



Panda News

Yuen Anchorsholme Academy

During the initial portion of the summer term at Anchorsholme Academy, a grand celebration took place to honour the achievements of the students in Year 5 and Year 6 who participated in their YCT exam. Their performance in the exams was outstanding, as they succeeded in passing with flying colours. This year, an impressive overall pass rate of 95% was achieved, with a remarkable 100% pass rate among those who took YCT1. We take immense pride in commending all the students for their remarkable accomplishments. Well done!



In addition, we are delighted to introduce our new Mandarin Teacher, Joyce Juan Yun, who has joined us to teach KS2 and facilitate in the Mandarin outreach learning programmes in secondary schools. Joyce brings a great deal of enthusiasm to her role, and we are confident that her deep understanding of China will greatly enhance the children's learning experience. We are excited to have Joyce as part of our team and look forward to the valuable contributions she will make.





During Mandarin lessons, Foundation and Key Stage 1 students have made remarkable progress in learning how to express their family members in Mandarin. Additionally, they have impressed us with their rendition of the popular song 'Head, Shoulders, Knees, and toes' in Mandarin.

Moving onto Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2, these students have dedicated time to revisiting colours and animals in Mandarin. Moreover, they delved into the intriguing world of Traditional Peking Opera and discovered the secret symbolic meaning behind different colours. In Peking Opera, actors, and actresses on stage wear special decorative masks. The colours portrayed on the masks reflects the characters personalities. For instance, red signifies loyalty, black represents honesty, white conveys mistrust, and blue indicates a devious nature.

The students have shown great enthusiasm and curiosity in exploring this cultural aspect of Mandarin learning, broadening their understanding of traditional Chinese arts and symbolism.

Key Stage 2 students also had the opportunity to reinforce their numerical skills while also exploring the concept of days of the week in Mandarin.

One of the engaging activities they enjoyed was creating panda paper clips.





At the Anchorsholme library, the monthly Mandarin sessions, led by our dedicated KS2 Mandarin teachers, offered an exceptional chance for the local community to engage in creative endeavours. Participants had the opportunity to learn how to create one-of-a-kind crafts and gifts, specifically Chinese friendship bracelets, using an array of vibrant coloured threads. These sessions not only allowed individuals to practise their crafting skills but also encouraged them to delve deeper into the symbolic meaning of how colours are used by actors and actresses used for understanding character persona in the Traditional Peking Opera. The community's response to this initiative has been overwhelmingly positive, with great success and enthusiastic participation.

The weekly "Generation Friends" session, held every Wednesday at the library, continues to thrive and achieve remarkable success. In a heart-warming twist and with great excitement, some Year 1 children have been true stars, assisting the KS1 Mandarin teacher in imparting Mandarin lessons to the older generation. This intergenerational learning experience has proven to be invaluable for all participants. During the summer term, the focus was on learning numbers in Mandarin, utilizing captivating activities like songs, magic tricks, and Bingo games. The participants wholeheartedly embraced these interactive learning approaches, displaying immense enthusiasm and actively engaging in the sessions.





Thanks to the outstanding success of the previous YCT exams, there has been a notable surge in children expressing interest in enrolling for the YCT 1 and 2 exams. Some students in Year 6 and 5 have eagerly taken part in the May YCT exams as well as their SATs test. The excitement is palpable as we eagerly await the results of these exams. We extend our heartfelt best wishes to all the students who participated and hope for their well-deserved success in their May YCT exams.



Well Done!

To those children in Year 5 and 6 who have already received their first blue panda badge.



