



| **February PA Meeting** | **Parent Satisfaction Survey** | **Events** |
PA Recruitment | **Charity Update**

February PA Meeting

Term at a glance



16th Feb — Parent Fun Event
18th Feb – Roundabout Book Fair
9th Mar – Parent Consultation Day & PA Bake Sale
21st Apr– Staff Appreciation Event
12th May – Art Auction Event

The PA wishes you all a prosperous Year of the Rooster, good luck, happiness and health! It was nice to see some new faces attend our meeting today. As a reminder this is what the PA is about, community, building friendships, bonds and passing on information to likeminded families.

The PA will have another **EVENING MEETING** on **Tuesday 7th March**. Further communications will be sent out as reminders, however please put this date in your diaries as soon as possible. This gives you the parent, who cannot attend the morning PA meeting a chance to come along, meet the PA, have a more personal informal gathering with David and hear what is happening for the next month. The PA is trying to be more accessible to all to ensure that the BSB Sanlitun parent/school community is thriving.

David mentioned that the **Parent Satisfaction Survey** was sent out this week. The school really encourages parents to spend the short time needed to complete these. The information that is fed back gives a general overview of what the parent community wants from BSB Sanlitun. It helps highlights the school's strengths, areas for development and any concerns and issues which contribute toward the strategic plans for the year ahead. **Last year we had a 56% of all surveys completed** – This was actually 19% higher than the average!

Area's of success: High quality of education, child is safe and happy, social and personal development and promoting healthy lifestyles.

Areas of focus: range of trips on offer, communicate non-academic achievements, more one to one time with the teachers, these areas have been modified and the **Parent Consultation Day** is an example of this, taking place on **Thursday 9th March**. This will be a changed format, it is now on a non-teaching day, allowing parents to have more time with teachers and a more comprehensive document about children's progress will be provided. Parents can bring their children in, there will be other activities on the day, PA Bake Sale, book sellers, the playground and library are open for the children to use, both Christine and David will also be available.

The pollution levels just before the CNY holidays were extremely high, at **2.5pm levels of 400+ outside**. The measures that were taken by the school on this day showed the very positive readings of **8-12 in the corridors, 5-8 in the classrooms and 25 in the gym**. These are amazing numbers, and show that the new systems that were installed last year have made huge difference. If you wish to remind yourselves of the **school pollution measures** please look on the **BSB Sanlitun website ([link here](#))** where they are fully listed, these procedures are followed to the letter by the school. **On a high pollution day, the best place to be for your children is school.**

A parent asked at the meeting about the **school busses in regards to the pollution**. David informed the group that the school bus currently has an air purification system onboard however the biggest issue is children

getting on and off constantly. **In addition to this if the children wear their masks** this is a relative short amount of time that they are exposed to higher numbers. Shortly BSB Sanlitun will be changing to new buses with integrated air filtration systems. It was communicated that on orange and red alert days, it is good practice to have children put on their masks; the school need parents to reinforce this message at home. Parents can encourage their children to use the colour system so if it is on orange or red day, to wear a mask. This message is reinforced at school and would be appreciated if as well as home.

David would like to remind parents of following the **winter uniform guidelines**, these can be found on the **school website ([link here](#))**. If your child consistently does not follow the uniform guidelines they will receive a slip to bring home to help remind parents, what is required.

Student absences – On average 50 students were away per day in the 3-week period after Christmas and before Chinese New Year. Nothing more was said of this but it is food for thought.

There will be a **Roundabout book stand/ stall sale**, taking place at the BSB Sanlitun main Primary campus on **Saturday 18th February**. There will be English books for parents and kids. The school will be managing this and they are looking for **volunteers** to help run the stall. Please let me know if you are happy to give some of your time, please note time is running short and volunteers would be appreciated sooner rather than later.

Kirsty – email - sanlitun.pa@britishschool.org.cn

Spring/ Summer Term Events

Parent Fun Event

Thursday 16th February 10:30 -13:00 – The Hutong Cooking Class - Sichuan Food.

The people of Sichuan are known to be hot blooded, so it's no surprise that their most commonly used phrase is "can you eat spicy?" Two main varieties of pepper account for Sichuan's spicy, pungent culinary legacy, La Jiao (Chilli Pepper) and Hua Jiao (Sichuan Pepper)

Learn how to make use of the famous chillies and peppercorn infused dishes of China's Southwest. Brazing, steaming and the legendary 'Dry Frying' are all intrinsic to Sichuan's rich culinary traditions.

We will be cooking: Sichuan Style Boiled Beef, Ma Po Dofu and Stir Fried Seasonal Vegetables.

The class will cost 300rmb. This includes the class, ingredients, and recipes to take home afterwards, lunch and free flow soft drinks and beer.

Next Month

Thursday 16th March - The Ming and the Manchus: A walk and discussion at the Forbidden City with Jeremiah- everything included in the walk (no lunch) 273rmb per person
(Minimum 10 people) prices will decrease if we have larger numbers

For all parent fun events please contact Kirsty - email - sanlitun.pa@britishschool.org.cn

Bake Sale

Thursday 9th March (Parent Consultation Day)

The PA will be holding a Bake Sale during the Parent Consultation day – We would prefer if you could bring all of your baked goods to school the day before (**Wednesday 8th March**) the sale (If you wish to receive your containers back please clearly label with your child's name and year group). This will help manage the preparations on the day. Please note that you can bake large whole cakes, biscuits, cupcakes and we will prepare them, cut them up and provide containers for them to go in. We need parent and student volunteers for throughout the day to ensure this event is successful.

Please note that BSB Sanlitun is a nut free school.

Please contact Kirsty - email - sanlitun.pa@britishschool.org.cn

Gentle Reminder

21st April – Staff Appreciation event – This is when the PA and parents alike would like to thank the staff of BSB Sanlitun, parents can donate food and drink and the PA will supplement with catering and refreshments if necessary.

12th May – Art Auction event – Each class collectively make a piece of art – The theme will be linked with the BSB Sanlitun collaboration with MIT and have a 'STEAM' (Science Technology Engineering Arts Maths) theme. This is an evening event where the whole family can come along. These pieces are then auctioned off. There will be food and entertainment for the students provided.

Charity Update

The PA raises funds to support the Migrant Children Foundation (MCF), which was founded in 2009 by UK educator Helen Boyle. The MCF helps the children of those migrant workers from other provinces that come to find work in Beijing. If the family does not have a Beijing residency permit (hukou), the children are not entitled to access education or health care in Beijing.

The PA are continuing with the sponsoring of 3 MCF students school fees. This is the second term we are sponsoring them and we have committed to sponsoring them for 2 full school years. Information on the sponsored students will be posted on the PA notice board.

BSB Sanlitun PA Cookbook

The Cookbook team showed some work in progress recipes and photography and mood layout (which are amazing by the way), they are continuing to photograph the recipes. The team will be asking for help from those parents who submitted baked recipes to see if they would like to make their recipe for the Cookbook team to photograph. We do have an executive chef cooking the rest of the recipes for us however this would be a great time saver as baked good can sometimes be difficult to interpret. Individual parents will be contacted once a photography date has been confirmed. We are seeking sponsorship for the cookbook to help cover the cost of printing so that more money can be raised for charity.

Sponsorship and advertising sales – If anyone would like to sponsor or buy an ad in the cookbook, please contact Judy Sarton – jesarton@hotmail.com
We will be launching the cookbook in **June** at the school picnic (Date TBC). **Pre-orders will be taken from April onwards.**

PA volunteers needed to teach English at MCF school – Friday 10:00am – 11:30am

The PA is looking for parent volunteers to come and help teach English at one of the MCF migrant schools. No teaching experience is required, just your enthusiasm!

Students are 4-6 year olds, teaching them English vocabulary through songs, activities, games and arts and crafts. Lesson plans and resources are provided and the lesson is sent out a few days prior. We visit the Nursery every week. Meet at Huangcun Railway Station at Exit D (it is on subway Line 4) at 9:30am on Fridays then walk to the school together.

This does not need to be a weekly thing however it will give you an insight of the work that Charity and PA is supporting.

Please contact Grace if you are interested. Email Grace: pangmei.wang@yahoo.com



Other Business

Stephanie Heydolph – Provided a presentation of what the PA is and what the aims are for the PA – This is available on the **School Website** ([link here](#)).

At the end of the school year we will have many positions available in the PA team – Below are job descriptions. If you want to ask for further information or sit down to discuss this please contact the appropriate person or Kirsty - sanlitun.pa@britishschool.org.cn. It would be best if hand over for these roles could be made before June to make the transitions as smooth as possible.

PA Coordinator role available from June onwards (Early hand over preferred)

- To chair all PA meetings.
- Write all monthly newsletters to communicate to all parents and staff.
- Keep the PA board updated.
- Liaise with all PA members of any issues they may have.
- Help with all events.
- Check daily emails from parents and reply in a timely manner.
- To liaise with BSB Sanlitun staff in regards to issues raised with PA.
- Fill in for roles that have not yet been fulfilled.
- Ensure the PA runs smoothly across all areas.

Work required varies depending on events and PA meetings. You can manage the time scales to suit you and your lifestyle and personality. This is a great role to get involved with the school, meeting teachers, parents and students. It enables you to really immerse yourself in your child's school life and activities.

PA Event Coordinator role available from June onwards (Early hand over preferred)

- Liaise with selected external business partners (F&B vendors, cultural institutions - a list of contacts is provided)
- Liaise with selected departments from BSB Sanlitun and the PA Coordinator
- Preparing 5-8 events throughout the academic year 2017/2018
- Coordinating parent volunteers for the events (a list of previous parent contacts is provided)
- Onsite organisation, supervising and attending five events
- Keeping expenses within a set budget

Work required about 4-8 hours of work emailing/organising each week plus attendance at every PA Meeting (6x) since August 2016 and attendance at every event (5 full days) in 2016.

The main five events are: PA Welcome Party, International Day, Santa Secret Shoppe, Staff Appreciation Event and the Art Auction.

Additional events would be: Madaifu Apples, Christmas Fayre, and Summer BBQ.

Parent Fun Event Coordinator role is currently available.

- To create fun and entertaining social gatherings for parents alike
- To communicate with parents through the BSB Sanlitun forum
- To liaise with vendors who are managing the events
- Negotiating costs etc. based on numbers.

Please be aware that if you feel you do not have the time to commit to a specific full time role on the PA team we are happy for you to volunteer for roles in specific events.

Being a part of the PA or volunteering for an event really helps to transition smoothly with parents and teachers alike and makes it easy to get involved in the school community.

Introduction to the PA Committee

PA Coordinator – Kirsty New – sanlitun.pa@britishschool.org.cn

Secretary - Grace Walter

Treasurer – Ira Ovesen

Charity Board - Grace Walker, Emma Murphy and Monica Howes

Grace – pangmei.wang@yahoo.com

Parent Fun Event Coordinator – **Position available**

Events Coordinator – Stephanie Heydolph - sanlitun.paevents@britishschool.org.cn

Lunch Parent Coordinator – Alexandra Bichteler – Alexandra@bichteler.net

To get in touch with the PA with questions, suggestions, or to volunteer please email us at sanlitun.pa@britishschool.org.cn