

| **October PA Meeting** | **Parent Fun Events** | **Winter Events** | **Charity Update**

Autumn term at a glance



14th Oct – Parent Fun Event -
 Walking Tour
20th Oct – PA Pub Quiz
28th Oct – Bake Sale
15th Nov – PA International Day

October PA Meeting

Thank you to the parents who attended the PA meeting. It was lovely to see so many refreshed faces ready for the Winter Term.

Mr. Laird informed everyone of the sad news that Prue Harman will be leaving BSB Sanlitun and Beijing, China in December. I am sure that we all agree that Prue will be greatly missed by everyone. We all think that Prue has done a fantastic job and we appreciate her hard work and friendly welcoming manner. You will be truly missed!!

The MIT and Nord Anglia exclusive link will start this term. STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Maths), will consist of 3 challenges that will take place each term. The first challenge this term, is "Be curious". This is something that parents can also do at home, asking all sorts of questions in a topic that your child is interested in. This too will also be followed into the classroom. In the second term from January – Chinese New Year, the MIT STEAM focus will be to solve an environmental issue in the city that you live! Living in Beijing I think the students have a great advantage and will love to solve these issues.

Please continue to use the BSB Sanlitun Yearly calendar to check up and coming events. Pastries with parents is coming up shortly:

18th October – KS2 Pastries with parents
 19th October – KS1 Pastries with parents
 20th October – Reception Pastries with parents
 21st October – EY Campus Pastries with parents

Autumn Events

Parent Fun Event – Lama Temple & Confucian tour with Jeremiah

14th October – 10:00am – 1:00pm

The tour will give you in-depth knowledge to the Lama Temple (Yonghegong) and the Confucian Temple/Imperial Academy. They are well known for their association with Buddhism and Confucianism respectively. But these sites have also long played an important role in state ideology and the ideology of empire building.

Price 300rmb per person – includes all entrance tickets (price based on a minimum of 5, increased numbers will result in a discount). The price does not include lunch.

Please contact Kirsty New – sanlitun.pa@britishschool.org.cn

PA Quiz Night – Taking place 20th October

6:30pm arrival (for a 7:pm prompt start) – 9:00pm

We would like to invite you to join us for the PA Quiz Night on **Thursday 20th October**. It will undoubtedly be a fun (and slightly competitive!) evening! The quiz will be an 'International Quiz' with a wide range of questions to suit everybody. It may include topics such as 'famous people from around the world', 'arts and literature', 'geography' or 'current events'.

Ticket price is 100rmb this includes a meal, snacks and the first drink. Ticket slips were given to the eldest child attending the school. Please return as soon as possible. **The last date is the 17th October.**

Please note if we do not hit minimums for this event it will be cancelled.

Please contact Kirsty New – sanlitun.pa@britishschool.org.cn

PA Bake Sale – Taking place in the BSB Sanlitun Reception – 3:00pm onwards

The school is holding a dress up day on the **Friday 28th October**; we thought that a bake sale would be a wonderful addition to this. This is a chance for you and your children to spend some time together in the kitchen and create your favourite dishes and snacks for a good cause. All proceeds go to the MCF Charity.

Please bring in all of your tasty and wonderful goodies on the morning of the 28th and leave in the BSB Sanlitun Primary Campus reception area.

Ensure that:

- Baked goods and snacks etc. are easy to distribute and do not need many utensils or creative packaging.
- Please label all containers with your names – for collection.
- All items brought to school **CAN NOT contain traces of nuts.**
- If your items contain dairy please also indicate.

Label all containers with your Full Name and Year.

Please contact Kirsty New – sanlitun.pa@britishschool.org.cn

PA International Day – 15th November

A fun-filled event for BSB Sanlitun students – run by the parents

International day is a fun day for the students to gain an understanding about other countries in which their fellow students come from. They will get an opportunity to play games, eat delicious snacks, make craft items, learn about national animals, flags and much much more.

All tables are now full! We have confirmed 26 countries that will be taking part in this fantastic event. A nation head representative has been appointed for each table, the countries participating in this event are listed below:

Argentina, Austria, Australia, Bahrain, Belgium, China, Denmark, Germany, Hong Kong, Hungary, India, Ireland, Israel, Japan, Kazakhstan, Korea, Mexico, Netherlands, Oman, Papa New Guinea, Russia, Sweden, Taiwan, Thailand, UK, USA.

If you would like to help with the selected countries please email the Event Coordinator Stephanie Heydolph – sanlitun.paevents@britishschool.org.cn who will connect you with the correct table head representative.

You can help in a variety of ways – baking snacks, providing decorations or activities for the stand, through to helping man the stand on the day when the children visit with their passports, if you can help in any way please support your country, it will be greatly appreciated not only by the students but also your fellow parents. Don't miss out and get involved.

Please note this is a child fun event and if you are not volunteering you will not be able to come along, due to time scales and numbers.



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.

New fundraising project for this year:

Creating a BSB Sanlitun family recipe cookbook, with all proceeds going to the Migrant Children's Fund Charity. We are calling for all Parents and teachers to email one or more of their favourite recipes, with a short description of the story behind the recipe. It can be anything, from an entrée, side dish, main dish, dessert, baked goods or a drink. **The deadline for the recipes is 31st October.** We are looking for parent volunteers with skills in photography to help take "foodie" shots of the recipes, skills in graphic design, illustration, proof reading and others to help out generally. We are aiming to complete a print run by May so that people can purchase it for themselves and for their families and friends before the end of the summer term. If anyone has a good printing contact, please get in touch with us as well. Please contact Grace if you are interested. Email Grace: pangmei.wang@yahoo.com

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 song, 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 two weeks. 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.

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



Other Business

Homework – Parent led discussion

Some parents are finding the homework given to their children difficult to manage, opinions stating that it can be very time consuming and that a lot of adult input is required (especially non native English speaking children).

David and Christine have taken the comments on board and were already sitting with the KS1 & KS2 leaders to relook at the homework grids. The homework grids are intended to help the children take responsibility for their homework and make choices based on this – The grids are to help the students become more independent learners. They are also looking into what additional material can be provided to ease the parent input.

In regards to all students it is advised to let your children do homework themselves (obviously where help is needed feel free). Please do not amend or rectify to look aesthetically pleasing etc., as it is not a true representation of the student's skills.

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 - 1 more positions available

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

All personal profiles of the current PA team are also attached

Positions available on the PA team:

Charity Committee

- Liaise between MCF, PA and school to determine appropriate projects to direct funds raised
- Liaise between MCF and BSB to ensure that BSB pupils have an opportunity to interact with MCF children in an appropriate way
- Ensure funds are being disbursed to the MCF in a timely manner
- Identify ways that parents can become involved in volunteering with MCF programs

Parent Fun Event Coordinator

- To create fun and entertaining social gatherings for parents alike.
- To communicate with parents through the BSB 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.

Another sign up sheet is located on the PA Committee board at the BSB Primary Campus enabling you to participate in specific events and socializing gatherings etc. 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.

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