



### **Sue's News**

Dear parents,

Love is in the air! Naturally, there was plenty of love for friends and for teachers on this Valentine's Day as expressed with cards and candy. In addition, hundreds of parents, grandparents, teachers, and fans expressed their love for Yinghua by way of the Red Envelope Campaign. Participants were ever so generous with their contributions as we soared well past our goal of \$25,000 and with kind words of appreciation. We are touched and grateful!

*Common Good Books*, an independent bookstore in St. Paul, contacted us recently about an exciting opportunity to host author Jenny Bowen, who will release a new book, [Wish You Happy Forever: What China's Orphans Taught Me about Moving Mountains](#), on March 11. This is the catalog copy from the publisher, HarperOne:

***Wish You Happy Forever chronicles Half the Sky founder Jenny Bowen's personal and professional journey to transform Chinese orphanages--and the lives of the neglected girls who live in them--from a state of quiet despair to one of vibrant promise. After reading an article about the thousands of baby girls languishing in Chinese orphanages, Bowen and her husband adopted a little girl from China and brought her home to Los Angeles, not out of a need to build a family but rather a commitment to save one child. A year later, as she watched her new daughter play in the grass with her friends, thriving in an environment where she knew she was loved, Bowen was overcome with a desire to help the children that she could not bring home. That very day she created Half the Sky Foundation, an organization conceived to bring love into the life of every orphan in China and one that has actually managed to fulfill its promise.***

***In Wish You Happy Forever, a fish out of water tale like no other, Bowen relates her struggle to bring the concept of "child nurture and responsive care" to bemused Chinese bureaucrats and how she's actually succeeding. Five years after Half the Sky's first orphanage program opened, government officials began to mention child welfare and nurturing care in public speeches. And, in 2011, at China's Great Hall of the People, Half the Sky and its government partners celebrated the launch of The Rainbow Program, a groundbreaking initiative to change the face of orphan care by training every child welfare worker in the country. Thanks to Bowen's relentless perseverance through heartbreak and a dose of humor, Half the Sky's goal to bring love to the lives of forgotten children comes ever closer.***

On Wednesday, March 26, at 9:30AM, YA students in grades 5-8 will have the opportunity to meet the author. Ms. Bowen will give some background about her foundation, read excerpts from her new book, and share a few words of wisdom and inspiration with our young writers. All parents are welcome to join us. In addition, Jenny will be speaking at Common Good Books on Tuesday, March 25, at 7:00PM. Books will be available for purchase at both events. Mark your calendars!

Enjoy the long weekend!

Sue Berg  
Executive Director

### **Luyi's Curriculum Corner**

Dear Families:

Happy Valentine's Day! It was great to see students and staff out of their normal dress code and wearing the festive red, pink, and white colors to celebrate friendship on this special day in western culture.

On the Lunar calendar, today marks the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the New Year. On this day we celebrate the Lantern Festival where traditionally children go out at night to temples carrying paper lanterns and solve riddles. On this day glutinous rice balls (汤圆 tangyuan) are also served in round bowls to symbolize family togetherness. Eating tangyuan is believed to bring the family happiness and good luck in the New Year. Even though we did not have a school-wide celebration for this day, many teachers had activities designed to celebrate this festival in the classroom. One second grade teacher was very creative, using Play-Doh to demonstrate how the rice balls with fillings are made and explaining the meaning of eating this particular food. The Lantern Festival officially ends the 15-day Chinese New Year celebration.

It's a wonderful feeling seeing both eastern and western cultures coexist under one roof. If you experience any east meets west moments at home, please share with me. I would love to hear about them!

On Thursday we hosted a visit by a delegation from Denver Language School (DLS). DLS is a K-8 public, immersion charter school offering immersion education in Spanish and Mandarin Chinese. Through Dr. Tara Fortune at the Center for Advanced Research on Language Acquisition at the University of Minnesota, DLS staff came to us to learn about our experiences, curriculum, and how we determine our goals for students' language proficiency. It has been several years since Dr. Fortune visited our school. She was very impressed with what we have accomplished and praised our attention to details in promoting the Chinese language. She commended our effort and was pleased to see the immersion theories well practiced in our school. It was reaffirming for me to know that we are doing well and on the right path!

Have a great long weekend!

Luyi Lien, Ph.D.  
Academic Director

## School Lunch Reminders for Grade 1-8

March lunch order form is due on Wednesday, February 19 in the main office. *Check/cash must be submitted with each order for each student. Families using ACH must check the appropriate box on the order form. Order form without a name will not be accepted.* Please find more lunch information and extra order forms at <http://www.yinghuaacademy.org/current-families/school-lunch-menu/>

**Attention: we will not be accepting late orders.**

Thank you for your cooperation.  
(Helen Hindrawati, Food Coordinator)

## Upcoming Concert

Please see the flyer attached to this week's newsletter about the celebration concert put on by the Chamber Music Society of Minnesota at 4:00PM on Sunday, February 23. Our own music teacher, Hsuan-Wen Lin, will appear in a string orchestra at this concert. Admission is free for K-12 students with each paid adult ticket.

## Spelling Bee Update

Congratulations to Jade Bing Zalaznik! She is one of forty-five students in the area who qualified for the district spelling bee, which will take place at Augsburg College on March 15th. The competition will begin at 12:30 PM and conclude probably around 5:00.

## Gala

Don't forget to get your Lantern Festival tickets for March 1!

<http://www.yinghuaacademy.org/gala>.

## Revolutionary Sports

Revolutionary Sports is offering 50% off March 10th-14th spring break camp week if registered by Feb 23rd. Use promo code: **YINGHUA50%SB** upon purchase to receive offer. We also have a couple spots left for our Presidents Day camp this Monday 2/17. For more information or to register visit [www.RevolutionarySports.org](http://www.RevolutionarySports.org).

Happy Chinese New Year! Gong Xi Fa Cai! 恭喜发财

YINGHUA ACADEMY

**RED ENVELOPE CAMPAIGN**

Ends February 14

Support our school—donate by check or at [www.yinghuaacademy.org](http://www.yinghuaacademy.org)

Thank you! Xie Xie! 谢谢

Goal \$25,000

\$20,000

\$15,000

\$10,000

\$5,000

## Red Envelope Campaign

Thank you for showing so much LOVE for Yinghua these past two weeks during the Red Envelope Campaign! We concluded the campaign today and are thrilled to announce that we have surpassed our goal by at least \$5,000! The current tally is beyond \$30,000. Watch for the official amount next week. Your support will ensure that we close the gap between the funding we receive and the cost of our exceptional program! Xie xie!!

## Aftercare and Enrichment News

You'll find the Aftercare sign-up form for March attached. Please return the form to the school office by February 21.

There may be a few more spaces in spring term enrichment classes. Contact [libby.pomroy@yinghuaacademy.org](mailto:libby.pomroy@yinghuaacademy.org) to inquire about remaining spots in exciting classes. Find descriptions of the classes at <http://www.yinghuaacademy.org/current-families/enrichment-program/>

## Yinghua Academy Conservatory of Music

Term III begins the week of March 24. If you're interested in beginning music lessons, contact [libby.pomroy@yinghuaacademy.org](mailto:libby.pomroy@yinghuaacademy.org).



## UPCOMING DATES

<b>February 17</b>	<b>NO SCHOOL</b> <i>President's Day</i>
6:00PM	School Board Meeting
<b>February 18</b>	SEAC Meeting YACA Q&A
4:00-6:00PM 7:00PM	
<b>February 20</b>	School Tour
9:30-10:30AM	
<b>February 27</b>	School Tour
9:30-10:30AM	

## News from the PE Office

### Physical Education News

Our middle school students enjoyed an off-campus PE class ice skating at nearby Logan Park. Grades 1-8 spent the last two weeks cross country skiing or sledding. It was fun. Thank you to the parents who helped tie boots.

### Spring Sports

YA Athletics is offering some spring sport classes. The classes are \$85 for 8 sessions (each session is from 3:55-5:30). No after care fee unless you need care from 5:30-6:00pm. Registration forms can be found on the athletic webpage.

"Sports Sampler" for grades 1-3 on Thursdays: soccer, t-ball, basketball, field games, tennis and more.

"Sports Fitness" for grades 4-8 on Tuesdays: fitness training and fast paced games such as basketball, soccer, ultimate and floor hockey.

### Summer Camp

The Physical Education department is excited to offer something NEW this summer for students going into grades 1-6. We will be offering two sessions in June of adventure camp at Yinghua. Check out the athletic webpage for more details.

"Active Adventures" for grades 1-3: swimming, games, crafts, adventure, hiking, roller-skating, biking, mini golf, marshmallow roasting, yoga and more.

"Adventure Trekkers" for grades 4-6: biking to North Mississippi Park, geo-caching, crafts, swimming, fishing, camp fire and more.





# MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS



## Social Studies

### Grade 8

This week we started the first of our country projects. This weekend, students are working on a map and making inferences about how physical geography affects the lives of people in India.

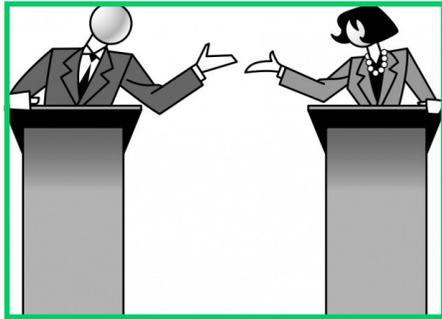
### Grade 6

6th grade students are getting ready to interview someone who immigrated to Minnesota from outside the U.S. Thanks to all families for supporting your son/daughter as they identify and go visit their interviewee!



## Chinese Language Arts

The video conference with the sister school from China was scheduled on this Thursday between 5:00-5:50 PM. However, because their staff and students are not able to get into school during their winter break, the video conference has been postponed to March when our students visit their school. Stay tuned for the update!



## English Language Arts

Students will be starting public speaking projects this week. Projects to come include the following: **6th Grade**-Informative Speeches, **7th Grade**-Persuasive Speeches, and **8th grade**-Debate.



## Exhibit Alert!

The Minnesota History Center, downtown St. Paul, has a **new exhibit**. It is about **Guantanamo Bay**, the American military station and prison, and hot topic of recent public debate. The exhibit explores the history of this place! 6th graders even have free entry to the History Center (bring your pass!), and all of us are welcome to learn. The exhibit is open for just one month, so hurry!

