

# THE KINDER NEWS

ALL ABOUT PRESCHOOL AT PAIN D'ÉPICE SCHOOL

JANUARY-FEBRUARY ISSUE 2026

## Galettes and projects

Dear Readers,

Welcome to the **third edition of this year's Preschool Journal!**

This issue captures the vibrant life of our school during the **last two months**, a time filled with discovery, creativity, and meaningful shared moments.

In these pages, you will find highlights of our **classroom projects, special celebrations, and hands-on learning experiences** that have brought our children's curiosity and enthusiasm to life. From joyful performances and collaborative activities to themed learning weeks and everyday classroom moments, this edition reflects the richness of our preschool journey and the incredible engagement of our young learners.

This journal is also an opportunity to showcase the dedication of our teaching team, to our **Eco-School project**, where our youngest learners have been gently introduced to values of **respect, responsibility, and solidarity**. This publication shows how our teachers work tirelessly to create a nurturing, stimulating, and joyful environment where every child can grow with confidence.

Each article tells a small part of a bigger story: one rooted in **kindness, collaboration, and global awareness**, while remaining deeply connected to the children's everyday experiences.

We hope you enjoy reading this journal as much as we enjoyed compiling it, and that it offers you a warm window into the daily life, achievements, and smiles that fill our school.

Happy reading!

**Editor,**  
Claire LEWIS DUPORT



**The Chicks/Rabbits**



## Sharing the Galette des Rois: A celebration of solidarity

This January, our youngest students came together to celebrate the **Galette des Rois**, turning this traditional moment into a beautiful illustration of our **Eco-School theme of Solidarity**.

In **Maîtresse Joëlle's Chicks and Rabbits classes**, the children enthusiastically created their **own paper galettes**. Through cutting, gluing, and decorating, they explored the tradition in a creative and age-appropriate way, while enjoying the pleasure of making something together and sharing a joyful moment as a group.

At the same time, **Maîtresse Marie and her Squirrels classes** took the experience a step further by **making and baking a real Galette des Rois**, complete with a delicious almond filling. The children participated in each stage of the process, discovering ingredients, following steps together, and learning the importance of cooperation and patience.

Although the activities were different, they were deeply connected by the same values. From the youngest to the slightly older students, everyone took part in a shared celebration that emphasized **togetherness, mutual respect, and the joy of giving and sharing**.

**This Galette des Rois celebration perfectly reflected our Solidarity theme**—showing that no matter our age, we can all take part, contribute in our own way, and celebrate traditions together as one school community.



## A joyful Science STEAM adventure for our young learners

As part of **Science Week**, our **PK1 and PK5 students** enjoyed a truly engaging and hands-on **science workshop** during their English class. This special moment of discovery was made possible thanks to a wonderful collaboration between **Miss Claire**, PK1–PK2 and **Miss Robbie**, PK5 teachers, who helped design and lead activities perfectly adapted to our youngest learners.

Throughout the session, students from both classes **rotated through different workshops**, giving everyone the opportunity to explore, experiment, and learn through play in a dynamic and inclusive setting.



# A joyful Science STEAM adventure for our young learners (continued)

## Exploring the World Through the Senses

Children were invited to awaken their senses through a series of fun and stimulating activities:

- **Sight:** illusion and observation games to challenge their eyes
- **Smell:** a playful “*Guess the scent*” activity
- **Touch:** mystery boxes to explore textures and objects
- **Weather:** visual and sensory water bottles representing snow, sun, rain, and more.



## Discovering the Human Body

Young scientists also delved into anatomy with great enthusiasm:

- **Building a skeleton** to understand how our bodies are structured
- **Creating an X-ray craft**
- **Experimenting with a “bending bone” activity**, sparking curiosity and questions

The workshop was carefully designed to be **interactive, age-appropriate, and engaging**, encouraging curiosity, language development, and scientific thinking in a playful way.

**It was a wonderful learning experience**, filled with excitement, discovery, and shared joy—an inspiring example of how science can come alive for even our youngest students!



## Science Day at the Forum Jorge: Learning Through the Five Senses

On **19th January**, our school celebrated **Science Day** at the **Forum Jorge**, which was transformed for the occasion into a vibrant space of discovery and experimentation.

This special day was animated by enthusiastic students from the **Collège Lafayette**, the next step in schooling for our pupils after completing **CM2 at Pain d'Épice**. Their involvement created a meaningful bridge between primary and secondary education, inspiring our younger learners through peer-led activities.

The workshops were **specifically designed for our Pandas and Koalas classes**, with activities carefully adapted to their age and developmental stage. Throughout the day, students rotated through **interactive workshops focused on the five senses**, exploring **sight, hearing, touch, smell, and taste** through hands-on, playful experiments.

The collège students led each workshop with great care, patience, and enthusiasm, helping our Pandas and Koalas observe, experiment, ask questions, and discover science in a concrete and engaging way.



## Little Hands, Big Hearts : Koalas Serving with Solidarity

As part of our **Eco-School project**, centered this year on the value of **solidarity**, our **young Koalas** took on a very special role—**canteen service** for their fellow students, the **Pandas**.

With great seriousness and pride, the Koalas helped **serve lunch**, carefully carrying dishes, offering plates, and making sure everyone was looked after. This meaningful initiative allowed them to experience what it means to **help others**, take responsibility, and contribute positively to the life of the school.

Beyond the practical skills involved, this activity was a powerful learning moment. The children demonstrated **empathy, cooperation, and respect**, understanding that solidarity is not just a word, but something we live every day through small, thoughtful actions.

The Pandas were delighted to be served by their friends, and the atmosphere in the canteen was filled with smiles, encouragement, and a strong sense of community.

**A beautiful example of our Eco-School values in action**, showing that even our youngest students can make a difference—by caring for others and learning to grow together.



## Little Hands at Work: A Creative Sewing Workshop in PK5

The **PK5 classes** recently took part in a delightful **sewing workshop**, with their teacher Robbie and their helper Jennifer offering students the opportunity to explore a variety of **textures and materials** while developing their fine motor skills, creativity, and awareness of how we use our hands with care and precision.

On **Thursday**, the class was excited to welcome a **special guest: Jennifer's mom**, who kindly introduced the children to the world of sewing. With patience and enthusiasm, she guided the students through hands-on activities adapted to their age and abilities, making the experience both accessible and rewarding.

The workshop was thoughtfully differentiated:

- The **Pandas group** completed sewing activities at **different levels**, allowing each child to progress at their own pace while building confidence and dexterity.
- The **Koalas group** took on a more advanced challenge, creating their very own **stuffed toy**—a project they completed with great pride and joy before bringing it home.

Throughout the session, students showed impressive concentration, perseverance, and excitement. This tactile and creative experience not only strengthened their fine motor skills but also encouraged independence, problem-solving, and a real sense of accomplishment.

**A wonderful hands-on learning moment**, blending creativity, skill-building, and community involvement—one stitch at a time!



## Expressing Ourselves Through Music

### “How We Express Ourselves” in PK1, PK2 and Squirrels Classes



*The Carnival of the Animals with the PK1&2*



*Peter and the Wolf with the Squirrels 1 & 2*



As part of our current **period theme**, “**How We Express Ourselves**,” our youngest learners have been discovering how **music can tell stories, express emotions, and bring characters to life**.

In the **PK1 & PK2 classes** of **Maîtresse Ghislaine**, students have been introduced to the famous musical work *The Carnival of the Animals* by *Camille Saint Saëns*. Through attentive listening and guided discussions, the children explored how different pieces of music can represent animals, movements, and moods. They learned to recognise changes in tempo, rhythm, and melody, gradually understanding how music can paint vivid pictures without using words.

At the same time, the **Squirrels 1 & 2 classes**, guided by **Miss Claire and Miss Deanna**, have been immersing themselves in the beautiful musical tale *Peter and the Wolf* by *Sergei Prokofiev*. The children discovered how **each character is represented by a specific instrument**, learning that sounds can express personality traits, emotions, and intentions. Listening closely, they began to associate instruments with feelings such as courage, fear, gentleness, or excitement.

Across all classes, these musical explorations have encouraged **active listening, imagination, and emotional awareness**. The children were invited to react, move, comment, and express what they felt while listening—showing that music is a powerful language in itself.

**Through these shared musical experiences, our students are learning that expression takes many forms**—and that music is a wonderful way to communicate ideas, emotions, and stories, perfectly aligned with our learning journey around *How We Express Ourselves*.

## Wednesdays at School: Learning, Creating, and Having Fun Together



Every Wednesday our school is a little different with the Baby-Club and Mini-Club—and always full of life! These special days are dedicated to giving our students the opportunity to **explore, create, and move together** through a variety of enriching activities that complement their learning during the rest of the week.

These days offer our students the opportunity to learn differently—through hands-on experiences that also reflect our **Eco-School value of solidarity**.

In the classrooms and shared spaces, children express their creativity through **art projects**, sharing materials, exchanging ideas, and helping one another bring their creations to life. These moments encourage cooperation, patience, and respect for each other's work.

In the kitchen, the delicious smell of **freshly baked cookies** fills the air as students take part in cooking workshops, learning to follow instructions, work as a team, and enjoy the pleasure of making something together.

Wednesdays also place an important focus on **sports and physical activities**, where children learn to support one another, encourage their peers, and celebrate collective effort rather than individual performance. Team spirit, mutual help, and fair play are at the heart of every activity.

These moments are much more than just activities—they are opportunities for children to **grow, share, and discover new passions** in a joyful and relaxed atmosphere. The smiles, concentration, and enthusiasm captured in these photos perfectly reflect the spirit of our Wednesdays at school.

**A beautiful blend of creativity, autonomy, and well-being**, making Wednesdays a highlight of the week for our students.

Through art, cooking, and sport, our students experience solidarity in a very concrete way—by **doing things together, helping one another, and growing as a community**.

**These Wednesdays perfectly reflect our school values**, nurturing creativity, well-being, and above all, the joy of learning and sharing together.

## «Music Together » Workshop: Listening, Moving, and Making Music

The **PK5 students** took part in a delightful and enriching « **Music Together** » workshop led by **Ophélie** from **Éveil Musical Nice**. ([www.eveilmusical-nice.com](http://www.eveilmusical-nice.com)).

This joyful and highly interactive session invited children to **explore sounds, rhythms, and listening skills** through music and movement. From the very beginning, the students were fully engaged—singing together, dancing freely, and responding carefully to musical instructions with enthusiasm and confidence.

Using **colorful scarves**, the children expressed themselves through movement, learning to adapt their gestures to the tempo and mood of the music. With **claves and egg shakers**, they practiced following rhythms and rhymes, demonstrating impressive focus, coordination, and a growing sense of musical timing.

Throughout the workshop, the students were **attentive, curious, and full of excitement**. Their listening skills, positive energy, and willingness to participate made the session both lively and meaningful. It was a pleasure to see how naturally they connected with music, supporting both their sensory development and their joy of learning.

**This beautiful musical experience** was a perfect way to explore the **sense of hearing through play and creativity**, leaving lasting smiles—and wonderful memories—for our young learners.

