



### **Sue's News**

Dear parents,  
BRRR! This frigid arctic air that has kept our children inside this week during recess so as to avoid frostbite has reminded me of several other safety concerns. We are a village and so, not only have I witnessed some of these behaviors myself, but other staff and parents have shared their observations. Thankfully these potential hazards are mostly avoidable if we all use common sense, good judgment, and excellent modeling behavior for our children. Upon becoming a parent for the first time, I received sage advice from our pediatrician who said, *"Remember more often than not it is what you do rather than what you say that will have the biggest impact on your children."* Let us always strive to set fine examples. Please, for the sake of all Yinghua students, abide by the following rules:

Please send your children to school fully prepared for cold winter weather. They should have a warm jacket, snow pants (KG-5), boots, gloves/mittens, hat, and scarf. If the temperature is above 0°, we expect children to go outside for fresh air, exercise, and free play with friends. At Yinghua, our goal is to work hard and play hard every day! If keeping your growing kids in winter gear is a financial challenge, please notify me. We have a small foundation grant for families in need.

Do not leave children, especially young children, unattended in parked cars with the motor running while you go into either the Kinder Campus or the Main Campus to deliver or pick up other children. I'm confident that I don't need to say more!

At drop-off and pick-up, please approach the school via Pierce Street to enter 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue. This allows all children and adults to exit vehicles at the curb versus crossing the street amidst heavy traffic during this hectic time of day. The "near misses" involving darting children have been numerous and frightening. This procedure may take a few minutes longer, but we'd rather be safe than sorry!

If you arrive to school after 8:30AM, please walk your LS (KG-4) child into the Main Office to sign your child in. For safety reasons the foyer double doors are closed and locked after 8:30, so students need a pass to enter.

Please, please keep last minute schedule changes to a minimum. With 520 students, it is already like a 1000 piece puzzle to get everyone where they need to be between 3:30-3:45. With bus routes, enrichment classes, music conservatory lessons, and after care as options, we do our best to operate an organized program. We appreciate your help.

Stay warm! I'll see some of you at the YACA General Membership meeting tomorrow.

Best,  
Sue

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

Dear Yinghua Families:

The Mid-Term week has been peaceful and quiet. I would like to compliment our students for their hard work, for behaving themselves and following the test protocol, and for being considerate when transitioning in the hallways while testing was in progress in other classrooms.

I also observed how the teachers reflected upon the exams, as they reviewed and graded them. When some students struggled with a math problem on the exam, a group of teachers shared strategies as to how to help students solidify the division concept by using the model drawing method. One teacher charged into my office to report a huge jump in her students' reading scores and to demonstrate to me that her teaching strategies worked. Another teacher showed me the amazing samples of her students' creativity in the writing portion of the Chinese Language Arts exam; the students expressed themselves so eloquently in Chinese!

Once the grading is complete, the results will be recorded and analyzed by subject, by student, by class, and by grade. We will ask "what happened and why", design appropriate action plans, and adjust the teaching pace, if necessary, to make sure the students have successfully acquired the knowledge and skills intended for their grade levels.

As always, please contact me with any academic questions or if you need ideas on how you can help support your child at home.

Have a great weekend!

Luyi Lien, Ph.D.  
Academic Director

*Greetings Parents!*

*Today's Backwards/Inside Out day was a modest success. Many students participated and seemed to have fun with it. I even saw a few kids with their pants inside out! That was a site! Next year we'll definitely try to change it up a bit with some new and fresh ideas. You never know! Maybe we'll have a Beach Day theme, minus the beach of course! ☺*

*Next Friday, the theme will be THE Spirit Day. Students can wear school colors and/or Spirit Wear, and if they do so, they may also wear jeans! Then, at 2:45-3:15, we will end the month with our Pep Fest in the gym with grades 1-8. At the assembly, we'll introduce the MS basketball team and some of the Student Life Leaders who have been working on all of the fun stuff this year. After that, we'll announce the classroom winner of the "Pennies for Play" drive. Then, we'll end with a special relay race with contestants picked from the students. A few teachers may be on the teams too! It's sure to be lots of fun and very loud as we celebrate being Dragons. I plan on wearing ear plugs!*

*Speaking of "Pennies for Play", the last day to donate is next Wednesday, January 30<sup>th</sup>. The prefects and I will collect the penny jars during PM Homeroom and begin counting the change. I know Lin Laoshi's first grade class is racking up a lot of coinage so everyone has their work cut out for them if they want to beat them! Good luck and thanks for contributing!*

*Jeremy*

*Director of Students, Family, and Community*

### **Looking for childcare on Yinghua's Non-School Days?**

This is a friendly reminder from Revolutionary Sports that Yinghua does not have school:

Monday February 11 in observance of Chinese New Year

Monday February 18 in observance of President's day

Revolutionary Sports has openings in camp both days! Our camp price is \$35. However If you take advantage of our 14 day early registration deadline half day camp (7AM - 1PM or 12PM - 6PM) is \$30 and a full day \$50 (7AM-6PM-this is considered two camps).

Please register by:

Monday January 28th for February 11

Monday February 4th for February 18th camp days.

If you have already participated in a camp, please confirm by email and if payment is due, drop-off payment by the Mondays listed above.

Please find attached our camp registration form as well as a list of our many evening and weekend classes, camps and leagues.

#### **Some things to note in the flyer:**

1) We have sport specific classes for ages three through 15 Monday - Thursday starting at 5:30 PM. Some sports include: Soccer, basketball, baseball, lacrosse, softball, volleyball, and a Team Sport sampler. We also have soccer and basketball leagues on Saturdays and Sundays.

2) We have Saturday camps both in the morning and at night in case kid's (or parents) want a morning or night out.

3) We have adult pick-up sports 8:30-10:00PM. Our schedule includes

Soccer on Mondays

Basketball on Tuesdays

Dodgeball on Wednesdays

Volleyball on Thursdays.

We recently opened up a new online registration system. We have not worked out all the bugs. If you have any difficulty figuring it out, please let us know [Admin@RevolutionarySports.org](mailto:Admin@RevolutionarySports.org). You may also use paper registration and turn it in to the Yinghua Academy office.

Coach John Richardson,

Director, Revolutionary Sports, (612)234-7782

### **Contest!**

Do you like to make maps? K-8 students: draw, paint, make a collage, sketch "My Place in Today's World." Co-sponsored by National Geographic Education, this international contest challenges kids to create an art piece--either alone or with 1 -2 friends--that includes a map of the world. Samples can be viewed at

<http://children.library.carleton.ca/index.htm>

Entries will be judged by age group. Due by March 15, 2013. Ask Ke Laoshi ([jan.kleinman@yinghuaacademy.org](mailto:jan.kleinman@yinghuaacademy.org)) for more information.

### **LEGO LEAGUE TOURNAMENT**

The Minnesota State FIRST Lego League Tournament is being held on Saturday, Feb. 2 at Washington Technology Magnet School-- 1495 Rice Street, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55117. This is a good opportunity for Lego League team members to watch the best teams in the state, and for interested kids and parents to check it out and think about possibly participating on Yinghua's teams next year. Note, this is a state tournament so the best teams from all the November and December tournaments will be competing. Should be lots of fun to watch!!

# Middle School News

1/25/13

## Middle School Updates 1/25

Chinese New Year preparations are underway!

8th grade has choreographed dance moves to a current Taiwanese pop song.

Practice is underway, and students should be learning these moves!

7th grade has acquired costumes from the different regions of China.

Students are practicing the “fashion walk” and a cue with a partner.

6th grade is creating a tale of the Terracotta Warriors coming to life in order to escort a princess to meet her prince.

The students are working on introducing two different types of common ancient soldiers, and a wedding ceremony with ribbon dance.

5th grade will be performing the Chinese drum, dragon dance, and fan dance.

They will show the beautiful Chinese culture by presenting the most traditional Chinese totems- dragon and phoenix.

## Science

After finishing midterms this week, each grade level will be moving into a new unit. 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade will be applying what they have learned about Heredity and Genetics in a study of Evolution and how life on Earth has changed over time. 6<sup>th</sup> grade will be studying Energy Transfer by waves in Sound and Light. 5<sup>th</sup> grade will be continuing in Earth Science, focusing on Earth's Structure and how Landforms can change by Uplift, Weathering and Erosion.

## Social Studies

Next week, grade 6 begins a unit about immigration. Is any adult in your family an immigrant? Students will conduct interviews, and I am hoping to assemble either a panel of people or a list of potential interviewees. Please contact me if you or a family member might be willing to be interviewed! [jan.kleinman@yinghuaacademy.org](mailto:jan.kleinman@yinghuaacademy.org)

## Chinese New Year 2013 Continuous Growth and Renewal The Year of the Snake

Yinghua Academy will be celebrating the Year of the Snake with a special performance at Benson Great Hall on the Bethel University campus on **Friday, February 8<sup>th</sup>, from 4:40-6:40PM**. Please note the start time is 4:40PM, not 4:00PM as previously stated. Doors open at 4:15PM.

Please see attached notice from YACA for more information about this exciting performance!



Tickets for Yinghua's 3rd annual Lantern Festival Gala are on sale now! Invitations were sent home prior to Winter Break, and are available online at <http://www.yinghuaacademy.org/gala>.

This year we are thrilled to welcome back local music heroes **The New Standards** to the stage! It's going to be a great evening, so get your tickets now, and invite your friends!



### Current Families With

### Incoming Kindergarteners

Don't forget to submit your kindergarten application for next year by **February 1, 2013**. Even though you will receive sibling preference, we still need an application for **every** incoming kindergarten student.

#### UPCOMING DATES

Feb 1	
8:30-10:00AM	First Friday Coffee (SiP Coffeebar)
5:00PM	Open Enrollment Ends
Feb 6	
6:30PM	Open Enrollment Lottery
Feb 8	
4:40PM	Red Envelope Campaign Begins Chinese New Year Performance (Bethel University)
Feb 11	
	Chinese New Year Holiday NO SCHOOL
Feb 18	
	Presidents Day NO SCHOOL