



### ***Sue's News***

Dear parents,

Welcome back! As we begin Term III and the sprint to the finish line of the 2012-2013 school year, I realize that we have just 52 school days remaining in which to accomplish our goals with each of your children. In visiting with the teachers and students in each class this week, we agreed that we all have serious work to do relative to our collective commitment to maximize each student's full potential. As parents, you are also an important member of your child's school team. Aside from the critical daily support you provide, please mark your calendars for these opportunities to partner with us:

#### **Thursday, April 4**

#### **What's the Scoop?**

#### **Student session 3:45-5:00; Parent Session 4:30-5:30**

Join us for this informational session for current 4<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> graders and their parents regarding MS for 2013-2014. Learn about the schedule, course offerings, curriculum topics, electives, extracurricular offerings, team sports, study abroad, Student Life, and the fall MS Retreat.

#### **Thursday, April 11 and Friday, April 12**

#### **Parent Teacher Conferences**

Electronic sign-up for conferences will be available from Wednesday, March 27, at 9:00AM until Wednesday, April 3, at 5:00PM. Expect to receive an e-mail from the school with sign-up details prior to next Wednesday. Remember you may schedule time with every one of your child's teachers as well as administration.

#### **Thursday, May 16 at Kinder Campus**

#### **Friday, May 17 at the Main Campus**

#### **Student Academic Performances**

I invite you to be amazed as the children showcase their mastery of knowledge via skits, debates, multi-media presentations, recitations, and projects. A sampling of topics includes simple machines, supermarket math, Native American heroes, and poetry; all subject areas will be represented. Watch for details.

Of course, we've saved time for fun, as well! Just today a highlight for me was the "Around the World" passport event with our kindergartners. Ask them about my costume! Next Thursday is the second annual March Music Madness which you don't want to miss! Drop in for non-stop music from 8:30AM-3:30PM. It's sure to put a bounce in your step, as we wait for spring to arrive outdoors.

Warm regards,

Sue

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

Dear Yinghua Families,

Many families are already planning summer activities for their children. From our experience, summer is the time the learned language gets lost or rusty because of lack of practice. We all need to keep in mind that one of the important elements of language learning is to keep practicing and using it. I would like to take this opportunity to introduce Yinghua's 2013 summer camp program as a way for your child to maintain his/her Chinese language.

Yinghua Academy's summer camp program is funded by STARTALK, one of the component programs of the National Security Language Initiative (NSLI) announced by former President Bush in January of 2006. The initiative seeks to expand and improve the teaching and learning of strategically important world languages that currently are not widely taught in the US. Supported by this generous grant, we are able to provide summer training programs for students as well as language immersion teachers.

The student camp "From Abacus to Apps: Learning Chinese through Math, Science and Technology" is a 2-week half-day program from July 29 to August 9 for students entering kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade, with or without previous Chinese knowledge. This camp is designed to provide students with fun math- and science-based activities as they either discover Mandarin Chinese, or deepen their Mandarin knowledge. Students of all levels of Chinese exposure will build confidence in their language skills and improve their listening comprehension and speaking ability. Technology will be integrated into the classrooms to enable campers to use technology as a language-learning resource. A carnival is planned for the final day of the camp (Friday, Aug. 9), where students can apply and demonstrate what they have learned in Chinese language and culture, math and science, through fun activities.

This camp allows new Kindergarten and first grade students planning to attend Yinghua Academy in the fall to acclimate to the language, teachers, and school environment over the summer. The camp also meets current parent and student desires for Chinese language learning opportunities for those who study Chinese during the school year (whether at Yinghua or other academic and extra-curricular programs). In addition, the camp provides an important immersion training ground and professional development for Chinese language teachers.

I encourage all current Yinghua families with students entering Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade to consider this camp for your child to enrich their math and science knowledge and continue using Chinese to communicate with native speakers. For more information and the registration form, please go to the school website or call the office.

Have a wonderful weekend!

Luyi Lien, Ph.D

Academic Director

## Mr. Brewer's Blog

Hello Parents,

Today was a gorgeous day. After the two indoor recesses we had this week, I hope today was a sign that the weather is finally starting to turn. I know most of us are more than ready for spring!

As we begin Term III, I wanted to give everyone an update on the "Pennies for Play" purchases. We have used the "Pennies for Play" money and purchased lots of new stuff. In fact, we had some money left over so we were able to purchase a few items that will be shared by PE, Aftercare, Student Life, and Recess. We now have some new dodge balls, jump ropes, hula hoops, soccer balls, basketballs, footballs, and a wiffle ball set. We plan on breaking out the new balls next week! I know that Aftercare and PE have already been using some of their new equipment and the kids have loved it! It's very exciting!

Also, be sure to mark your calendars for two very important Student Life events that are coming up quick!

**Middle School Spring Dance (Grades 6-8)** – Friday, April 19, 6:00-9:30 at Yinghua's Main Campus. Look for the flyer/sign-up sheet and further details over the next week or so.

**4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Activity Night** – Friday, May 10, 6:00-9:30. Last fall we stayed on campus, but this time we'll be meeting at school and then go off campus for an evening of fun. Stay tuned for further details in the weeks to come.

Have a wonderful weekend everyone!

Jeremy Brewer

Director of Students, Families, and Community

### UPCOMING DATES

March 25	Term III Enrichment Begins
March 28	
8:30AM-3:30PM	March Music Madness
March 29	<b>No School</b>
	Conference Prep Day
April 5	Term II Report Cards Mailed
8:30AM-10:00AM	First Friday Coffee (SiP Coffeebar)
9:00AM-10:30AM	Kindergarten Round-Up (Kinder campus)
April 11	
8:30AM-12:30PM	<b>1/2 Day of School</b>
1:00PM-8:00PM	Conferences
	Spring Book Fair
April 12	<b>No School</b>
8:00AM-2:00PM	Conferences
	Spring Book Fair

### Cleft Lip / Cleft Palate Surgery Discussion

On Wed. April 10, there will be a meeting for families of children with cleft lip and/or palate. Mel Chaput and her 1st grade son, Jameson, will give a presentation about their experience with bone graft and palate surgery. The discussion will include the emotional aspects of major surgery, practical ways to prepare, ideas for pureed foods, integrating your child back to school, and ideas for keeping active kids inactive as they heal. Yinghua parent and dentist, DeAnna Miller, will be on hand to offer a medical perspective and answer questions. Yinghua staff is encouraged to attend. For childcare, please contact Libby Pomroy at [libby.pomroy@yinghuaacademy.org](mailto:libby.pomroy@yinghuaacademy.org)

The meeting will be held in room 205.

4:15 - 4:30: Slide show, Surgery from Jameson's perspective, Q & A geared toward young children, including siblings of cleft children

4:30 - Children move to aftercare

4:30 - 5:30: Slide show, Surgery from Mel's perspective, medical insights from DeAnna, Q & A for adults, including Yinghua staff.

### Lantern Festival After School Activities

Here are the after school activities offered as part of Lantern Festival that still have spots available:

#### **Chinese for Adults**

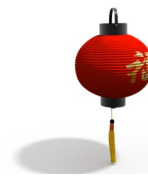
Hosted by Lai Laoshi

Two Tuesdays: 3/26 and 4/2 from 3:40-4:30

Room: 107

Price: \$45

To register, email [becky.hoffmann@yinghuaacademy.org](mailto:becky.hoffmann@yinghuaacademy.org) and send a check to school payable to YACA. Stay tuned for more info about the Yinghua sleepovers for 3rd-5th graders and 6th-8th graders happening later this Spring!



**Need childcare on No School Days and 1/2 Days of School? Sign up with Revolutionary Sports. Contact John Richardson at [John@RevolutionarySports.org](mailto:John@RevolutionarySports.org) or 612-234-7782.**



# Middle School News

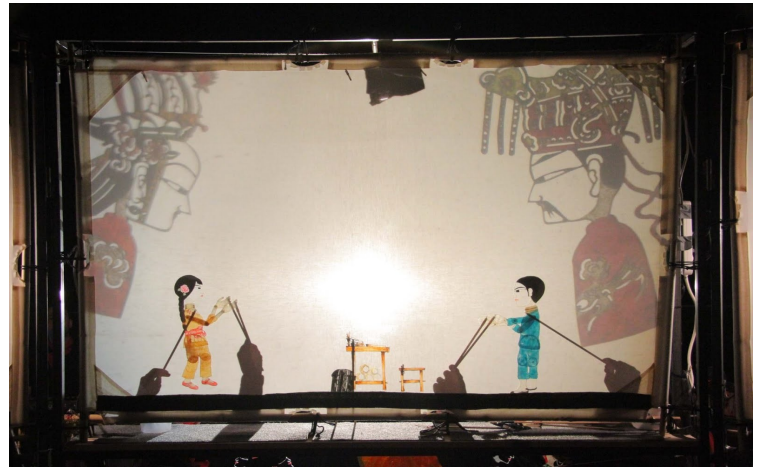
Week of March 18, 2013

## Grade 5 Puppet Show field trip - *There's Nothing to Tell*

It was so exciting visiting a Chinese shadow puppet show!

*There's Nothing To Tell is a full-length work for the shadow theatre that mixes traditional Chinese and North American shadow styles to present the story of a Grandfather as a shadow puppeteer in China's dying dynastic period through the Communist Revolution and into the modern era. As his only Granddaughter recounts his life story, questions arise of our place on the human continuum and the inheritance of story.*

A workshop for making their own puppets followed after the show. Students went home with the shadow puppet templates and the puppet they made themselves!



## Grades 6/7/8 Science Museum field trip

Students had an excellent full-day experience at the Science Museum of Minnesota. Human anatomy was the main topic of the day with an Omnimax presentation of *The Human Body* and a tour of the *Body Worlds: Cycle of Life* exhibit. Students also had time (but not enough!) to explore the main exhibits with *Engineering*, *Paleontology*, and *Optics* among their favorites.

## Social Studies News

Students have encouraging ideas! In grade 7, as we embark on a unit about Reconstruction after the Civil War, we spent one class learning about incentives and disincentives. These ideas will help students understand the profit motive, part of what determined events of that time. Students thought and spoke about what motivated them personally. One student memorably said that when she does good things, then good things will happen to her. That motivates her. I have a lot of hope for our future, knowing your children will run this country.