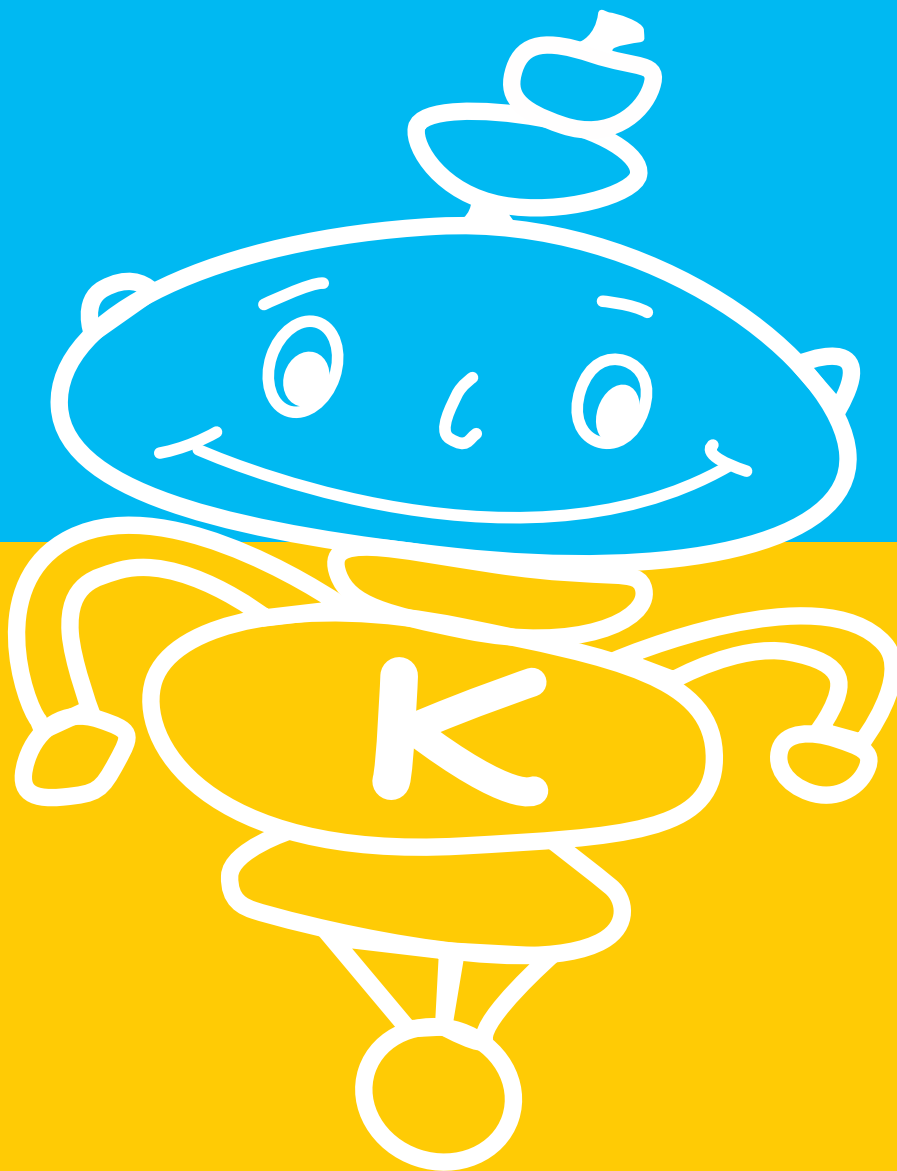


preschool kindergarten
Tspace

Preschool and Kindergarten

The Butterfly Book



Butterfly Book

Welcome! In this folder you will find information about our Butterfly group, which is designed for children from three to four years old. Butterfly is the first stage of our Upper School programme. This is an exciting stage for parents and child, as the children grow more capable and curious. Each little learner deserves every chance of success as they move on in their school life, and hundreds of children have passed through our Upper School with flying colours. The Butterfly curriculum is a treasure trove of fun, discovery, adventure and an excellent academic grounding – providing children with way more than simply a balanced education. Years of experience and commitment to excellent preschool care make the Butterfly programme at Kspace simply the best!



The Butterflies are divided by age and ability into two groups- Pink Butterflies and Red Butterflies. There are three possible attendance choices that allow for two, three or five days of attendance;

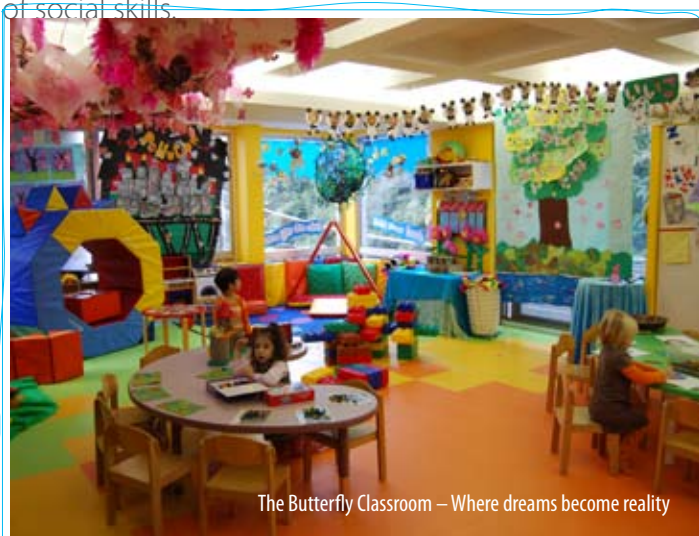
- * 5 days (Monday-Friday) full programme
- * 3 days (Monday/Wednesday/Friday)
- * 2 days (Tuesday/Thursday)

We are very proud of the research and attention to detail that has gone into

creating our 'Butterfly' programme. We have seen evidence that our special blend of personal attention, focused study and exciting themes keep the children stimulated and eager for more. Our Butterflies love coming to school and are guided every step of the way. They develop into enthusiastic kindy and elementary school kiddies, with a wealth of knowledge and an excellent grasp of social skills.

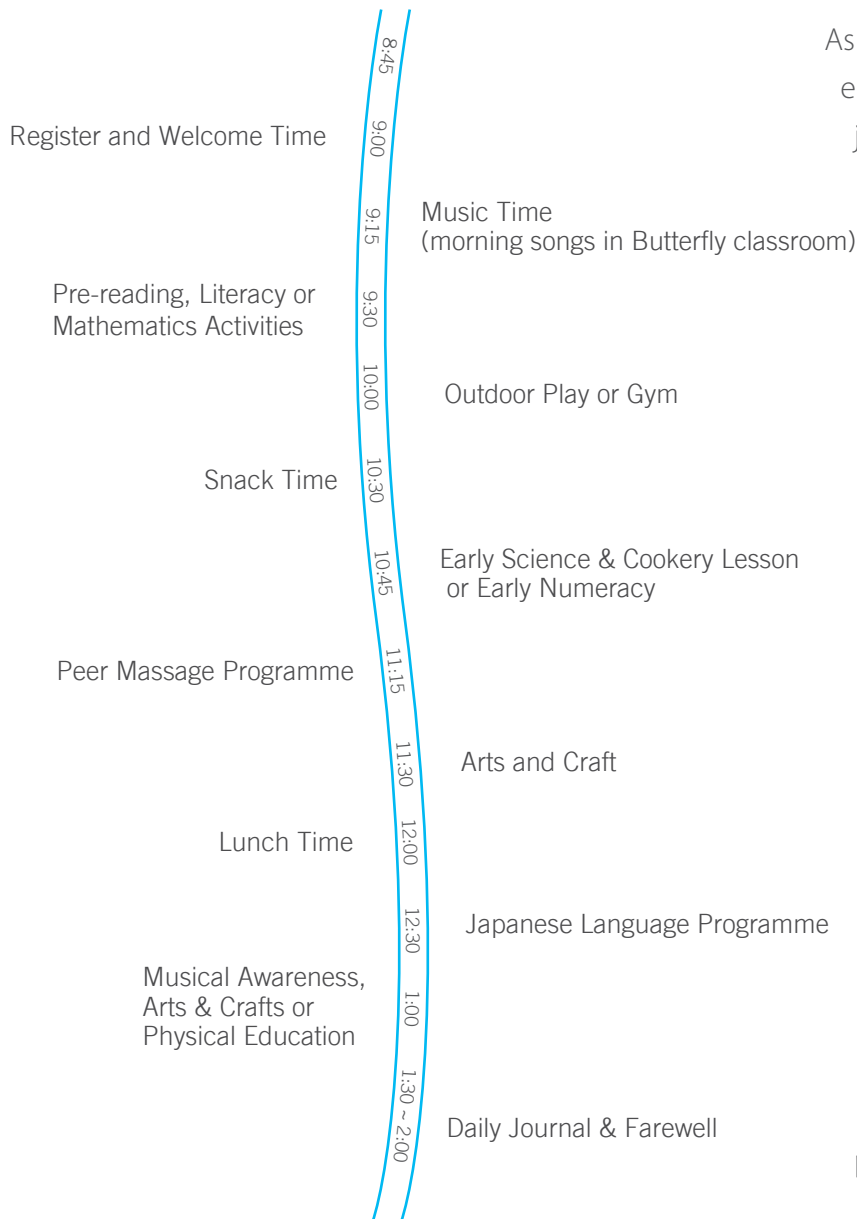
Included in this pack you will find:

- A DVD highlighting some of our Butterflies' fun activities (a montage of Butterfly "Circle Times" and lessons)
- Information about our consultants and teachers
- A day in the life of Butterflies
- An outline of the Butterfly curriculum
- Butterfly themes
- A sample of the current Butterfly calendar
- Butterfly highlights



If you wish to learn more about the course, we also have a list of FAQs, or our Butterfly teachers are always available if you would like to arrange time to chat one-to-one. We highly recommend that you come along to observe a lesson, and a school tour can be arranged in advance. Please speak to one of our staff at any time, or jot down your requirements on one of our feedback forms.

A Day in the Life of a Butterfly



As we all know, Butterfly aged children have an enormous amount of energy! At Kspace we know just how to harness all that power and channel it beautifully. The secret of our success is a wonderfully balanced daily plan that allows for the peaks and troughs in the children's concentration. We provide entertainment, creative projects for busy little hands, gym time for flexible little bodies and ongoing studies for active minds.

The Butterfly Curriculum

Through a fabulous range of monthly themes, Butterflies study early literacy/numeracy, Japanese language/culture, creative and performance arts and physical development. Although many school syllabi appear the same, we can assure you that at Kspace we have many magical ingredients! We use the very best teaching tools and materials, and each element of the curriculum is special in its own way. We also have our very own unique additions, such as peer massage, drama and music appreciation.

Children can join us from as early as 8.00am for Breakfast Club. Our after-school classes are extremely popular and we offer a wide range of options at Butterfly age. Please enquire for more details.



The Butterfly Curriculum

Each morning children hang their coats up, greet their classmates and are welcomed by their teachers. We emphasize personal hygiene and social skills, and encourage good manners, cooperation, sharing and respect. As the children build confidence they become more independent and can take on little jobs that give them a sense of responsibility and pride.

Circle Time

The Butterfly circle time is a pivotal point in the day. Children and teachers join together to enjoy an exciting, informative, and inspirational welcome full of music, laughter and fun. Our music curriculum is delivered by professional musicians/entertainers, and includes a blend of traditional, folk, modern/popular, world and classical genres, as well as special Kspace music/songs written by our team. Children are taught an enormous range of percussion instruments, and Kspace kiddies often go on to study music seriously following so much exposure to the talents of their teachers. We present stories, songs and curious facts using live music, puppet shows, characters and specially created displays. Circle time is also a place to focus on social skills and positive interaction.

NOTE: In the DVD that accompanies this pack you can see how much the children enjoy this special time, and how positively they join in and interact with their classmates and teachers. We produce a wide range of music CDs that accompany the Butterfly programme and can support learning at home – and in the car!



Early Academic Studies

There is no need to worry about your child's ability to read or write – with us, your child's development is in safe and capable hands. We understand the need for correct pace and patience, and at this stage we inspire the children and fire their enthusiasm to enjoy their studies. All Butterfly work is fun and interactive!

Butterflies are taken through the alphabet, pre-reading skills and effective vocalisation. We study phonics and the whole-word method, and use a teaching programme (synthetic phonics/Jolly Phonics) that is one of the most respected in the world, and which we consider to be 'best practice'. Our programme and method of delivery has been designed specifically for Tspace by leading educational psychologists and assessors.

We begin with the very basics, and parents are often amazed at how eager their child becomes to move on to the next stage! Challenges increase so naturally that the children are unaware that they are 'studying'. All our work provides a good foundation when the time comes for your child to write.

Here is a sample of our phonic knowledge curriculum:

- Sounds, names, initial sounds, final sounds using lower case letters
- Sounds, names using upper case letters
- Individual letters, lower case
- Individual letters, upper case
- Two and three letter words, e.g. at, on, hat, leg
- Final constant blends, e.g. nest, task, link, hand, lamp, mint
- Initial consonant blends, e.g. spin, plan, grip, prop, frog
- Vowel digraphs, e.g. rain, load, feet, moon, soil, out, coat



Numeracy: Young children learn almost everything by concrete exploration – this is why maths at Kspace is a fun, hands-on exploration of time, space, shape, colour, size, movement and symbols. We ensure that children start to enjoy maths now! Through sorting games, classifying activities, patterning and exploring shape and space, children are given a vocabulary to help them develop skills in problem solving and understanding basic phenomenon. We teach as many maths concepts as we can by actual participation and feel; for example numbering hopscotch squares, and getting a child to count as they hop or jump onto each one. Weighing and measuring during science and cookery classes engages the children's interest.

Counting: We teach children to understand what the numbers mean. They understand that the numeral 6 stands for '6 of something', and we teach them to appreciate that numbers are based on real things.

Concepts: We carry out fun activities that demonstrate

- * More or less
- * Heavier and lighter
- * Longer and shorter
- * Sorting
- * Classifying
- * Time
- * Quantity



Writing numerals: As soon as a child can count effectively we begin activities that encourage them to hold a pen or pencil with confidence, so they can start writing numbers.

Japanese Classes: We provide a taste of culture as well as language. Classes take place daily, for half an hour, and are taught by our Head of Japanese Studies. The tutor provides children with amazing activities, crazy games and inventive ways to unravel the intricacies of hiragana and common phrases.

NOTE: If you are interested in your child becoming involved in a bilingual course please ask us about our Japanese Language Immersion Programme.

The JLIP is a year of study that balances a full curriculum taught in English, and an enhanced language and culture studies course taught in Japanese. The JLIP programme includes special events throughout the calendar, and is unique to Kspace!



Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Our little ambassadors are encouraged to think deeply about their ability to affect all around them; about friendship, team building, individual work and student-teacher bonds. Children of this age face many challenges and mood swings, and we are well qualified when it comes to settling children and showing them just how special they are. Sometimes they enjoy being surrounded by their buddies, and occasionally they like to sit alone and enjoy activities. All children find their niche with us and are given time

ballet classes.

Kspace Special Curriculum

This includes simply amazing art, craft and design projects. Creative dance and drama is taught in a perfect setting, with a dance mirror, and we provide soft and safe flooring, props, a stage and professional performance teachers.

PeerMessage: This is a ground-breaking method of communication that improves understanding, problem solving and bonding within the group.

Media Workshops: Our multi-talented teachers plan fantastic projects that educate the children in the basics of photography and many other skills.

Extended Sports: Throughout the year the group enjoys occasional visits by special teachers for pursuits such as yoga, karate and football.

Eco Awareness: We aim to teach the children the basics of recycling and responsible living, and studies lead to more in-depth topics that are covered in the Bugs stage of our programme.

Cookery and Nutrition: We help to educate the children about the importance of a healthy lifestyle. The children enjoy the practical side of cooking and measuring (and creating a good end result!), as well as studying the foods eaten in many other countries.



to do so!

Physical Development

Our soft play gym is full to the brim with ramps, tunnels, slides and domes! Children can enjoy dance-based activities, aerobics, team games, outdoor play (in our roof garden), and a full range of sport-based modules. Gymnastics play a part in our regular teaching, and children also have a chance to stay on for karate and

My World, My Music: At Kspace we have our own special blend of music, culture and geography appreciation. Our Tspace teachers include talented musicians, and this lesson is extremely popular!

Butterfly Themes

Each Butterfly theme lasts about one month. This may seem like quite a long time, but the varied topics are great fun and are tackled from many angles. We involve the children in very interesting discussions, and tremendous effort is put into the planning of all classes. Themes include Dragons and Unicorns, Mythical Creatures, Mardi Gras, Our Senses, Wildlife/Great Outdoors and Insects and Plants, to name just a few! Parents share in the theme studies via assemblies, exhibitions and special school trips that are held throughout the term.

Butterfly Themes

Term 1

- August Welcome to the Butterflies
- September Wildlife and the Great Outdoors
- October The Wonders of our Five Senses
- November Ancient Civilizations: Incas

Term 2

- January (Mini Theme) Icy Places
Lapland/Canada/Greenland
- February Dragons and Unicorns
(Mythical creatures) and Mardi Gras
- March Transport and Travel
- April Insects and Plants
- May Rainforests, South America
- June You-nique (all about me)



Feedback

Kspace has its own team of talented photographers, media moguls and artists! Some of our teachers have worked successfully in the creative field and have had their work exhibited internationally. We maximize opportunities to get special pictures of the children, which appear in class/individual photo books and on our beautiful online blogs. Also, at the end of each school year parents are presented with a spectacular hardback copy of the Year Book.

Kspace TV & DVDs

Kspace has its very own 'TV' station! This allows parents to enjoy little windows into their child's life at the school. Our lovely character Kokomo makes guest appearances to pass on special messages, and parents also enjoy seeing the teachers in action. Please note - Parents have the right to opt in or out of this, and can ask that their child is involved in other activities during airing.

Glam & Exciting Events!

Party Party! Throughout the term we hold Parent-Teacher nights out and enjoy relaxed times at glamorous settings throughout Tokyo. Our All School Open Days are a lovely opportunity to partake in general hilarity and are bumper fun for everyone! Our calendar also allows for special occasion days such as Halloween, Christmas etc, and parents get the chance to send the children in for a day of costume and party fun. School assemblies are open to parents too, and there are many exhibitions and occasions in the Butterfly calendar when we open our doors to mums and dads.

School Trips

Butterflies enjoy some wonderful day trips, which are a huge hit with both parents and children. Day trips with the children build very strong bonds between the teachers and parents, and are a great opportunity to make friends....You will love it!!! Past trips include Zoorasia, The National Science Museum (Ueno) and Enoshima Aquarium.

Park Trips

We try to get the children into the fresh air as often as possible with regular visits to the local parks. Sometimes we ask volunteer parents to come along too, so please join us when you can. Children also spend lots of quality time in our rooftop sports area, under the protection of the tailor-made awning, enjoying the many games and toys we have up there. The Butterflies are also lucky enough to visit the Nature Park next door to us in search of Japanese wildlife.

Community

Kspace has a friendly community of parents, who enjoy the relaxed atmosphere at our meetings, events and school gatherings. We have an active charity organization in which members can become involved (Cspace), and many coffee mornings and charity events. This is an excellent way to meet other parents and feel connected with the school, teachers and your child's friends. In 2007 we raised enough money to help print and publish native language books for many children in Sri Lanka, and also built two entire elementary schools!



BUTTERFLY'S WELCOME WEEK



SINGING & DANCING



Tspace Children Are Winners!

Since 2001 hundreds of children have been educated via the special Kspace teaching methods. Each child who has followed the programme to Bugs' stage has gained a coveted place at a superb school. Our team is always there to support and counsel our parents in their choices and offer referrals to schools when necessary.

Placing your child in our school gives them a perfect educational foundation, and can also be a guarantee for success in the future. From start to finish our programme is designed to prepare students for the challenges ahead of them at elementary school level. Butterfly children have so much to look forward to in their last few years with us! All graduates who leave us following their Super Bugs year have received the closest personal tuition available at any school in Tokyo.

Our alumni are now enjoying school life at

The American School in Japan (ASIJ)
Tokyo International School (TIS)
The British School in Tokyo (BST)
Yokohama International School
Nishimachi International School
St. Mary's International School, Tokyo
International School of the Sacred Heart, Tokyo
(As well as many other elite facilities here and around the world)

Recognition for Kspace

Kspace's unique approach has been applauded by elementary schools in Tokyo, and our children have wonderful choices when they graduate. We have forged excellent bonds with many schools and earned a glowing reputation, with our curriculum and teaching techniques winning tremendous praise from professional educators. Kspace is one of the few schools in Tokyo to be given official approval as a feeder school to The British School in Tokyo.

Our school is also one of the few preschools to be included in the 'Early Years Network', which is an association of the best international schools in Tokyo dedicated to the ongoing pursuit of excellence in education.

Kspace is also one of the very few international preschools in Japan to have gained official licensing and recognition by the Japanese Government. This is a very difficult achievement for non-Japanese schools, and relies upon continuous assessment of standards to remain within the guidelines. We are extremely proud to have this accolade, which is further proof of the care and attention we apply to all aspects of school management, including safety, hygiene, facility development, student numbers and the caliber and background of our staff.