

YINGHUA ACADEMY

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Awards Ceremony Photos
See Page 3

CNY Volunteer Information
See Page 5

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Sue's News

Sue Berg | Executive Director

Dear Parents,
These are incredibly busy, exciting days at Yinghua for our kids and teachers. Here are just a few highlights of student activity:

- We gathered for KG, LS, and MS celebrations. We envisioned this as an opportunity to, beyond golden tickets and the teachers' own classroom techniques of recognizing students, emphasize many outstanding traits and to inspire our students. Teachers were sincere and clever, and it was obvious to me how much care and thought they invested!
- Our new gym is home to our Dragons basketball teams. Just this week we hosted co-ed, girls-only, and boys-only games, and they were all hotly contested! The bleachers have been full of fans. Come and cheer on our athletes at next week's Fan Appreciation games on Wednesday at 4:30 and 5:30 and on Friday at 5:30. They'll be free spirit beads for kids in attendance! No admission fees!
- Students from our sister school in Hohhot, Inner Mongolia, will arrive on Sunday night, stay with host families, and join us at school Monday-Wednesday. Part of their MN experience will be a Timberwolves game on Monday night; we were able to score 50 lower level tickets with a few perks such as courtside seats for warm-ups, an opportunity for kids to line the tunnel and greet the team as they enter the floor, and a photo shoot on court after the game. MS kids are excited to meet their SKYPE friends from afar and to put their Chinese to the test!
- Valentine's Day celebrations will be held on Friday, February 13th! It's a non-uniform day with a red, white, pink

theme to get into the spirit of this American holiday. Classroom parties will take place in homerooms with Valentines and treats. Teachers will supply class lists so that those wishing to make/deliver cards to classmates can include everyone. Check Classroom Pages for details.

There are also some golden opportunities for parents ahead:

- Consider joining us for the SEAC winter meeting on Tuesday, February 10, from 4:30-5:30. At this meeting Mr. Brewer, Dean of Students, will be presenting a short overview of YA's general approach to behavior management and discipline.
- Yinghua Futures; What's Next? Mark your calendars for Thursday, February 12. We will host Sue Luse, past guidance and college counselor at Eagan High School, from 7:00-8:30PM. It will be an informative evening for anyone wishing to plan ahead for your student's next chapter. This session will be especially pertinent for 7th and 8th grade students and their parents, but it's never too early to begin. Time flies!
- Don't forget to reserve your CNY tickets for Saturday, February 28, at 12:00PM or 4:00PM through Bethel University either through the Box Office or online. Rehearsals are underway. Just three weeks left until show time. See the YA webpage for details.

Warm regards,
Sue Berg

Upcoming Events

2

14

15

Valentine's Day

Brewer's Blog

Jeremy Brewer | Dean of Students

Hello Parents!

As I sit down to write this week's entry we have not yet celebrated our first Spirit Day. So, unfortunately I don't have any awesome pics to share. Bummer! Don't worry, I'll be sure to include them next week.

Speaking of Spirit Days, next Friday, February 13 will be our second day to celebrate! The theme will be Valentine's Day since many of the classes will be holding little class parties in celebration of Saturday's holiday. This being the theme, students who wish to participate may wear red, pink, white, and purple. Head-to-toe is preferred, but students may wear jeans as long as they wear the approved color on top. As always, participation is optional, but students not wanting to participate need to wear regular school uniforms. So get your love on and have fun with it!

Switching gears, I do have one other big announcement to make. This week, we rolled out a new school-wide recycling program! This new program now allows us to recycle glass and plastic, in addition to paper. We don't see a lot of glass on campus because it isn't allowed. Glass, small hands, and hard floors don't mix well! But, it does find its way onto campus from time to time so it's good to be able to recycle it. The students will even be able to recycle milk cartons, juice boxes, and even those clear plastic cup cake/muffin containers that are brought in to celebrate birthdays. One of the coolest things about this new program is that it is "single" sort. That means that we can put all glass, plastic, and paper into one bin, which makes it easier for everyone. I should point out that we've actually been working on this for almost 3 years, but it was put on hold last year due to the construction. Now that we've settled into our new building we decided it was time to make it happen. CC Yin, 8th grade Deputy Head of Management, has been involved in the planning since the beginning as a 6th grader. Her team will be delivering posters to each room to help the students learn what items can be recycled and what are trash. They will also be doing a presentation to each of the grade level Morning Meetings in the gym next week to help educate the younger students on how the recycling will work and why it's important. Please help us to be as green as possible by using the recycling bins when you are on campus. As we become a bigger school, it's more important than ever to manage our waste responsibly, and it will take all of us working together to do that.

Thank you for your support and have a wonderful weekend!

Jeremy Brewer
Dean of Students

Summer Clay Classes at Yinghua!

By Meghan Byram

I loved my time teaching summer clay classes last year at Yinghua! Our small classes had a blast and were able to complete multiple glazed ceramic projects in small class sizes. Please see the attachments at the end of this week's newsletter for the course catalog and registration. Registration will be handled on a first-come-first-served basis; each class has capacity for 12 students.

Happy Weekend,
Meghan Byram

Summer Clay Class Catalog and Information

Clay Sampler 1 Session 1 (June 15-24) \$120

10:00-11:30am

8 classes (5 sculpting, 3 glazing)

This class will cover the basics of sculpting and hand-building with clay, as well as provide students with a chance to see the process of firing the clay. We will make projects using basic hand-building techniques including coil, slab, and pinch pots.

This session will feature different projects as last year's camps: Texture tile wall hanging, Clay rattle, Cupcake box, Wild things, Robot bank.

Clay Sampler 2 Session 1 (June 15-24) \$160

12:00pm-2:00pm (a bit more time if your artist is, shall we say.... detail oriented)

8 classes (5 sculpting, 3 glazing)

This class will cover the same techniques as projects as the earlier class with a little extra work time for our students who are a bit more meticulous. While the techniques we will be working to master are the same the projects will be different with the exception of wild thing day.

This session will feature different (whistle exception) projects as last year's camps: Texture wind chime, Cake box, Whistle, Wild things, Mask (artist choice design)

Please note Session 2's non-consecutive weeks: This is due to the school buildings being closed the week of July 6-10. I know this is not ideal but with conflicts later in summer it was the only way to fit a second day session in. The second week (3 days), as with the other session, is for glazing sculptures.

Clay Sampler 3 Session 2 (June 29-- July 3 & July 13-15) \$120

10:00-11:30am

8 classes (5 sculpting, 3 glazing)

This class will cover the basics of sculpting and hand-building with clay, as well as provide students with a chance to see the process of firing the clay. We will make projects using basic hand-building techniques including coil, slab, and pinch pots. This session will feature the same projects as last year's camps: Texture tiles, African masks, Castle towers, Wild things, Coil pot creature nests.

Clay Sampler 4 Session 2 (June 29-- July 3 & July 13-15) \$160

12:00pm-2:00pm (a bit more time if your artist is, shall we say.... detail oriented)

8 classes (5 sculpting, 3 glazing)

This class will cover the same techniques as projects as the earlier class with a little extra work time for our students who are a bit more meticulous. While the techniques we will be working to master are the same the projects will be different with the exception of wild thing day.

This session will feature the same projects as last year's camps: Name/Letter relief tiles, Picasso masks, Whistles, Wild things, Coil pots, artist choice design.

Instructor: Meghan Byram, Yinghua Academy Art Specialist

Costs cover instruction, space, and materials. The goal of these courses is to create a high level of work that can only be achieved through one on one instructor time and feedback.

Clay classes are limited to 12 students due to the kiln and clay firing processes.

Clay classes will pack up at the ending time of class to prepare for the next class or the end of the day. Students may sign up for back to back classes but will be expected to be supervised by the instructor at all times, as well as the half hour between class times.

I taught clay as part of my curriculum in my four years of experience prior to coming to teach at Yinghua. You could say it is my medium, the material I most prefer to work with, I love clay! I have been teaching clay classes the last three summers.

See pages 6-8 for registration information





Social Studies News

By Jan Kleinman

Grade 6 enjoyed a guest lecture by Dr. Pauline Danforth, Metropolitan State University. An Ojibwe and an American Studies professor, Dr. Danforth introduced students to Ojibwe language. She engaged them in locating on a map Minnesota place names with Ojibwe and Dakota origin.

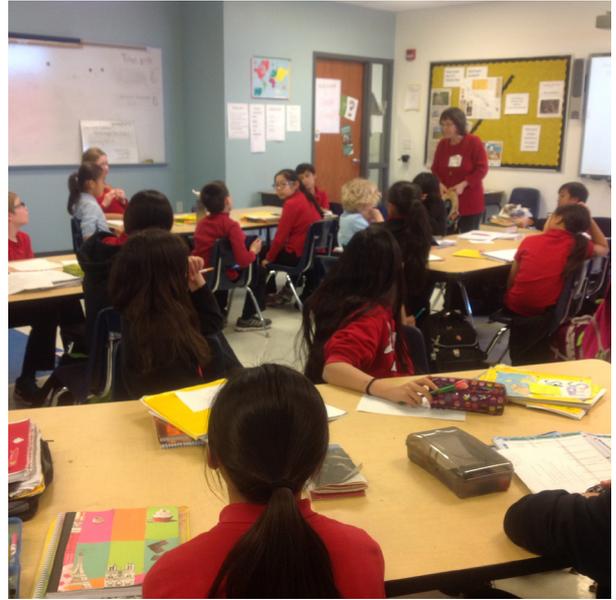
For example, students learned that "Minnesota" is Dakota for "Sky-tinted Water" and "Mississippi" is Ojibwe for "Great River." She further pointed out that Dakota, Ojibwe, and members of many other tribes live throughout Minnesota today. Some live on reservations (7 Ojibwe in MN) and in communities (4 Dakota in MN) while many live in cities and towns.

Students asked insightful questions, such as "How did Dakota and Ojibwe get along when they first met?" and whether they cooperated during the U.S. Dakota War. Ask your child what she/he learned!

National Geography Bee News

The Middle School students had the chance to show what they know in the National Geographic Bee. All 8th grade students competed during Social Studies class.

After several lively rounds of questions, and an exciting final round featuring 6 semi-finalists, 4 students advanced to the all-Middle School final round. Grade 5, 6 and 7 had the chance to compete separately and 6 intrepid grade 6 students competed. During the all-Middle School final round, 7 total students faced markedly harder questions. After a tense tie-breaking round of 3 difficult questions, the first runner-up was Jing Jing Munson (Grade 6) and the school winner was John Owens (Grade 8). Congratulations to all competitors!



PE Update

By Sarah Totall

Kids Play Day is on March 28, 2015 for grades KG-4 from 1:00-5:00pm. Come and enjoy our new climbing wall, scavenger hunt, and gym games. Proceeds go toward our Wheels Week unit. For more details see the registration form on the Yinghua Physical Education page.

Wanted: gently used gym shoes

Climbing Wall is scheduled for installation on February 6.

ATHLETICS

Floor Hockey for Grades 3-8 starts Thursday, February 12. There is room for a few more players. Check out the registration form on the Athletic webpage.

Indoor Soccer Tournament for Grades 1-5 is on Saturday, March 7. Fun, fast paced soccer for all abilities. Soccer prizes for everyone. Proceeds go to Yinghua Athletics. For details and registration form, go to the Athletic webpage.

Volleyball registration is CLOSED.

Fan Appreciation Games: Come and cheer on the Dragons as they play basketball. Free "spirit beads" for all students who attend the game. Wednesday February 11 is Fan Day for students and parents in Grades 1-4. Friday February 13 is Fan Day for students and parents in Grades 5-8. Come one or both days if you would like. Games start at 4:30 and are over by 6:30. Let's make some noise in the gym!



Middle School CLA Update

By Lu Yang

5th-8th graders are working hard on their new text and also on practicing Chinese New Year Performances. Students are engaged in different performances.

5th graders are practicing their Dragon Dances and drumming. They are also dancing with Chinese traditional fans, scarfs, and Chinese knotting.

6th graders are telling a story of the Lantern Festival by dancing. They cannot wait to show you their beautiful dance moves with colorful ribbons!

In 7th grade, students and teachers are in good progress, preparing an authentic Beijing Opera for the audience. They are practicing traditional singing and movement.

8th graders are working on a Chinese traditional classical text which is about a story to find an ideal world, and they are presenting the story on the stage.

Thank You Volunteers and Please Sign Up to Help

By Wynee Igel

Thank you to all those who have helped, are helping, and who signed up to help with Chinese New Year activities! We can't do this without you. There are still some open spots, so please check the sign-up on the webpage at: <http://goo.gl/81UKNw>.

If you come to the school, you'll notice it looking festive as we hang decorations throughout the building. Thank you to Renee Cosgrove (Liam 1D) for making lanterns and sheep from our artwork contest winner's design.

Thank you also to those who helped sort and hang them: Lindsey Alexander (Eleanor 3C, Charlie K2), Ivette Tejada-Little (Abigail K2), Wayne Shatto (Cece 2B), Cory Brathall (EA), and the Breck High School students.



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Yinghua Academy Summer Clay Classes

Session 1: June 15-June 24 (Monday-Friday, and Monday-Wednesday 8 day courses)

Session 2: (June 29- July 3 & July 13-15)* (Monday-Friday, and Monday-Wednesday 8 day courses)

Student's Full Name: _____

Grade Entering Fall 2015 (circle one): 3rd 4th 5th 6th 7th 8th 9th

Home address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Postal Code: _____

Parent Name _____ Parent Cell: _____

Parent Name _____ Parent Cell: _____

Parent Email: _____

2nd Parent Email (If necessary): _____

Person authorized to pick up child: _____

Alternative Pick up arrangements: _____

Emergency Contact: _____

Relationship: _____ Phone: _____

Specify any important health concerns for child: _____

Specific Medication or Allergies: _____

Is your child allergic to dogs Yes No

I am registering for:

Sampler 1 June 15-June 24 **\$120** Sampler 3 June 29- July 3 & July 13-15 **\$120**

Sampler 2 June 15-June 24 **\$160** Sampler 4 June 29- July 3 & July 13-15 **\$160**

Make the check payable to: **Yinghua Academy**, it can be turned in to the front office.

Registration is not complete without payment and signed code of conduct.

*There will be no refunds for any classes missed by a participant, and no refunds after June 9, 2015.

*Please note nonconsecutive weeks of the Session 2 Schedule.