. It's been a beautiful journey of self-awareness, connection, and growth.

Math:

Chapter 2: Numbers up to 10 and Ordinal Numbers

English:

Phonics to Reading (Unit 1):

Target skill letter Mm, alphabet upper case, ABC book activity, Noun grammar and punctuation concepts

Social and Emotional Learning(SEL)

Our students have been growing as thoughtful communicators and caring teammates! How to express their feelings using "I feel" statements and practiced listening to one another with respect.

Japanese:

6月はカタカナの練習や時計の読み方を重点的に行いました。月初に行った時計のレッスンではわからないという声がたくさん聞こえたので基本的なことから復習すると徐々に理解している様子が見られました。引き続き時計の練習やカタカナの練習を続けていきたいと思ひます。また、来月は七夕もあるで、日本の行事に興味を持てるよう取り組んでいきたいと思ひます。 **Akari**

K3 UNIT OF INQUIRY

WHO WE ARE IDENTITY

WHAT'S ON



This month was full of excitement for the Sky and G1 classes! We embarked on a fantastical adventure to the Expo, where students had the unique opportunity to explore cultures from around the world. It was a wonderful day of discovery, curiosity, and fun!

To wrap up the month, students also took part in their annual health and dental check-ups, helping to ensure everyone's well-being.

COMING UP

This July we will begin our new unit of Inquiry, How We Express Ourselves focusing on the idea of Communication and the concept of function, connection and change.

Our central idea: Throughout time storytelling has been used to convey meaning.

- Storytelling in our world
- Meaning and expression conveyed through storytelling
- How we can tell stories to convey meaning

As a support and provocation for our inquiry, may we ask you to bring their favorite books that they can share in our class as we start our unit this July.

REMINDERS

iPads are charged and brought to school.



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OUR LEARNING JOURNEY: K3 SKY CLASS & GRADE 1

