



Sue's News

Dear parents,

I just completed three assemblies with the students to launch the 2nd Annual Read-A-Thon and to preview the Book Fair, which will open Monday, October 15. The energy was high and the anticipation for both events is great! As the flyer in your student's Friday folder states, the beauty of this opportunity is that our children have the chance to contribute to their place of learning with one of their most important academic skills...reading in English, Chinese, or any language for that matter! Remember that your child may read independently, with someone, or be read to and all those minutes count. The hope for each participant is 30 minutes per day for 10 days and \$30 in pledges, but we encourage every child/family to set goals that are reasonable for you.

I love the following quote from Jim Trelease, author and educational expert. His book, The Read-Aloud Handbook, has been a treasured resource for me as a teacher and parent for years; I highly recommend it! He wisely states: *"Reading is at the very heart of education. The knowledge of almost every subject in school flows from reading. One must be able to read the word problem in math in order to understand it. If you can't read the science or social studies chapter, you cannot answer the questions at the end of the chapter. Unlike a TV show, a computer manual must be read, not viewed, to be understood. Reading is the tide that lifts all of school's 'boats.' One can even argue: reading is the single most powerful social factor in American life today. Here's a formula to support that. It sounds simplistic, but all its parts can be documented, and while not universal, it holds true far more often than not: nothing affects our society like reading (or not reading)."*

So snuggle up with a book and your child, no matter his/her age. It will allow you to slow down and capture some special time together. Again, Mr. Trelease says, "Reading aloud to the child makes a pleasure connection between child and print. No one is born wanting to either play basketball or to read. That desire must be planted by someone outside the child. The parent (or teacher or grandparent) who reads to a child is planting seeds, making a connection to print that doesn't hurt, that entices and gratifies instead. Homework, workbooks, and tests seldom accomplish that. Simply put, reading to the child amounts to a commercial for reading."

Enjoy!
Sue

Luyi's Curriculum Corner

Dear Yinghua Families:

For the past few weeks we have been actively preparing for our fall parent-teacher conferences which are scheduled on October 16 (1:00pm to 8:00pm) and October 17 (8:00am to 2:00pm). Many of you may have noticed that the conferences are held earlier this year. We would like to share student progress with parents early in the school year so we can make sure that school and home are heading towards the same goals for your child.

Before the conference, please spend some time to talk with your child about your expectations for school. You can find out how your child feels about school; how your child thinks he/she is doing in school; and if there is anything that your child would like you to ask or tell the teacher(s). If you have specific concerns that you would like the teachers to know in advance, please feel free to email the classroom teachers with your concerns so they can prepare the information for you.

On the day of the conference, please be punctual and respect other parents' conference times by ending your meeting promptly. For grades K-4, the typical conference with your child's homeroom teacher is 20 minutes. Meetings with specialists and MS subject teachers have been scheduled for 10 minutes. At the conference, you will have the opportunity to see your child's work samples, review test results and the NWEA Student Progress Report. You can also expect a Conference Guide that states your child's academic progress in different subject areas and how he/she is doing in relation to the school's character/behavior expectations. You will have a chance to address specific concerns you may have or receive additional information from the teachers. Please inquire as to how you can reinforce classroom learning at home. To make the best use of the limited conference time, focus your attention on the areas most important to your child.

After the conference, please discuss the results of the conference with your child; praise your child for doing well or making progress, but also discuss areas for improvement identified by the teacher. Please make sure your child understands that you will communicate with the teacher on a regular basis and if it is necessary, you will also schedule additional meetings with the teacher. It is important for students to know that

Curriculum Corner, cont'd

If you have additional questions or concerns that you would like to discuss with administrators, please feel free to contact us. The Executive Director, Mrs. Berg, and the Director of Students, Families, and Community, Mr. Brewer, and myself, Academic Director, will all be available during conference time. You can either schedule a meeting with one of us, or just stop by and talk to us. We are here to support your students.

We look forward to seeing you next week.

Sincerely,
Luyi Lien, Ph.D.

Lands End Penny Logo Sale!

See the attached flyer to learn how you can save on uniforms!

Will the person who hit the Meyer car (and knocked off the driver's mirror) during drop off Friday morning please call Shawna at 612-414-7670?
Thank you!

**Lunch Order Forms due by Tuesday,
October 16!**

UPCOMING DATES

Oct 16	1/2 Day School 8:30-12:30
Oct 17	NO SCHOOL
Oct 16 1:00-8:00 PM Oct 17 8:00 AM-2:00 PM	Teacher Conferences (both campuses)
Oct 18 & 19	NO SCHOOL Teacher Prof Dev Days
Oct 23	Grandparents Day at School
Oct 23 4:00-7:00 PM	Kite Festival/Double Ninth
Oct 29	Yinghua Read-a-Thon ends
Oct 31	Storybook Character Parade

Hello Parents & Guardians,

Many of you may recall Mrs. Berg's announcement about the Student Life Prefect interviews that were held about two weeks ago. Let me just say that we were very impressed by all of the students who came in to talk with us about becoming a part of the Student Life team. Now that the interviews are over, we are excited to officially announce our new Student Life Head and Deputy Head Prefects.

Head Prefect – Chantelle Silivan
Deputy Head of Academics – Mika Roepke
Deputy Head of Discipline – Maggy Waddington
Deputy Head of Management – Murphy Henning
Deputy Head of Sports – Ellie Nestingen
Deputy Head of Activities – Jane Andreas
Deputy Head of Community Service – Sara Lind-MacMillan
Deputy Head of Lower School – Fisher Chu

Attached to this newsletter you will find a copy of the Student Life letter that was given out during our *Back To School Curriculum Night* on September 6. In the letter, you will see a description of what Student Life is. Mrs. Berg and I have already met with the cabinet of leaders twice now and things are off to a great start. The Deputy Heads spent this week finalizing their recruits for the Senior Prefect positions within each of their departments. Next week we plan to hit the ground running as we plan events, projects, and recruit more students to be involved in everything from peer tutoring to hallway prefects. It's an exciting time and the students are revved up and ready to go! I'm sure you will be seeing more and more of them as they take on lots of responsibility around the school. It's going to be a great year!

Sincerely,
Jeremy Brewer
Director of Students, Families, and Community

Note from Mrs. Peterson

What an exciting year this has been! I've learned some Chinese (very little), enjoyed your children (most of the time!) and have made new friends, but it's time for me to move on to different challenges. My last day at Yinghua will be October 26.

The good news is that you'll be left in good hands. Erin Spector (mom to Ellery and Owen) will be taking my place. She's friendly, knows the school, and will be a great addition to the Yinghua front office. Please be nice to her and make her feel welcome—just like you did for me!

Spirit Wear

Spirit Wear orders were distributed Tuesday. If you have an exchange or return, please follow the **instructions** on the packing slip of your order, by calling the vendor Blue 84 Spirit. Then bring in your items to be exchanged or returned to the main office **no later than Friday, October 19** for proper credit. If you placed an order but **did not receive your items**, please contact the main office.

Grandparents Day - Double Ninth & Kite Festival - Tuesday October 23rd

Yinghua Academy will celebrate the Double Ninth holiday by **inviting grandparents** to the classrooms during the school day to speak to the class. We are looking for a few more grandparents willing to share their stories, wisdom and experiences with their grandchildren's class. Please contact your classroom coordinator for details.

YACA will host a **Kite Flying event** on the playground from 3:30-5:30pm, weather permitting. Bring your own kites.

YACA is also sponsoring an **evening Kite Festival** activity in the main campus school gym from 5:30-7:30 pm in honor of Double Ninth Festival/ Grandparents Day with cake, card-making/craft activities. All Yinghua families are welcome to attend, and encouraged to bring grandparents if they are able. YACA will provide plates, napkins, utensils and the cake.

Please bring your own food and beverages to the cafeteria.

Food for Teachers during Fall Conferences

YACA Nourishment team is looking for volunteers to bring food in for teachers during Fall Conferences. The **Fall conferences are Tuesday, October 16, 1PM - 8PM and Wednesday October 17, 8AM - 2PM**. During these times, teachers have meetings back-to-back with hardly any time to get food. Here's how you can help. When you come in for your child(ren)'s conference(s), drop off some food. That's it. We will take care of the rest.

Please tell us what you will bring by signing up here => <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/viewform?formkey=dG5LeXgxbi1wbGh2cUFFOHc4M01kVXc6M1Q>

Thank you for helping to feed our teachers on one of their busiest days!

P.S. If you bring reusable dishes (great!) please label them with your name so we can return them to you. Thank you!

After-school News!

Aftercare and Enrichment Notes

From Libby Pomroy, Extended Care and Enrichment Coordinator

We're halfway through our Enrichment calendar for this term, and things are going very well. Here are a few tips to keep everything moving smoothly.

- If your kids are enrolled in an Enrichment class, they are considered part of our Aftercare program until the Enrichment class begins. After the class, teachers return kids to the cafeteria, and you should pick them up there no more than 10 minutes after the end of their class unless you have paid a separate Aftercare fee for that day. Please pick them up promptly so you can avoid an Aftercare charge.
- If you know that your kids won't be attending a scheduled class or Aftercare, give the office a call or send an email **before 3:00 PM** to libby.pomroy@yinghuaacademy.org.
- We're starting **Friday movie days** this week. Kids can choose to watch a movie in the cafeteria, or, as always, can play outside, and they can come and go between inside and outside. We'll be serving popcorn, too. If you'd rather that your kids not participate, let us know and we'll suggest another activity.

From Jennifer Vanyo, Business Manager

- Please remember to **sign your students out** when you pick them up from aftercare. I would really like a true picture of who is utilizing the program and would like billing to be more accurate for you.
- If you receive a billing invoice and feel there are discrepancies, please call or send me an email, Jennifer.vanyo@yinghuaacademy.org. I am more than happy to do a review of the sign out sheets, my spreadsheets, and the Yinghua Care registrations.
- I send all participating families an invoice regardless of payment method ahead of the payment due date, this is to allow for account reviews and any changes that may need to be made.

Thank you for participating in the Yinghua Care and Enrichment programs, we are open to and welcome your suggestions!

