



THE BRITISH SCHOOL
OF GUANGZHOU
A NORD ANGLIA EDUCATION SCHOOL

Issue 4 - 2015/16

Newletter



"Our Ruling Rhinos Debate Team achieved a perfect score against 14 other international schools in the first round of the latest Global Campus competition." Mark Thomas, Principal

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents,

I hope that everyone enjoyed a relaxing Chinese New Year and found time to catch up with family and friends. For the British School of Guangzhou this continue to be a very exciting time in our development with Secondary staff and students thoroughly enjoying the space provided by their new building. We are extremely grateful to Nord Anglia Education for their support in developing this facility and are already planning a third floor to be added in time to open in August 2017.

As a company NAE are ambitious for all their schools but with two new building opened in two years we have benefitted more than most.



With CNY behind us staff and students are busily preparing for the next round of examinations. In the last 3 years our students have achieved some of the best results within Nord Anglia and we have high expectations for this year too. Our Year 13 students have already received impressive offers from Universities around the world so they will now need to ensure that their results match the expectations of the individual universities. I was very impressed with the number of parents who attended the recent Open Day in our lovely new Sixth Form Centre. We have received lots of positive feedback and lots of questions from parents that attended, which shows the value of this type of event.

As a company Nord Anglia are ambitious to make year on year improvements in all their schools. You will shortly be invited to give your opinions in a parental survey. I would encourage everyone to take the time to complete this survey, which will be available in a number of languages. Your constructive feedback really can help us to improve the educational offering for the students.

A growing number of our students are now becoming involved in online learning opportunities and taking part in educational forums through Global Classrooms. In fact our Primary Debating team are currently leading all other NAE schools in the Debating Competition. Lets hope that they continue to impress in the final rounds.

As a school we have always promoted a broad and vibrant curriculum, putting as much emphasis on sport, music and the performing arts as we do on the more academic subjects. This is very noticeable after the school buses have departed as an increasing number of students are involved in activities and training programmes across the Nanhu campus. I am very grateful to our Andy Dean our Director of Sport and to Jonathan Haslett our Director of Music for their efforts to promote such a wide variety of extra curricular opportunities for our students. The results of their efforts are clear to see as our sports teams continue to excel and our orchestra continues to expand.

I am delighted to confirm that Matthew Rous the Consul General of Guangzhou has confirmed that he will officially open our new Secondary building on the 14th April. We will be inviting a select number of our most long standing students and parents to take part in this event, as it is an opportunity to celebrate a decade of excellence at the British School. Miss Gemma Campbell our events manager will be sending out official invitations soon. We will have a limited number of tickets for this event but I will look forward to welcoming those parents and students who receive an invitation.

As always at this time of year we are involved in recruiting enough teachers to replace those moving on and to meet our expansion needs. In January, I was in London to represent our school at the Nord Anglia recruitment fair and was impressed to note that on average Nord Anglia received 11,615 applications for 303 vacancies for every post advertised. There is no doubting the importance of recruiting the very best available teachers and I am extremely aware that the benefits of joining an organization such as Nord Anglia are helping us to meet our recruitment needs.

I am very pleased to say that recruitment is now almost completed and can reveal that, after 4 successful years as Head of our Secondary School, Iain Ruck has accepted a new position as Vice Principal of our school starting from August 2016. Iain's commitment and support will be greatly appreciated and he will be involved in overseeing the educational standards across the school as well as helping to line manage some of our key staff. I can also reveal that Garry Russell currently Head of Secondary of Regents School in Thailand will be replacing Iain as the Head of Secondary. Garry has been an incredibly successful Head of Secondary in Regents and we are looking forward to welcoming him and his family to our school in August.

As a result of our continuous growth we are now advertising for additional TAs for next year. Any parents interested in a TA position, are encouraged to visit the website or speak to one of the Heads of Phase. To be eligible for a working visa you will need a degree, 2 years work experience, an excellent level of English and a TEFL certificate. More importantly you will need to understand that fun, laughter and smiles are the essential foundations of our school.

Mark Thomas



Thank you LG Display!

A huge thank you to Mr Sang Youb Kim, Vice President of LG Display, for his kind donation of 2 widescreen HD TVs for our reception areas.



Important information is often sent via email.

If you are not receiving emails, please contact our receptionist, Lily Huang at lily@bsg.org.cn

Charity Update

The British School of Guangzhou is committed to ensuring students and the greater school community are aware and endeavour to support organisations that represent underprivileged disadvantaged groups within society, especially those that represent children.

We would like to present to you school's Charity Charter that outlines our involvement with charity and fundraising as a school community. Our Charity Charter can be found on our [website](#).



ActionAid China Update

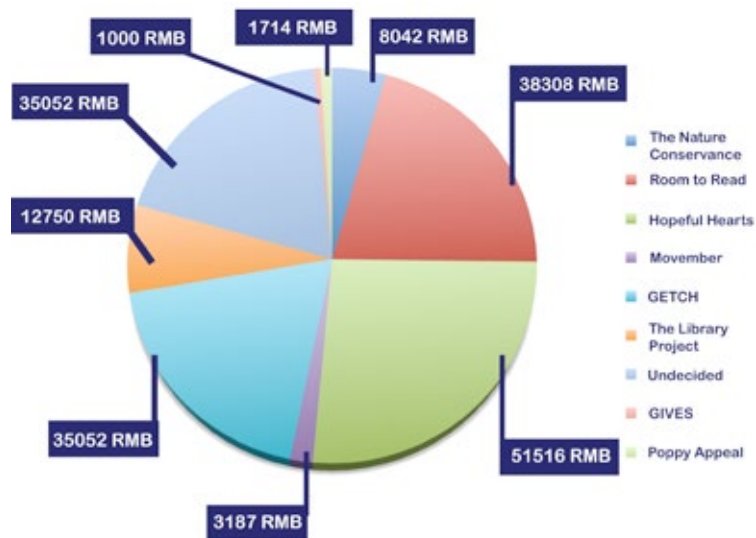
ActionAid China has re-strategized their programs direction and has decided to focus on climate change through policy research and advocacy at a macro level. Thus, ActionAid China will not be able to implement the Jian Primary school project as previously expected. As a result, we have been unable to draw up a contract and donate the money raised 2014/15 to ActionAid. This item will be discussed at our next charity meeting; we will be working together to reassign the money raised for ActionAid from 2014/15 and International Day 2015. We will be sure to keep everyone updated when a decision has been made.

As highlighted in our Charity Charter, we are keen to encourage parents from as many areas of the school as possible to support the work the school community does for disadvantaged groups. If you have free time and the desire to help others less fortunate than yourself, please contact Gemma (gemma.campbell@bsg.org.cn) for more information. If you are specifically interested in joining the governing committee that helps dictate the direction our charity work takes each year, please contact Gemma before 13th March 2016. We are keen to finalise this group by then and would like as many parents as possible to be involved so looking forward to hearing from as many parents as possible.

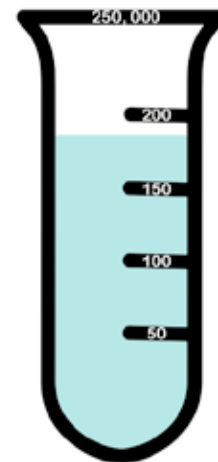
2015/16 Term 1 Charity Update

Money has been raised from various events throughout the year e.g. International Day, bake sales, second hand uniform sales, book sale, non-uniform days, Christmas cookies, Christmas cups, Family Christmas brunch and sponsorship etc... Thank you very much for your support!

Here's what our students have to say:



Current Running Total
186,621 RMB



Welcome to the Party...

LAKEFRONT CAMPUS
(ADULTS ONLY)

MONDAYS @ 4:30
WEDNESDAYS @ 5:30

**CARDIO DANCE
WORKOUT WITH
FRIENDS**
**SHAPE UP & LET
YOUR INNER STAR
SHINE**

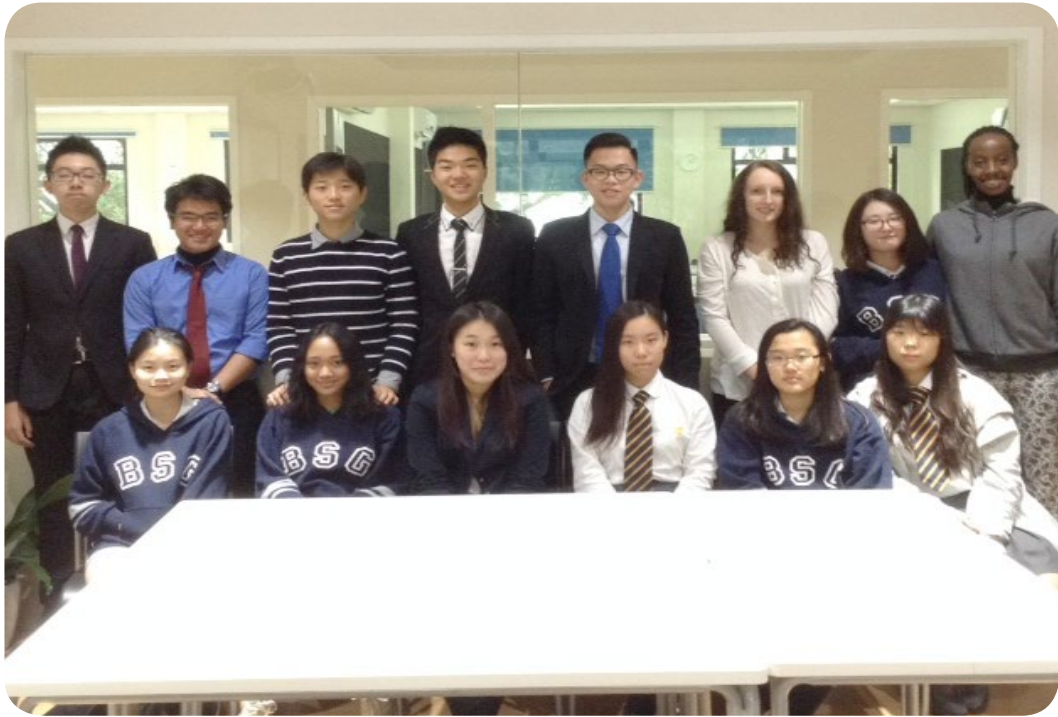


Call Irina on
185-7875-5717 or
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TODAY!**

SH'BAM

COMMUNITY



“As a school we can raise awareness and give back to people who need our help and care”.

“Charity motivates and inspires me to become a better person by enabling me to help those less fortunate and to reflect on the privileges that I was fortunate to be given from birth”.

“Charity is something that I am very passionate about. Putting myself into someone else’s shoes opens up a new perspective and drives me to help those in need”.

“Charity gives me the opportunity to help less fortunate people around the world in doing so I have gained valuable life skills”.

“Being able to help others is a great thing to do and I feel very blessed. We want to help others who really need our help by spreading joy and putting a smile on their faces”.

“Charity is not just giving to the underprivileged but about raising insight awareness to the whole world”.

For detailed reports and information regarding donations and charitable initiatives in school please visit our website www.bsg.org.cn.

Hopeful Hearts Guangzhou - Helping to keep young hearts beating!

We are happy to announce that The British School of Guangzhou has chosen Hopeful Hearts Guangzhou as the charity that we will be supporting for the rest of the academic year.

Hopeful Hearts is a non-profit charity based in Nanjing, Chengdu and Guangzhou. Their mission is to raise money and fund life-saving heart surgery for children of low-income Chinese families. Hopeful Hearts Guangzhou mainly receives cases involving newborn babies who require major heart surgery. The British School of Guangzhou will be working closely with this charity to help fund these life-changing surgeries. Once Hopeful Hearts receives a child in need, we will be able to arrange visits to the cardiology department to see the benefits of your donations. Heart surgery for a newborn baby costs around 80,000-100,000 RMB.

So far this year, we have already donated 51,516 RMB to Hopeful Hearts Guangzhou. With this money, we were able to fund the major heart surgery of a baby girl called Cai. On a recent visit to the hospital, we were greeted with smiles and were impressed with how well she seems to be recovering from her surgery. Cai has been moved out of intensive care and has now returned home with her thankful and loving family. Our Y6 house captains wrote get well wishes on a school panda as a thoughtful gift to Cai and her family. Cai's family send their deepest appreciation for helping to raise the money for her surgery.

Due to the fact that ActionAid China have re-strategized their program's direction and are no longer focusing on education, we have been unable to donate money raised from 2014-16. Instead, we will be donating this money (107,000 RMB) to Hopeful Hearts Guangzhou. There are many children like Cai still in need of lifesaving heart operations, so it is great to know that we can work with them to help make a big difference. We look forward to continuing to raise money and awareness for this wonderful organisation.

Thank you for your continuous support and generosity!



Aliens Really Do Love Underpants

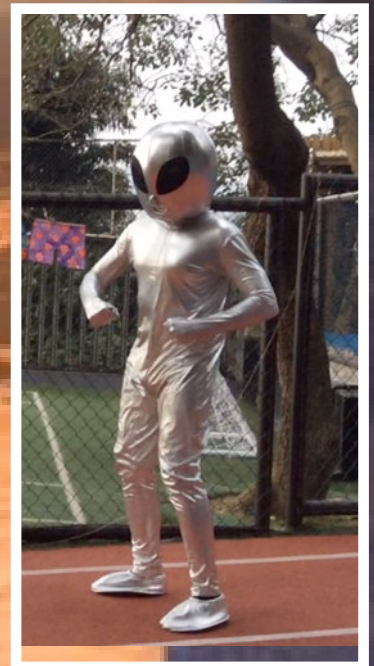
By: Christopher Eales


It was another regular week in Reception. Clothes was our topic and Aliens Love Underpants by Claire Freedman & Ben Cort was the theme related book. On Monday we were introduced to the book, learning about how Aliens often visit earth, mostly to tamper with washing lines across the globe and play with underpants of all shapes and sizes.

Our task was to design and paint our own underpants, and we did so learning about various new patterns such as swirls, polka dots, stripes, zigzags and stars. We had worked hard on our creations, and we couldn't believe it the next morning when the teachers informed us that our underpants had all vanished! Who had taken them from the fence outside where they were left to dry? We were all about to find out.

Later that morning we were fully engaged in our Letters & Sounds classes, when out of nowhere an alien strolled past our classrooms wielding our stolen underpants! We were in such shock that we were frozen to our seats and the alien was able to escape with his bounty of colourful bloomers.

During break time search parties were dispatched all over the Lakefront campus to find the alien, but he was nowhere to be found. It was generally concluded that he had returned to his home planet, and we were upset that our beautiful underpants were lost forever. We decided to write letters to the alien, asking why he had committed such a crime and whether there was any possibility that we could have them back? Mr. Alfie had other ideas however, and during assembly on Thursday we were shown what had happened after the alien ran away with our underpants.





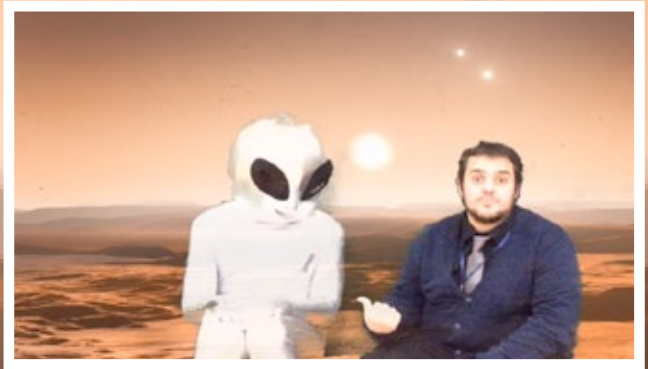
Using his contacts at N.A.S.A., Mr. Alfie had managed to grab a spare seat on a space mission that was passing the planet Zog, where we suspected the alien had stashed the underpants.

Undeterred by the logistical impossibilities that may have stood in his way, Mr. Alfie made his way to the planet's surface and was able to find the alien perpetrator who was apprehended with a mountain of bloomers he had no receipt for!

The alien was sorry for what he'd done, and it seemed that in all his time watching the British School of Guangzhou from afar, he had learnt at least one of our Core Values: integrity. He agreed to return the underpants on the condition that he could visit Lakefront again, to run an assembly on Underpants Security and Mr. Alfie readily agreed. We too know much about integrity in Reception, and it was agreed that thank you letters were in order as the alien had been kind enough to return them.

It had been a frantic week at Lakefront and despite the plethora of other exciting activities that we had been involved in, we will never forget one thing: aliens really do love underpants!

By the Reception Kangaroos (with a little help from Mr. Chris)



Early Years: The Album

By: Lin Oushu

January was a special month for Early Years children as we decided to make our own album.

We had learnt some Chinese nursery rhymes to perform and also to be recorded. Reception, Nursery and Pre-Nursery all had a chance to sing their song in the music room. Mr. Adam, a recording magician, kindly visited our campus to help the children record their beautiful singing and create their album.

Everybody was working very hard to practice their song to show the parents, teachers, and of course themselves, just how musical they are.

The Reception children worked extremely hard, as not only did they have to practice their Chinese New Year performance songs, but they also had to learn the traditional Chinese rhymes as well. The Reception children only had two weeks to learn their songs and prepare to be recorded, so I was very impressed with what Reception achieved.

The Nursery and Pre-Nursery children also worked very hard, and I am sure everyone who has listened to the album will agree we have a lot of future musicians on our Early Years campus.



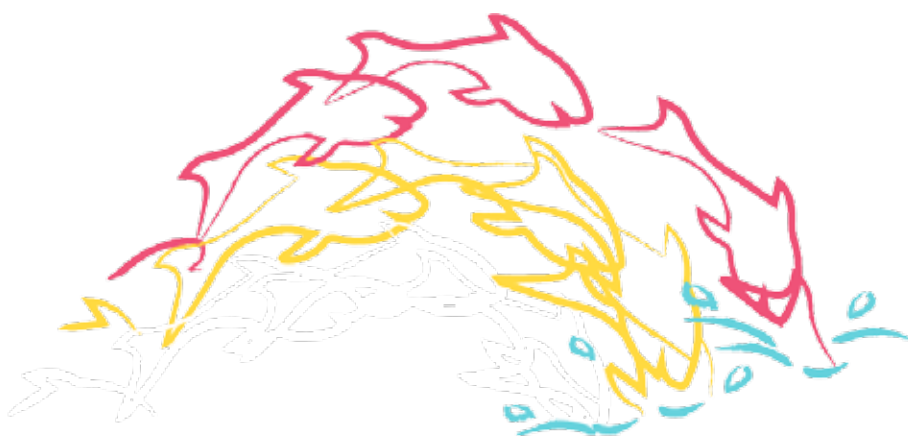
Getting Sporty

By: Catia Piairo

Physical Education in Early Years is really fun! We get our students to experience a variety of different activities to enable them to develop their gross motor skills, but also to give them confidence to move fluently and to enjoy movement for movement's sake.

As part of our programme we practice balls skills, gymnastics, athletics, games, swimming and during the last few weeks we have been doing yoga and dance.

In April, we will have our Early Years Sports Day where the students will be able to show a little bit of what they have learned, and we are sure they will have lots of fun. All parents are invited to come along and also to participate in some races.



EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION

Chinese New Year



Ready, Steady, Race!

By: Michelle Roux

On a crisp Wednesday afternoon, the whole of Year 2 and their parents gathered on the football pitch to compete for the House Cup.

The atmosphere was filled with excitement and tension...who would be the Sports Day winners? The excitement kicked off with the 25m, 50m and 100m races. Gi Dong 'Super Speed' Lee blasted the Normans into first place but the Saxons soon followed suit by the amazing crawling technique of Isabella 'Spider' Ling.

The Vikings, not to be outdone by the other teams, sped past with their amazing egg-and-spoon balancing act which put the Vikings in overall first place. The Romans put in a very powerful performance in the three-legged race and took the competition lead. As we approached the end of the Sports Day, the teams were neck and neck. It was time to call in the help of the parents.

Determined parents, displaying their amazing talents, joined the children on the field to compete in various events ranging from dress-up and run to beanbag throw. Congratulations to all parents who demolished the staff team in the tug of war competition! Staff also had a turn of joining in the fun and a special mention goes out to Miss Barbara for her amazing hula-hoop performance.

There was so much confidence on the field and so many proud faces in the crowd. It was amazing to see so much effort being put in by the children to ensure the day was a success. A big 'well done' goes to all of the children in Year 2!

Congratulations to the Normans who beat off very tight competition to become the overall winners of the Year 2 Sports Day. You made us very proud! We also wish to extend a very special thank you to Ms. Emma and the PE team for arranging this memorable day. Exhilarated, we returned to our classrooms.

What a thrilling end to spring half term!



Year 3 Performance Poetry Competition

By: Ben Burgess

After a lot of hard work across the year group, the Year 3 performance poetry competition final was held this week in the Nanhu theatre.

After a grueling competition involving every child in Year 3, a final selection of 32 pupils were chosen to represent their classes. Performing poems from well-known writers including Michael Rosen, Benjamin Zephaniah and William Blake, as well as some original pieces, the children had a great time entertaining each other.

Whether they were performing alone or as part of a group, it was clear that all the performers had taken the time to learn and understand their poems. The competition also gave the children a great chance to develop their confidence as well as their skills as performers.

The final represented the conclusion of a two week unit of work in which the children not only studied poems from a variety of well known poets, but also had the chance to watch some of these poets perform and write some of their own poetry in the styles of their favourite writer.

After 32 very enthusiastic children had performed their favourite pieces, the title of 'Year 3 Performance Poetry Champions' was awarded to Audrey, Alicia and Anna of 3DH. Second and third places went to Jools (3AB) and Kaz, Cedric and Tanay (3DB) respectively.

A fantastic first performance poetry competition and a great opportunity for all of the children to experience just how fun poetry can be.



The Heart Of The Matter

By: Phil Bennett

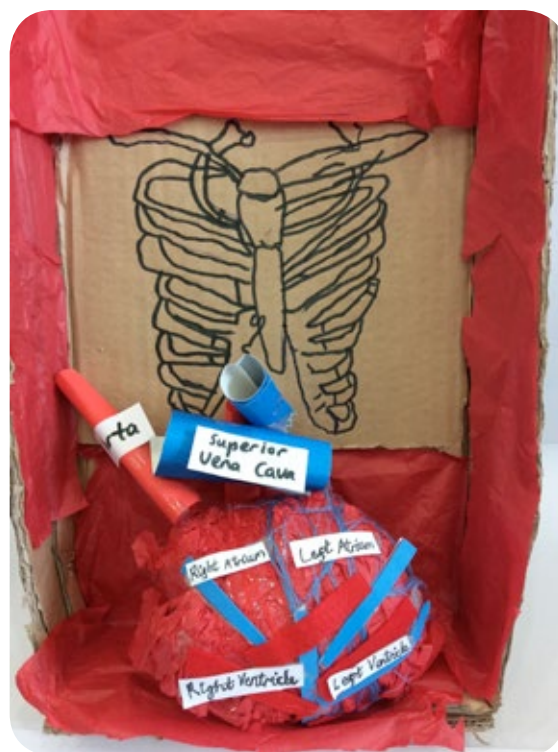
Not only did January bring us a new year, it also brought us five new children. We have welcomed Cici, Amy and Joanna to Mr. Bennett's class, Seo Young to Miss Heskin's class and Jae Heon to Miss Maher's class. They have already fitted in to the year six family and we hope they thoroughly enjoyed their time at BSG.

Mr. Williamson's class gave us a wonderful assembly, the final one on the theme of the Greeks. Excellent trumpet playing, awesome acting and electric singing (and that was Mr. Williamson). Well done to all in 6D, it was a memorable assembly and you did year six proud. And on that note, there are so many talented actors in year six. The end of year production this year is going to a 'must-see'.

We finally started our maths groups this term, after lots of planning and preparation dating back to last September. I'm pleased to say that they're running really well with lots of happy 'mathematical' faces. The groups are 'fluid' allowing children to move as appropriate, and already, one or two children have moved to groups that better suit their ability. We're looking forward to lots of great progress and enjoyment over the coming months.

And finally, who said that we're a heartless bunch in Year Six? What a load of nonsense – take a look at this...

Even the children have hearts.



猴年来了!

By: Ms. Julia Zhang/ Ms. Leena Lin/
Mr. John Joyce

The Year of the Monkey is here

Before school finished for the holiday, both Primary and Secondary students experienced a range of activities to commemorate the start of Chinese New Year and to embrace the local Chinese culture.

In both schools – primary and secondary – the last day of the week was all about showcasing what the students had experienced.

Primary had a wonderful Chinese assembly, starting with Primary Choir 'Little White Boat'. Then Year 3 CAL students demonstrated the famous 'blue and white porcelain' fan dance. Year 3 CFL students accompanied the song 'Grateful Heart' using sign language and encouraged their contemporaries to be grateful for the past year and to welcome in the new lunar year. Students from Year 4 CAL tried their hand at one of the traditional Chinese arts – Peking Opera – and sang, danced, mimed, as well as the famous changing of the facemasks. Year 5 and Year 6 students performed their versions of the "Three Character Classic". A Chinese poetry form that teaches Confucian morality. Their readings were accompanied by atmospheric music and dancing. The Primary assembly was brought to an end with a memorable instrumental performance by Duoduo (Year 3) and her grandfather. Together they played "Happy New Year" and everyone left smiling and ready for their holiday.

In secondary school Mr Joyce and Miss Wang organised China Week, which is to become an annual event in the week before Chinese New Year. The purpose of



this week is to celebrate BSG's host country – China! All students in years 7-9 had Chinese themed lessons in all subject areas (even Science and Spanish). Every lunchtime students from all year groups had the opportunity to sample traditional Chinese activities such as Bamboo painting, dumpling making, arts and crafts and Hong Bao making. All activities were well received, but the clear favourite was dumpling making as Mr Joyce's classroom was teeming with happy faced students and teachers wolfing down the most exquisite dumplings. Many staff couldn't believe how simple dumplings could be to make and how tasty they are. Particular thanks is given to the parents who made these activities possible and fun and we hope you will come back next year to give our school such worthwhile experiences.



China Week ended with a bumper assembly, compered by the very competent Terrence Neo (9B) and Monica Mok (9A). Students and staff were treated to a plethora of performances from a wide range of subjects and most importantly a wide range of students. What was great about this event was seeing students who might not normally perform, step out of their comfort zone and meaningfully contribute. Performances weren't just student led, other highlights of the assembly have to be the Wu Shu master's energetic routine. Linda and Alice – two lovely ladies from the Finance Office – performed a popular Chinese song and sword dance. Secondary were very grateful that Mr Zhai Yuan Guo (Duoduo's grandfather) took the time to share with them an exhilarating performance of 'Horse Racing'. It was a joy to see such a revered Cellist perform. The assembly was brought to an end with an unannounced and very secret staff choir performance of 'Molihua'. It's fair to say the staff did a surprisingly good rendition and the students appreciated their efforts with rapturous rounds of applause.

After the assemblies the whole school made their way out on to the football field to watch a local troupe perform a Lion Dance. Spectators were also privy to a very different and dramatic Dragon Dance performance from the Nanhu staff.

Everyone at BSG would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our school community a happy Chinese New Year – 新年快乐!

PRIMARY

Reading To The Extreme!

In preparation for Primary Book Week, this novel idea challenged students to show us the most extreme ways of reading they can.

Teppe Masumura
YEAR 1 WINNER



Rachel Van Pul
YEAR 2 WINNER



Raaghar Anand
YEAR 3 WINNER



Dhrur Daryani
YEAR 4 WINNER



Vivianna Park
YEAR 5 WINNER



Alexandra Hawes
YEAR 6 WINNER

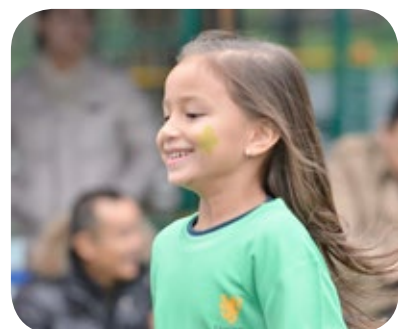


Miss McCarthy
STAFF WINNER



Oren & Norah Davies
EXTREME READING KING & QUEEN

Key Stage One Sports Day





Favelas

By: Jone Barrenechea

Slums within large urban areas are called Favelas in Brazil. Some of the best-known favelas are those that cling to steep hillsides in Rio de Janeiro. These structures are made out of discarded materials and over time bricks and metal sheets are incorporated. Events such as the World Cup or the Olympic Games are meant to bring money to the different communities, but in most cases, the poorer areas do not get to see an improvement in their neighborhoods. With the construction of our own Favela, we wanted to highlight how other people live and explore the possibilities in terms of construction with simple materials. All students in 7A & 7C used discarded cardboard to create an individual house with a range of features in their facades.

“Through this topic, I learned so much about Favelas. How they can be vibrant and fascinating or dangerous and scary. Made me realize that I live in a very safe environment.”

Siena 7C

“I really enjoyed it because we had to pretend to be like architects. It was a very interesting experience during which I learned how to make a plan of a house and got inspired so I could decorate it in an out-of-ordinary way.”

Maja 7C

“At the start, when we had to make the planning was when I had more fun because I could imagine how the little house could be, then it was the time to make it. When I saw the favelas all together it made me very happy.”

Alejandro 7C



SECONDARY

“Making cardboard models of favelas was a very interesting and fun challenge. I learned so much of what you can do with basic cardboard and the final display looked very realistic. The favelas project made our brains think at the same time as letting our creativity flow. I really enjoyed the fact that every block was made specially by one person, which combined the creativity of most of Year 7s.”

Mabel 7C

“We hope that by doing this project, we will help raise awareness of the situation of the favelas in Brazil. Like my grandpa taught me: don’t treat one better than the other. Equality and justice are very important.”

Sheena 7C

“In my opinion, favelas are quite a fascinating place to learn about. After making a small size model of it, it was great to see all of them stacked on top of each other just like the real ones. I enjoyed this topic a lot, particularly designing the front of the house, as you could be as creative as you wanted and it challenged my patience as you needed to cut out a lot of small parts.”

Schumi 7A

“Out of the whole project, my favorite part was ending it and looking at our houses and thinking that we had done something good. It is just a lot of fun when you are surrounded with lots of creative minds that are the same age as you and this makes you feel like you can really achieve anything.”

Annabel 7A





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*"Sometimes a Steinway has a very strange magic -
It plays better than the pianist
and it is then a marvelous surprise!"*

———Martha Argerich

*"Steinway is the only piano on which the pianist can
do everything he wants and everything he dreams.*

Steinway gives the pianist every opportunity."

———Vladimir Ashkenazy

*"If I am to play my best,
there is no way but Steinway."*

———Lang Lang

"My first choice is Steinway."

———Yundi Li

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