

F E B R U A R Y 2 0 1 4

GREEN GROUP

By Ms. Milette, Ms. Hien, Ms. Tifa, Ms. Shendie

Our busy classroom continues...



The children take turns to perform the dragon dance

What are **Obstacle Courses** for children's learning? - IT IS MORE THAN JUST PLAY!

Obstacle courses can provide great opportunities for children to gain multiple skills like:

- * Gross motor skills: as children practice climbing, jumping/hopping, catching and kicking objects
- * Balance and Coordination
- * Spatial orientation (the child is aware of the position of his or her body in space as well as in relation to other people and objects)
- * Communication and language: it increases children's vocabulary by using verbal cues and it teaches the children to follow simple directions
- * Cognitive skills: sequencing and memory and problem solving

In November, we talked about "My Family". We made cardboard puppets for each family member and we counted how many members we have in the family. Some children showed their family photos to the group during our "show and tell" and they were proud to name each member. We also looked at the world map to see where we are from.

In December we were busy decorating the class to prepare for Christmas! We enjoyed putting up our Christmas tree and hanging different ornaments on it which we made ourselves! Santa Claus visited Smartkids and gave presents to the children. We also surprised Santa with the Thank You card we made just for him.

In January, we prepared for another event, the Lunar New Year (Tet). We decorated our classroom with special Tet flowers and made our own Tet

tree. As part of the New Year theme, we also talked about the Year of the Horse. We constructed horses using toilet-paper rolls and straws. The children enjoyed "taking care" of the horses; feeding and grooming them. We had 2 field trips this term which were both successful. We went to Smartkids Street 10 to see real ponies. The children took turns grooming and

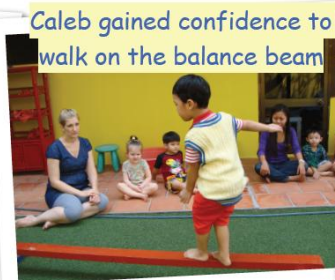
feeding the pony. They also had the opportunity to have a pony ride which they all loved! A week after, we went to Smartkids Tran Ngoc Dien

to see the dragon and lion dance performance in celebration of the Lunar New Year. The children were all amazed how big the dragon and lion are.

We are currently talking about the theme, On the Farm. We are going to set up a farm in the class and you are all welcome to see it soon!



Vienna was surprised that she was able to swing on the bar!



Caleb gained confidence to walk on the balance beam



Tiberius crawled forward though the tube



Julia practiced hand-eye coordination as she put straw in the bottles



Sticky Christmas Tree
Sticking different textures
on the contact paper



**Painting 'snowflakes' on
the christmas card for
mommy and daddy**



**Making Christmas wreaths
with our handprints and
some gold glitters**



**The group gave Santa a Thank
You card and to wish him a
Merry Christmas!**

NEWS AND EVENTS

We have said goodbye to our friends,
Julius, Raphael, Filip, Sarah and Lara
who moved up to the Blue Group.



**The Green Group has now 10
children: Lan, Caleb, Vienna, Han,
Nathan, Hana, Tiberius, Samuel,
Julia and Lila.**



Parent Teacher meetings will be on
March 10-14, 2014. Schedules will be
posted soon on the notice board.

Easter Break : March 31- April 5

Kiddies groups in all Smartkids locations
joined together to watch the Lion and Dragon
Dance. We all enjoyed the performance and it
was also nice to see all the children from each
locations. After watching, we explored the
outdoor area of Smartkids Tran Ngoc Dien.



**Finger Painting a
Lunar Tet Tree**



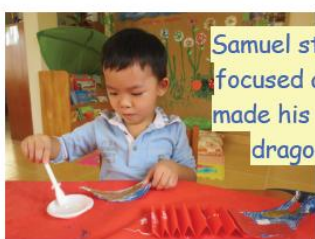
**Nathan was so excited
to groom the horse!**



**Vienna glued on tongue
depressors to finish her barn**



**A very brave Lila on
her pony ride!**



**Samuel stayed
focused as he
made his stick
dragon.**



Dragon Dance Handprint Art
Lan paints her hand to make
handprints for the dragon

