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International Day

Uniting our Community and Cultures

On Friday, 18th June, Hornbill's field played host to British Forces Brunei's first ever International Day. It was a joyous and fun filled occasion to celebrate all the diverse and unique cultures found within the garrison community. The visitors were welcomed warmly by representatives from Hornbill School dressed in cultural clothes.

Numerous stalls were set up all around the field to represent different countries from all over the world. In each stall, there was a myriad of delectable delicacies to try out and interesting facts to learn about the country.

The event extended with several fantastic performances such as a Taekwando showcase and various cultural dances such

as Kukri dance, Lion dance, Ngajat dance, Fijian Meke dance and Nepali cultural dances.

It was a fantastic event full of food, music, entertainment and friendship that helped strengthen our bond as a close knit community by uniting and sharing all the beautiful and different cultures found within our community.



More photos on the next page.

International Day Additional Pictures



Summer Fete

The entire school was buzzing with excitement on 29th of June. With the hard work and diligence of Hornbill Helping Hands (HHH), Hornbill had its first ever Summer Fete, a whole afternoon of summer fun, shopping and entertainment. The event was open to the whole BFB Community along with teachers, parents and children of Panaga School.

There were numerous stalls set up across the school displaying a variety of booths from Hama Bead crafts to POPPITS to 'Beat the Goalie'. The HHH, staff and children have been busy organising their stalls for this wondrous event. We have lots of amazing arts and crafts stalls from the wider community such as A Touch of Borneo, YKS Paradise Crafts, Needles and Pins, Penan Bags and many more. There was also plenty of food vendors such as Dammy's Jollof Rice, Kneady for Bread, Ash Bakes, Scoopy Doo and even homemade Momos!



There was fabulous entertainment on offer for the whole family to get involved in as well as our first ever 'Cake and Chutney Competition'. The event ended the announcement of the winners from cake competition and raffle where eight lucky winners get to bring some fabulous and attractive hampers home. With the generosity and support of our community, HHH managed to raise an impressive amount **BND\$2800** from the Summer Fete! The money raised will be used to support and enhance the learning and educational experience of the children across Hornbill and Treetops.





EARLY YEARS



We hope you enjoy reading our monthly articles focussing on the Early Years and how to maximise your child's learning time through play and adventure.

Focus on: How to help children learn Taken from the Learning Together Series by Linda Thornton & Pat Brunton

How to help children learn

- Try to see things from their point of view. Understanding how children see the world will help you to help them as they learn.
- Let children be children. A skilled five year old grows from a busy four year old, a curious three year old, a cuddled two year old, an adventurous one year old and a communicative baby.
- Be a playful companion. You can enjoy childhood with the children as well.
- Feelings matter – both the children's emotions and your own are part of any situation with young children. It is very helpful to be aware of your own moods as well as the children's when enjoying yourself with them and during difficult moments.
- Don't expect to be perfect. Everyone does something they don't mean sometimes. Children can be forgiving as long as we are thoughtful most of the time and are ready to say sorry when we should.

Supporting your children as they learn

Some young children are confident as they investigate the world around them. Make time to have conversations with your children while they play. Listen to their ideas and encourage them to talk about what they are doing. Children have their own ideas which may not always be based on scientific reasoning but they are valuable because they make sense to your child at that moment. Encouraging children to talk about their ideas, and listening carefully to what they say, helps them to develop their creative and thinking skills. It also provides an ideal opportunity to increase their vocabulary.



Children aged three to five enjoy working by themselves but still appreciate a little help on occasion. This can be a difficult situation to manage – when do you stand back and watch, and when do you step in? Watching children carefully and listening to their conversations will help you to recognise when they are inviting you to join in and help.

As children become involved in their investigations, they will often concentrate on them for long periods of time. Some of their explorations may continue for days, weeks or even months. At other times, they may wish to come back to an activity again and again, to build on their ideas. Try to prepare for this by keeping anything they have made or collected as part of their investigations, so these can be returned to at a later date. In order to explore confidently, children need to be curious, open-minded, willing to concentrate and to feel that their ideas are worth investigating. While the world is familiar to you, your children are experiencing its wonder for the first time. Your enthusiasm for finding out about the world will be infectious – and will help them want to learn.

Ideas for exploring together indoors and out



Here are lots of ways for children to learn about the science and technology that is all around them in their everyday lives.

In the kitchen

The kitchen is an ideal place to investigate heating and cooling, melting and dissolving, the properties of materials and simple machines. Here, children also begin to appreciate the dangers of fire, gas and electricity.

- Children can investigate mixing, sifting and sorting by using an assortment of dry ingredients such as rice, flour, dried peas and lentils. Provide some small containers and a range of kitchen utensils with which they can investigate the mixture – sieves, strainers, spoons, tongs and chopsticks work well. Encourage them to sort and separate the mixture in different ways.

- Help children to investigate the different reflections made by shiny surfaces in the kitchen – on pans, spoons, mirror tiles and metal containers.
- Look closely at different fruit and vegetables, outside and inside, and talk about what you both see. Cutting fruit and vegetables open reveals the internal structure and invites a conversation about seeds, pips, leaves and roots. With your help, let children cut open a sprout, apple or onion.
- Let your children investigate objects from the kitchen drawer (do not include sharp objects, of course). Talk with them about the different tools, what they are made of, what they are for and how they work.
- Let children investigate hot and cold, melting and freezing by investigating how water is turned into ice in a freezer. Let them try filling unusual shaped containers with water and then freezing them – balloons work well.

In the bathroom

The bathroom provides lots of opportunities for investigating hot and cold, wet and dry, floating and sinking, and moving things using water power.

- Put together a collection of old scent bottles, soaps, scented candles, pot pourri and bath salts. Try putting them in a small basket and then encourage children to investigate the different scents and smells.
- Using bubble mixture, liquid soap or bath bubbles is an experience everyone enjoys, though it can get a little messy so choose a suitable place and time – perhaps when children are actually in the bath.
- Plastic jugs, beakers, funnels and tubing are great fun for investigating water and how it can be moved.
- Encourage children to experiment with a range of different objects (wood, plastic, metal, cork, sponge), to find out which things float and which things sink.

In the garden

All around you is a wealth of natural materials – stones, pebbles, leaves, twigs, flowers and seeds, which are fascinating starting points for investigations and explorations.



- Put a layer of straw, bulb compost, sand, small pebbles or shredded paper in a large flat-bottomed container – a potting tray from the garden centre is ideal. Hide various interesting objects in it: polished stones, coins, shells, plastic models of insects, worms or frogs.
- Go on a treasure hunt together – in your garden, along a tree-lined street, in a local park or at the beach. Collect interesting things you find and then bring them home to look at more closely.
- Find some suitable picture books and talk to children about plants and seeds. Try growing some cress seeds on damp kitchen paper. Encourage children to take responsibility for making sure the seeds are watered. Check the seeds every day to see how long it takes for the cress to grow.

Questions, questions, Asking good questions

Asking a question is an easy way to begin a conversation with young children and to find out what they already know. But it takes a lot of thought and practice to ask a good question. Here are some points to help.

- Give children time to think and to answer. Don't fill silences with your own questions and comments.
- Listen to what a child says before asking the next question.
- Good questions, such as 'What do you think...?', are openended and invite children to express their own thoughts and ideas.
- Good questions also pose problems which invite further investigation. You might ask, for example, 'I wonder what would happen if...?' or 'How could we...?'

Children's questions

It is not only important for you to ask questions, you also need to encourage children to ask their own questions. To do this,

- provide lots of opportunities for children to ask questions
- value their questions
- show them how you ask questions by thinking out loud yourself and saying things like, 'I wonder how I could make a bigger bubble?', 'I wonder what might be inside this box?' or 'What will happen if I use a different coloured piece of plastic to look through?'



Year 6's Feast of Thankfulness

By Learning Leader: Joanna Brown

On Friday 25th June, the children of Year 6 Rhino and Mantis classes, presented to their parents and members of staff their 'Feast of Thankfulness'. At this very special occasion (for which the children dressed so smartly), Year 6 prepared words of thanks to share with their parents in beautifully designed cards. As the children end their primary phase of education, they have a lot to thank their parents for: time, care, support, love and so much more. We also wanted to take time to share our thanks with members of Hornbill School staff who have impacted on this final year of learning especially, in many varied ways.

As the parents and staff arrived in the hall, Year 6 were there ready for them in a big circle which surrounded the chairs for the guests. The 'Feast of Thankfulness' began with a thank you song that Year 6 had learned and which thanked the guests for: their support, helping us learn, their care, their love and for being here from all of Year 6. After this energetic song, the children took turns to share their carefully prepared words of thanks with staff members. Each child spoke boldly and confidently into the microphone before the circle of children moved for the next child to come to the microphone. What wonderful words of gratitude they shared!





After the words of thanks were shared, parents and children enjoyed time together sharing their cards and taking photographs. Year 6 had also prepared some delicious baked treats to share with their guests: chocolate muffins, lemon muffins, rock cakes and jam tarts. After saying goodbye to the parents, Year 6 continued to feast as they travelled to the Officers' Mess to enjoy a formal lunch. With just 10 days left of their time at primary school, there was much to celebrate!



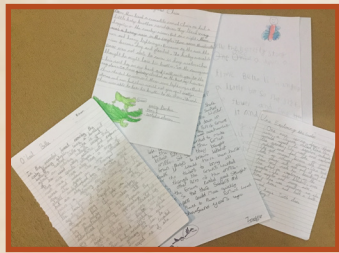


Learning to Learn Building Learning Powers

Learning to Learn

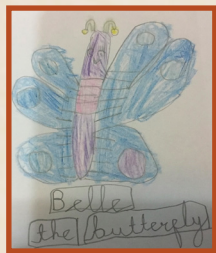
By Learning Leader: Joanna Brown

During May and June, a 'Reasons to Write' challenge was set to all learners across our school from those just starting out on their writing journey to those who are developing writing mastery skills. The challenge was to write a story involving one or more of our learning power animals. It was a joy to receive 36 stories written by children from Years 1 to 6.



Please enjoy some sentence extracts from these wonderfully written stories:

"Belle the creative butterfly was exploring the garden with her paint and saw an ant stuck in the mud."



"It was very interesting seeing the gecko trying to reach the top of the pole as there were so many insects and flies around the light."

"One fine summer's day, Hope was soaring over the glorious, luxurious canopy, her dazzling wings thrown into definition by the fiery sun, her feathers positively glowing."

"At first, Hector was overwhelmed by his new surroundings but, after a few months, he got used to it. He saw a tiger hunting a baby deer and was curious to see how cruel it was."

"Once upon a time there was a very shy unicorn called Una. She was always too shy to speak in class and always sat behind her friends."

"My name is Max the chatty monkey, or

max for short," he replied. "Oh, by the way, what's your name?"



"Once upon a time Belle was a little bit hungry so she flew to a flower and she licked it and said it was yummy!"

"Una took one flower out and put it on her hair and it made her beautiful. So, she kept on exploring the garden and saw bluebells, roses, sunflowers and many more."

"Max was an extremely loud person and enjoyed communicating with others but he was also normally the person that got into mischief."

"Since then, the lion treated Belle with great respect, as if she was a queen."

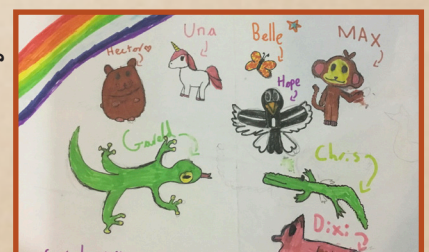
"The baby crocodile, Dave, was not able to swim in deep water. Chris thought he might lose his brother. So, the courageous Chris said, 'Hop on my back and I will swim you to a safe place.'"

"When they got home, Hector began asking endless questions. His owner realised he had the most curious hamster in the world."



"Dixie knew that she hadn't failed because the only way of failing is giving up."

What an awesome community of writers we have at Hornbill School! Well done to everyone who got involved in this writing opportunity. Watch out for the Hornbill School Learning Power Animal Storybook next year as well as plenty more 'Reasons to Write' challenges.



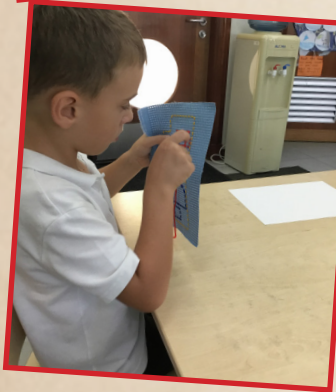
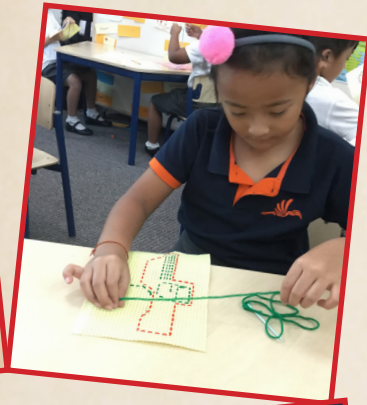
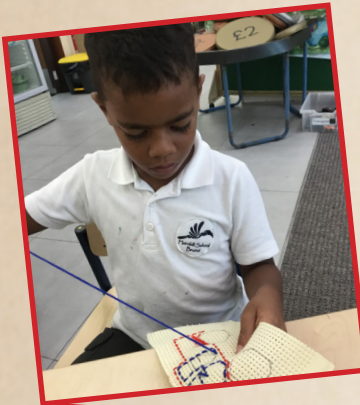
Our Creative Community Art Update

By Arts Leader: Simon Brown

It's a creative end to the year!

What a super term of exploring, creating and developing artwork. All Hornbillers have been positively engaged as they have worked on their art learning throughout the term.

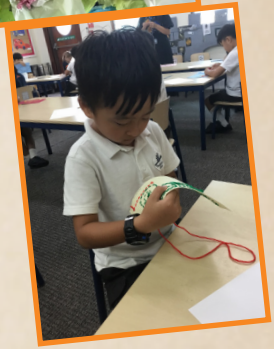
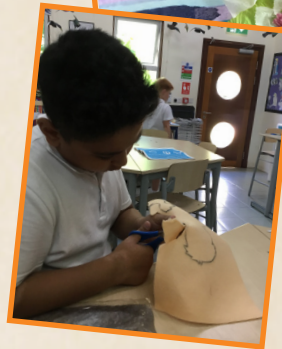
Art ELO's have also been fun! One group has created the artwork for a new banner in the hall which will be hung next to the other two current banners. The artists have created the art work using felt. In the new academic year, the banner will be unveiled so watch this space!



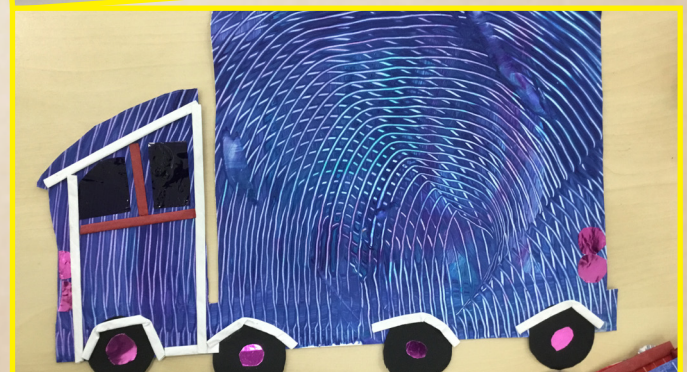
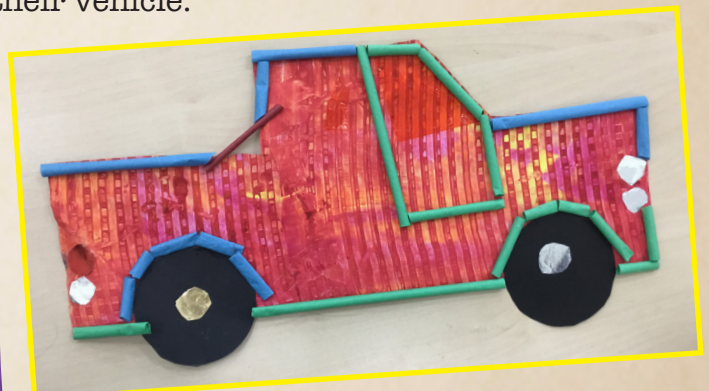
The **Year 2** and **Year 3** art club has used the work of the impressionist artist Monet as their inspiration for creating various pieces of artwork from different mediums.

The Art Detectives ELO has had a wonderfully communicative time as we have used art as a medium to develop our communication skills. During some sessions, the children have been on a journey of curiosity and exploration as various pieces

of a painting have been revealed until the final painting is unveiled in its entirety. Also questions such as, "Is this art?" "Why is art so expensive?" "Do you like it or dislike it?" have been discussed.



The **Year 1** artists have exploring the theme of 'vehicles'. They used a variety of mediums to create their own colourful vehicle. Following on from this, they embarked upon a sewing journey as they learnt how to stitch. Each Year 1 child designed their own vehicle which they then stitched to create their vehicle.



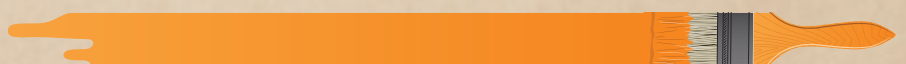
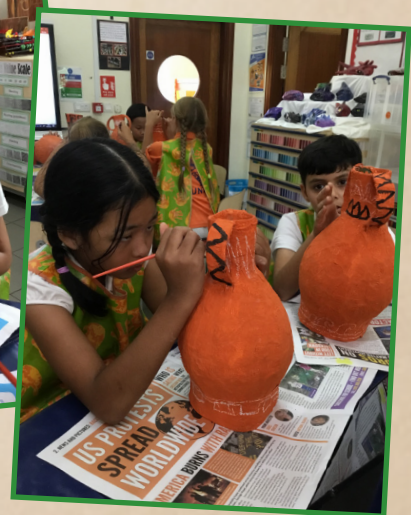
Year 2 have explored the theme of inspiration. Each child thought about what was inspiring to them in their lives: football, dance, nature and so on. They created a print of their chosen inspiration image. We then explored the paper collages created by Picasso and used this as inspiration for creating backgrounds upon which to mount their print.



The **Year 3** artists have explored Roman mosaics. They used curiosity to explore examples of Roman mosaics and then created their own ones. The children used varied mediums to create a mix of different mosaics. The Year 3 children also explored Roman architecture and, having created some drawings, they used Styrofoam to create a printing block from which they produced prints.



Year 4 have been on a journey of Greek discovery as they have explored Greek vases. The children developed their sculpting skills using papier mâché and Mod Roc to sculpt a Greek vase. To add detail, the children painted on Greek patterns. The children explored Greek mythical creatures which they used as a stimulus to draw their own mythical creatures. They recreated their pencil drawing using an art technique called sgraffito. Their sgraffito mythical creature was cut out and stuck onto their vase to complete it.





Year 6 have been thinking about moving on in their 'Onwards and upwards' learning pathway. As artists, they have developed their sculpting skills as they have crafted their own hornbill bird. They have each created a piece of artwork which can remind them of their time at Hornbill School and in Brunei



Year 5 have shown curiosity through the exploration of the words 'war' and 'peace' and how they can be represented within artwork. Having communicated and explored the words and artwork, the children created their own artwork representing these two words.



BJSL ATHLETICS

On 10th June, Hornbill School took 54 children from Years 4, 5 and 6 to compete in a Brunei Junior Sports Athletics held in the 'Padang dan Belapan' field.

Our athletes earned 71 individual podium finishes (comprising of 18 1st places, 29 2nd places and 24 3rd places).

Overall, Hornbill came 3rd in the team event which was great considering the incredibly good standard of athletics on show.





Year 4 Swimming Gala

A huge well done to all of our fabulous swimmers in Year 4 who competed in an end of term competitive school swimming gala yesterday morning. All children took part in a variety of races from traditional stroke races, to individual medley, through to paired noodle and relay races. This was a great celebration of the swimming that has taken place in PE lessons and in front of an enthusiastic crowd of parents, the children demonstrated their range of skills and sportsmanship. At the end of a wonderfully competitive competition the red team, captained by Prakrit lifted the silverware!



Year 5 Swimming Gala

Our amazing swimmers in Year 5 did a wonderful job in competing in the end of term competitive school swimming gala this morning.

All children took part in numerous races from a variety of stroke races, to individual medley, through to paired noodle and exciting relay races. It was an excellent celebration of the swimming lessons that has taken place and in front of an enthusiastic crowd of parents, the children demonstrated their range of skills and sportsmanship. The blue team came first at the end of this marvellously competitive competition!



Year 6 Swimming Gala

As our amazing Year 6 children get ever closer to ending their time with us, we took the opportunity to celebrate their swimming skills that they have acquired in their Primary School journey. Demonstrating a skill-set that far surpasses the expectations of a normal Year 6 pupil, our team swam a range of competitive strokes, relay races and some fun float and noodle challenges.

We were incredibly proud to watch a fantastically close competitive gala play out and heading into our final relay race, the scores were tied between the red and the green teams. The green team were victorious in the final race and a true hero of Year 6, Namnubung, lifted the trophy on behalf of his team. Well done to all of our swimmers!



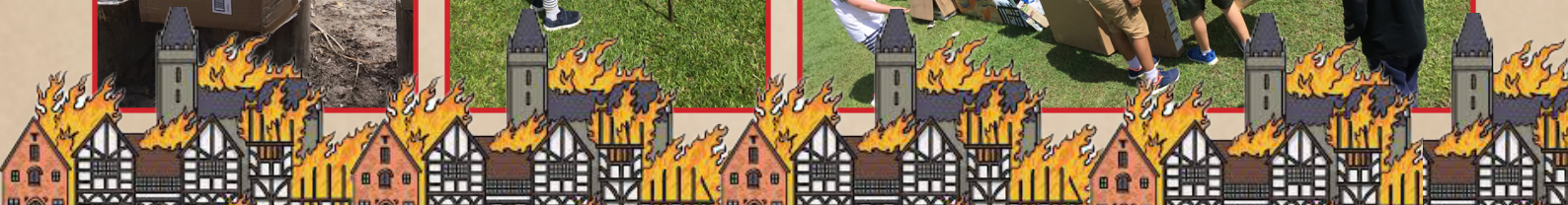
The Great Fire of London

Year 1's Reenactment in Jungle School

On a cold, windy night in 1666 a bakery in Pudding Lane, London suddenly caught fire. The fire quickly spread to the other wooden houses and it wasn't long before all of London was burning. The fire lasted for 4 days and nights and rain eventually put it out.

The Year 1 pupils re-enacted this historic event during a Jungle School session. After weeks of collecting cardboard boxes, they used charcoal and mud to add details to their 'houses'.

The city was cordoned off with tape for safety and buckets of water set up just in case they needed them.



Our Residential Experience in Temburong

Written by Ashlesha Rai, Fiona Rai, Sara Thapa and Zephora Lama

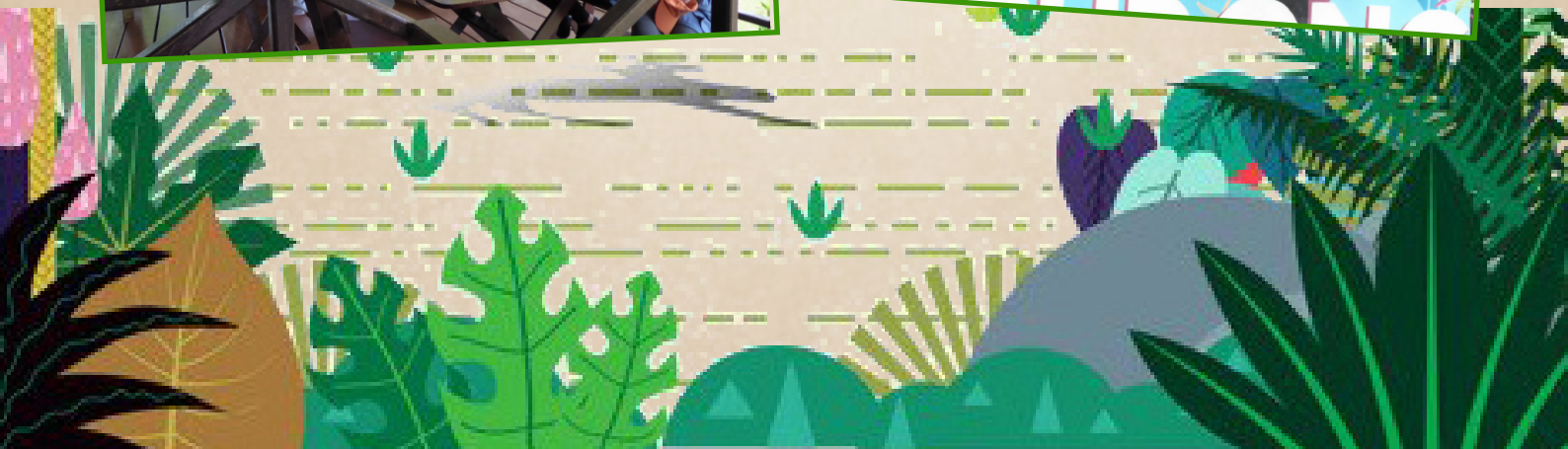
The bridge to Temburong was quite long. It felt never-ending (have I mentioned how long it was? 30km in total!). The view from the bridge was a beautiful glistening blue sea. I also saw some smaller green-filled islands on the way. It took us a while to get there, I'm sure but sleeping really did help to pass the time (really).

The Freme Lodge is a very welcoming place to be in. The building is bright and colourful with lots of animal pictures including various hornbills, proboscis monkeys, slow loris, grey-headed fishing eagle and more Borneo animals. Next to the building there is a large decking with tables and long chairs. At the back is a small field with the climbing wall and the Jacob's ladder attached together and the end of the zipline.

The view was extraordinary on the bridge. The water flowed under the bridge calmly but with a strong current – leaves floating tranquilly on the water's surface. In the distance I could see villages around and very high bushy trees above the canopy.

The food at the lodge was delicious and appetising. There were all sorts of different types of food including Indian and seafood.

The Night Walk was through a dark jungle. We saw trees, insects and nature. There were animal noises, talking, silence and also footsteps. When we stopped, we experienced total darkness and then after a while light came back to our world. Some of us were scared and found it was not comfortable when the flashlights were off.



In the morning, at 5am, we went on the Sunrise Walk. The jungle was still dark and we were all tired but calmly walked. After reaching our destination, we sat on a bench. After waiting a long time, it began to get foggier for Year 6 Mantis and we were all disappointed when we didn't see the sunrise. The Rhinos, however, saw a spectacular sunrise.

The first adventurous activity I did was the zip wire because I'd never tried it before. I'm quite happy that I did it first or I would have been worried the whole way through, which was exactly the reason they put us first. My group consisted of Namnu, Zephora, Sara, Arica, Shobhan and (of course) myself. Unsurprisingly, we had to wear equipment to be secure. We all wore the necessary and usual: helmets, harnesses, lanyards, carabiners, pulleys and trolleys. Before we arrived at the zip-lining area, we had to cross bridge and climb up wooden stairs that were built into the earth. The scariest part was getting strapped in; everyone was nice though. Going down the zip-line was exhilarating; the first time I went down, I laughed the whole time: it was such a surreal feeling.

The second activity was Jacob's Ladder - we all had a rightful laugh and Jacob, himself, made jokes about it. I can't remember how tall Jacob's Ladder was but, when I was up there, I felt like I was a giant. Jacob's Ladder was an obstacle course going up, except that if it was flat on the ground, it wouldn't have been very difficult. I felt like I was on the verge of falling off multiple times.

Designing the t-shirts was very fun but took time. It was worth it at the end though. Everyone had their own different designs. The process of printing the designs on the t-shirt was scary because there was no going back with fabric markers. Once I made a start, the tensions soon dissolved into happiness that I had got something onto the t-shirt. This was definitely one of my favourite activities. I was very proud of my finished product.

Campfire Night was the best night out of all the nights in Temurong. We all gathered

around the fire and it was very warm. We enjoyed an evening of singing and eating marshmallows before watching a movie on the decking, in the open air, in a jungle!





