

YINGHUA ACADEMY

英 華 学 校

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See Page 6

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Magic or Science?

See Page 3 for details

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Sue's News

Sue Berg | Executive Director

Dear parents,

I look forward to three assemblies with the students next Monday, October 13, to launch the 4th Annual Read-A-Thon and to preview the Book Fair, which will open Wednesday, October 15.

The energy is always high and the anticipation for both events is great! As the flyer about the Read-A-Thon that is 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 goal for each participant is 30 minutes per day and \$30 but we encourage every child/family to set goals that are reasonable for you. The most important point is READ!

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

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Curriculum Corner

Luyi Lien, Ph. D. | Academic Director

Dear Yinghua Families:

The new gym brings lots of excitement for us. I particularly welcomed the beautiful gym space to resume holding our morning assemblies for community building, announcements, conveying school core values and great expectations, and establishing Yinghua spirit with all school members.

Currently, we hold assemblies based on the following schedule:

Mondays and Fridays: Kindergarten

Tuesdays: Grades 1 & 2

Wednesdays: Grades 3 & 4

Thursdays: Grades 5 - 8

We start the morning assembly at 8:50am with greetings. For the younger grades, we do simple calisthenics to jumpstart the day, followed by singing Chinese songs combining gestures and movements to

reinforce what the students have learned in class and help them be mentally prepared for a whole day in Chinese. We then share important news with the students, and talk about our expectations and the school values. We end the assembly with the "Pledge of Allegiance" and at 9:12 am the students walk back to the classrooms in a quiet and respectful manner.

For grades 5-8, the assembly format is designed to cultivate students' world views

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Upcoming Events and Announcements

10

15-16

14

Parent/Teacher Conferences (12:30 PM Dismissal on the 15th; No school on the 16th)

Due to Parent/Teacher conferences beginning at 1:00 PM, school will be dismissed at 12:30 PM on the 15th. Conferences on the 16th will last from 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM. Note that there are NO music lessons or enrichment classes next week. School lunch will be served on the 15th.

10

17

14

Fall Break (No School)

Enjoy the end of conferences by taking a much-needed day off on the 17th. School will resume as usual on the 20th.

Important Note Regarding Lost & Found

Please ensure to take time during Parent/Teacher conferences to look through the Lost & Found for your children's missing items. At the end of October, all items left in the Lost & Found will be assumed undeclared and donated to charity.



Brewer's Blog

Jeremy Brewer | Dean of Students

Hello Parents!

This past Monday morning, October 6, all students in grades K-8 participated in an annual bus safety training. This training is required by law and must be completed by early October, and repeated again in the spring for grades K-5. Monday was perfect timing for us; just in time for all of the field trips that started this week! The training covered things like basic bus rider rules, bus safety and danger zones, what to do in an emergency, emergency exit locations and how to use them. It was not unlike the speeches we receive from the flight attendants before taking off for a flight. However, with this training, the students were able to practice exiting the back emergency door of the bus. This was a highlight for most! The students loved it!

To totally change the subject, many of you may have noticed on your Master Calendars that Wednesday, October 22 is National Unity Against Bullying Day. This is a day where students around the country will be wearing orange to promote bullying awareness and unite to take a stand against it. This will be the second year YA will participate. Last year, it was just the middle school students. This year, we would like to invite all students, teachers, staff, and even parent volunteers who will be here during the day to wear orange to support the cause. Students who wear orange can wear non-uniform bottoms (yes, that means jeans) as long as they are school appropriate. However, don't forget to have your children wear athletic shoes if they have gym that day. That being said, be sure to wear orange and show your support to wipe out bullying!

Lastly, a quick reminder that next Wednesday, October 15 is a half day. School is dismissed at 12:30 and buses will depart at 12:45. That means that buses will be arriving to your stops approximately 3 hours and 10 minutes ahead of normal times. Since traffic at this time is much lighter, please be sure to be a few extra minutes early so you don't miss your child's bus. All non-bus students will need to be picked up by 1:00 sharp. Conferences start at 1:00 and all students in the building after that need to be with a parent. If you are planning on having your child with you during conferences, please remind them to be quiet and respectful. Conferences are very important and we want everyone to be able to have undisturbed and productive meetings with their children's teachers.

Thanks everyone and have a wonderful weekend!

Jeremy Brewer
Dean of Students



Important Enrichment, Music Lesson and Aftercare Reminder!

by Libby Pomroy

There are NO music lessons or enrichment classes next week (the week of Oct. 13). We'll follow your October Dismissal Plan for those days, so if you've listed Aftercare for Monday Oct. 13 and/or Tuesday Oct. 14, the fee is not covered by the Enrichment or music lesson fees that you've already paid.

As always, if you want to make a change to your Dismissal Plan, contact Mary Schultz in the office before 10:30 a.m. on the day of the change.

There is no Aftercare on Wednesday, Oct. 15. You can sign up for care for Wednesday afternoon, Thursday and Friday, Oct. 15-17, through Coach John Richardson at John@Pla-IT.com or (612) 234-7782.



Magic or Science?

By Wynnee Igel

How did he do that? Magic? No, actually, it was science!

Jerry Wenzel, grandfather of 3rd grader Genesis Frerotte, wasn't able to come to Grandparents' Day, but came the Monday afterwards to trick, explain, and inspire our Kindergarten through 4th grade students. Grandpa Wenzel is a retired science teacher and now professionally performs science-magic shows all over Minnesota.

In his colorful lab coat, Grandpa Wenzel kept students guessing with each trick. Our teachers and families are doing a good job teaching science because the students' answers about the science behind the trick were logical and sound scientific concepts. Students were excited with each trick, gasping in surprise, shouting answers, and unable to sit still. Even teachers weren't sure how he did some of his tricks.

Grandpa Wenzel was still able to trick the students some of the time. He did a science version of 3 Card Monty with 3 cups, one filled with water. Students had to guess which cup had the water in it. He mixed around the cups three times and after the third time, none of the cups had water in them! Where did it go? Ask your child for the answer.

Due to the school's busy schedule, we didn't have time for Grandpa Wenzel to perform for the middle school students. However, he graciously agreed to come back and we jumped at the chance. We'll see whether or not Grandpa Wenzel can trick the middle school students next.

Sue's News (continued)

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."

See you at Parent Teacher Conferences on either Wednesday or Thursday next week!

Warm regards,
Sue Berg
Executive Director

It's Book Fair Time!

by Becky Hoffmann

Be sure to stop by the Fall book fair during conferences. Hours of operation are:

Noon - 8PM on Wednesday, October 15
8AM - 2PM on Thursday, October 16

The fair will include a large selection of books from Scholastic and Usborne, for ages ranging from preschool to middle school. If you miss the book fair or would like to browse a larger selection of the books Scholastic has to offer, you can shop and order online. All orders placed

through the online fair qualify for free shipping to the school and are sent home with your student. The online fair runs from Friday, October 10th through Friday, October 27th.

Thanks for shopping! Remember, we receive a percentage of sales in free books, so your purchase means more books for Yinghua's growing library.

Curriculum Corner (continued)

and focus on our Middle school principle: “When one’s personal life is cultivated, one’s family will be regulated and then one’s state will be well governed; and when all the states are well governed, there will be peace and harmony throughout the world (修身, 齐家, 治国, 平天下).” This week we watched a video clip to learn Chinese people’s view of study and cultivation, and invited some of the teachers to share their thoughts. We would like our students to gain different perspectives on humanity and society, so they may wonder and ask questions. We also plan on inviting speakers and guests to join us, for example, our Sister School in Inner Mongolia may be joining us via Skype. To practice their public speaking and leadership skills, the MS students will help lead morning assemblies for grades K through 4 in the near future.

I totally agree with Neil Hawkes’ view on school assemblies: “a high quality school assembly is one of the most important aspects of a school’s curriculum. Its potential to nurture a positive school ethos that stresses care for the self, others and the pursuit of all forms of excellence should not be underestimated. It powerfully nurtures the development of intrapersonal intelligence.” I intend to make good use of our morning assemblies to help prepare our students physically, mentally, and spiritually before beginning the studies at school. Another added bonus is that all morning assemblies are conducted in Chinese only, except, of course, when Mrs. Berg and Mr. Brewer need to address specific issues!

Have a great weekend!

Sincerely,

Luyi Lien, Ph.D.

Academic Director

Singapore Math for Teachers and Parents

Singapore Math for teachers and parents is an overview of Singapore’s curriculum, its content and methods. This series provides an understanding of what Singapore Math is teaching, why it teaches those elements, and how it teaches those elements. Taught in three half day sessions, these sessions help orient instructors to both the big picture goals of each year of elementary math instruction as well as the detailed methods and tasks used in individual lessons.

Each session will begin at 8:30 AM and end at 12:30 PM, and will consist of lecture and discussion, with ample time for questions and answers. There will be 2 15 minute breaks. The location is the Olin Rice Science Center, Room 350, Macalester College.

Session 2, on October 18, 2014, focuses on multiplication, division, fractions and decimals. This material corresponds to the content of Singapore Math and Math in Focus Levels 2A – 4B. Special emphasis will be placed teaching fractions using the number line and bar models.

For more information, please visit www.mathwalk.org or call 612-293-MSMI.



你好老师! Hello Teacher!

By Dave Madsen

It seems Jan Kleinman was destined to be a Social Studies teacher from the time she was born in the Netherlands in a historic, canal city called Delft.



Her hometown, however, is not in the Netherlands; she was raised in the east-coast city of Newark, Delaware.

Kleinman (who goes by the Chinese name of 柯曼如, Ke Man Ru) was introduced to the school through a mentor of hers and soon found herself active in the community. In September of 2011, Kleinman began working at Yinghua full-time—she still remembers when 8th Grade had only 4 students! She reported that the most rewarding part of teaching is watching her students gain confidence in expressing themselves.

“There are so many facets to each individual person that no one—even a parent or teacher—can see them all,” she said. “Together we can try to understand them, yet they have talents even we can’t see yet.”

English Name:

Jan Kleinman

Chinese Name:

柯曼如

(Ke Man Ru)

Class number/

Subject:

Middle School

Social Studies

Birthplace/Home-

town:

Delft, Nether-

lands/Newark,

Delaware

Attention Yinghua Families and Staff

by Ginger Hao

Are you looking for somewhere to get a FLU SHOT? There will be a Flu Shot Clinic at Yinghua Academy on Wednesday, October 15th, from 5:30pm-7:00pm in the Health Office. Nurses from the Minnesota Visiting Nurses’ Association will be here to give flu shots, Flu Mist, and pneumonia vaccinations.

The cost is covered by most insurance plans. Health insurance cards and a picture ID are required for billing purposes or you can pay cash. Persons ages 3 and older may receive the flu vaccination. Hope to see you there!

Good News for Grade 6!

by Jan Kleinman

Every Grade 6 student in Minnesota is entitled to a free, year-long pass to any Minnesota Historical site or museum. Our 6th graders will receive their passes on Wednesday, 10/15, just in time for the long weekend break! Families, start planning a visit to the Mill City Museum, Fort Snelling, Minnesota History Center, James J. Hill House or any of the 26 historic sites around our state. The passes are valid until August 31, 2015, so you have time to visit them all(!) Check the website for ideas, directions and hours (<http://www.mnhs.org/visit>). Happy traveling back in time!



Physical Education Update

By Sarah Totall

Gym Shoe Reminder: Please remember to have your child wear or bring their gym shoes on PE days.

Athletic Update

Badminton: Players have been working hard on their badminton skills. Learning how to drop, drive and smash the birdie.

Flag Football: The rain chased the football players inside. They worked on throwing, catching and plays before they scrimmaged.

Travel Basketball Sign Up is now open: Travel basketball for grades 5-8 will start in late November and run through early February. On-line registration form and information can be found on the Yinghua athletic webpage.

Questions: Contact Sarah Totall at sarah.totall@yinghuaacademy.org

Read-a-Thon is Here!

By Sara Pierce

It's time once again for Yinghua's annual Read-a-Thon! This week your student should have brought home a Pledge Sheet stapled to a collection envelope with an information letter and Minutes Read Record Sheet. The reading fun begins this Wednesday and lasts for 10 days. You may start collecting pledges anytime. Just make sure the envelope, money with Pledge Sheet, and Minutes Read Record Sheet get returned to school by Monday October 27.

This is a wonderful opportunity for students to help raise funds for their school. Since it's also a competition for minutes read, please cheer on and encourage your student to record all their minutes! Last year our students earned an impressive \$19,077 by reading 207,551 minutes. Our goal this year is to raise \$25,000 with 250,000 minutes read. We can do it! All reading counts - classroom reading, library time, Book It reading, even Sunday newspaper comics. And being read to counts, too. So if your fifth grader reads to your first grader they both get to claim those minutes! If your home library needs some beefing up, make sure to visit the upcoming Book Fair to add some variety to your book shelves. You can also get involved by installing a reading timer app on your phone or tablet to help record minutes and meet your goals. A free one is available at <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/scholastic-reading-timer/id520196131?mt=8> If your student is unable to collect pledges, please still read and turn in your Record Sheet! Every minute counts toward the classroom competitions.

Thank you for supporting the Yinghua Read-a-Thon. Now let's get reading!

Sara Pierce, YACA Development Chair
YACA-Fundraising@yinghuaacademy.org

Join Pla-IT - Revolutionary Sports

by Coach John Richardson

Join Pla-IT - Revolutionary Sports next week for camp October 15, 16, and 17.

Don't forget Monday, October 13th is your last day to register for multi-day packages to be used during 2014-15 school year. Visit www.Pla-IT.com for more details.

Wednesday pick-up from Yinghua and field trip to AirMaxx trampoline park. Thursday join us for sports, art projects, board game competition, and carnival games with prizes. Friday is tournament day where kids will participate in multiple different sports contests and other non-sport activities!



Accepted Insurances

Flu Shot:		FluMist:	High Dose Flu Shot:	
◇ Aetna	◇ MCHA-Medica	◇ America's PPO	◇ BCBS (any state)	
◇ America's PPO	◇ Medicare	◇ BCBS (any state)	◇ Humana	
◇ BCBS (any state)	◇ MHP	◇ HealthPartners	◇ Medicare	
◇ MN Health Care (MA)		◇ Humana	◇ Medica	
◇ HealthPartners	◇ Preferred One	◇ Medica	◇ UCare	
◇ Humana	◇ Select Care	◇ Preferred One		
◇ LaborCare	◇ UCare	◇ United Health Care		
◇ Medica	◇ Unicare			
◇ United Health Care				
TDAP:		Pneumonia:		
◇ BCBS (any state)		◇ Aetna	◇ MCHA-Medica	
◇ HealthPartners		◇ America's PPO	◇ Medicare	
◇ Medica		◇ Blue Cross B/S	◇ MHP	
◇ Preferred One		◇ MNHealthCare(MA)		
		◇ HealthPartners	◇ SelectCare	
		◇ Humana	◇ UCare	
		◇ LaborCare	◇ Unicare	
		◇ Medica	◇ UnitedHealthCare	

Cash Prices

Trivalent: \$30	Quadrivalent: \$35	FluMist: \$35	High Dose: \$55	TDAP: \$60	Pneumonia: \$89
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NOTE: All participants must bring their Health Insurance member ID cards in order for MVNA to bill Health Insurance plans on their behalf. Based on the participant's specific insurance plan provisions, a co-pay or deductible may be due/owed to MVNA after clinic processing.

Checks made payable to MVNA.