

Sue's News

Dear Parents,

With a total of 184,461 minutes logged in and \$19,237.21 pledged, we celebrated another successful Read-a-Thon! At the all-school assembly on Wednesday, we acknowledged classrooms and individual students with trophies and prizes for their enthusiasm and efforts. Congratulations to all the champions! We appreciate everyone who participated in this event! We could not ask for better weather for our Sixth Annual Story Book Parade and Autumn Festival. I was delighted to see an abundance of creativity and thoughts put into the characters and costumes, as I led the parade with my bike as the eight-year-old Ramona Quimby. (I think Dr. Lien had fun dressing up as a blonde as well!)

We had the privilege of welcoming author Cathy Bao Bean this week and listening to her entertaining and enlightening talk on language and culture. She reminded our Middle School students of their good fortune to be in an immersion program, and stressed the importance of keeping an open mind in this multicultural world. She has left us with plenty of food for thought!

Warm Regards,
Sue



Luyi's Curriculum Corner

Dear Yinghua Families,

As you know, at Yinghua we check students' progress regularly to determine how well our students are learning, gauge their performance, and measure the appropriateness of the content and the effectiveness of the methods and techniques utilized in the classroom. Conferences provided an opportunity to find out how your child is doing so far and to discuss goals for your child with their teachers. The end of the term is fast approaching and we are preparing our students to show their learning by providing them more specific directions to demonstrate their knowledge.

End of term assessments are scheduled during the week of Nov. 12th through the 16th. Teachers are helping students to review their learning in class. Teachers will also prepare the "Study Guide" for all students. The "Study Guide" includes two parts. The first part is written in English for parents and students. It is a one or two page document stating the topics/concepts which will be covered in the tests and the skills/facts/knowledge students need to have in preparation for the tests. For example, in third grade, one of the topics is animal hibernation and migration. Students need to understand the cause and effect of animal hibernation and migration. One of the facts students need to know is how animals survive the winter and the reasons behind the methods for certain animals to stay alive in winter.

The second part of the study guide is a study packet for students to help them review and prepare for the exam. For this portion, if the subject is taught and tested in Chinese, then the packet will be in Chinese. This study packet could be in the format of worksheet(s), a set of questions, reviewing of important content, and sample exam questions. The Chinese packet will be reviewed in school with the Chinese teachers and the most of the work will be done in school. The students will be able to take the packet home for reviewing purpose before testing. Teachers may also highlight important concepts that the students need to pay extra attention to so that when students study, they know to be more careful on those concepts. For example, a teacher may highlight the borrowing concept for a student who often forgets to borrow when doing subtraction problems. At home, when parents help students study the packet, they can help remind the students of those concepts that need special attention.

The study guide will be sent home next Monday. Please discuss with your students and support their efforts in preparation of the tests. We know our students work hard and learn well. We expect our students to show us what they know and be proud of their learning. Please let me know if you have specific questions about the study guide.

Have a great weekend!

Sincerely,
Luyi Lien, Ph.D.
Academic Director

New Enrichment Class Registration Coming Soon

Watch for our next catalog of Enrichment classes coming November 9. This is a short session -- just four weeks -- starting November 26 and ending December 21. We have exciting new things to try, including some one-time, one-day classes. Revolutionary Sports will be back with classes designed to try out some new sports. The sign-up period for this short session runs from November 9 to November 16. Note that we are enforcing a no-cancel rule on classes moving forward, so no refunds will be offered once you turn in your registration form.

We have a great, FREE class coming up for families: HOME ALONE is all about how to decide if kids are ready to stay home without a parent or guardian. Safety Officer Nick Juarez from the Minneapolis Police Department, in Yinghua's precinct, will lead the class that will include plenty of time for Q & A. Mark your calendars now for Wed., Dec. 5, 5:00-6:00, and sign up as part of the Enrichment program sign up.

And finally, we want to clarify that here are two parts to our Aftercare program. You can sign up for paid Aftercare, and pay a fee for days your kids are here. That covers you before and after classes and activities, all the way to 6:00. The other part of Aftercare is a free service that we offer to kids who are in our other activities. All kids in both Aftercare programs get a snack and can participate in our activities UNTIL they go their class -- enrichment, music, sports. For kids who are in our free before-activity care, their free period ends 10 minutes after the end of their class... for example, for kids who are in an enrichment class that ends at 4:30, they need to be picked up by 4:40 in order to avoid an Aftercare charge. If you have any questions about this policy, please contact Libby Pomroy at libby.pomroy@yinghuaacademy.org. Remember, ALL kids in all activities (sports, music, enrichment,

Terracotta Warriors Event!

Yinghua Families,

I'm writing to tell you about a can't miss, FREE, opportunity! The Minneapolis Institute of Arts (MIA) monthly Target Family Day is coming up on Sunday, November 11th from 11am - 5pm at the MIA. Each month there is a different theme. In celebration of the opening of the Terracotta Warriors exhibit, this month's theme is CHINA! This means there are tons of events and activities museum wide that celebrate the Chinese culture.

There will be music, calligraphy, paper cutting demonstrations and much more plus, free admission to the Terracotta Warriors exhibit. One of the art studios is a clay warrior project that I am lucky enough to be leading, I hope to see a lot of familiar faces!

See you next Sunday,

Meghan Wenkel
Yinghua Academy Art Specialist

Picture retakes will be November 16th. Retakes are free but please bring your original photos in their envelope to return to the photographer.