

# OUR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

*Helping others to be the best that they can be*

VOLUME 9 • ISSUE 10

FRIDAY 8 NOVEMBER 2013



*Reception students celebrate Book Week by dressing up as fictional characters*

## IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK ...

### THE IMPORTANCE OF BEHAVIOUR AND SOCIAL GRACES (BSG)

Our Heads of Primary and Secondary discuss the importance of BSG in our school.

### BOOK WEEK IN PRIMARY

This week in the primary school students have been celebrating the incredible world of books.

### KINDERBOEKENWEEK

Our Shanghai Dutch School, an integral part of the BISS Puxi community, celebrate National Dutch Book Week.

### PTA CORNER

We are excited to announce our new co-chairs of the PTA this week.

### YEAR 2 SAVE THE RAINFOREST!

Year 2 have been collecting the sponsorship money from the Rainforest Run they completed two weeks ago and are very pleased with the result.

### EBBE SAND VISITS OUR SCHOOL

Danish footballing legend Ebbe Sand has been in school this week talking to and coaching our students.

### SPORTS REPORT

Last weekend the Under 19 BISS Lions team won the ACAMIS rugby tournament – a massive congratulations to all involved!

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# HIGH PERFORMANCE LEARNING

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PICTURED BELOW *Primary students celebrate the last day of Book Week by dressing in costume*



# THE IMPORTANCE OF BEHAVIOUR & SOCIAL GRACES

CHRIS SHARE, HEAD OF SECONDARY

**“Respect for ourselves guides our morals; respect for others guides our manners”**

Behaviour and Social Graces (BSG) in the secondary school is important as our students start to face greater academic pressures as well as mature into teenagers. The primary school does a fantastic job of instilling respect for adults and adherence to rules, but these values are more naturally challenged as a child develops his or her own sense of independence. It makes it vitally important for us to ensure that pupils continue to treat each other in a way that is underpinned by the understanding that there is a life beyond school that they will increasingly have to become aware of.

A self-awareness of how students will be viewed and treated by the rest of society and what personal traits are needed to

succeed, goes beyond the traditional teaching of morals and good manners. Our BSG programme encourages students to start from the simple “Good morning” or an offer of assistance to someone by holding a door open: simple good manners make a daily environment more pleasant. This is then built upon by students constantly being given the message, from teachers and importantly their peers, to respect each other with initiatives that range from anti-bullying day through to creating a shared community environment demonstrated through the student council and our community projects.

Our sports teams are taught to play hard but fair and in our classrooms our High Performance Learning agenda has at its heart the personal values and attributes of integrity, honesty, risk taking, creativity, perseverance, collaboration and a concern for society. Secondary BSG aims to form a fully rounded individual with the personality to succeed and survive in the modern world in a way that is of benefit to all and a credit to themselves. This is again a partnership that works best when the values are reinforced not only in school but at home with parents discussing and challenging children to use the principles of BSG at all times.



PICTURED BELOW *Our primary students in school uniform*



## PROUD TO WEAR OUR SCHOOL UNIFORMS!

NIKI MEEHAN, HEAD OF PRIMARY

It was wonderful to see the primary school come alive today with our students and staff being transformed into Heroes and Villains from children's literature. Everyone looked fabulous and it has been fascinating to watch personalities transform as the children assume the roles and the characteristics of their new alter egos! The idea of how we attribute characteristics and behaviours to people based on their appearance is a theme that has come up in lots of class discussions about story book characters but is also a relevant one for our school community.

Students at BISS Puxi wear a uniform which immediately identifies them as being part of our school community. It also immediately associates them with the high standards of behaviour and social graces that BISS Puxi promotes and expects of all our students. We place great emphasis on educating and encouraging students to develop good manners and respectful and polite behaviour. When a student wears their uniform, in school or in the wider community,

they are ambassadors for school and we regularly get positive feedback from school visitors and school trip venues on the commendable behaviour and manners of the children. We want all the children to be proud to wear the BISS Puxi uniform but this requires them to act in an appropriate way and also to pay attention to their appearance, to show respect to the values of the school community that they belong to. We therefore ask that parents support their children in coming to school wearing only uniform that conforms to school guidance and to be smartly turned out. The teachers will be giving prompts to children and parents that might need a little gentle reminding of this from time to time!

Thanks for your continued support.

## BOOK WEEK

VANESSA BROADBENT, PRIMARY LITERACY COORDINATOR

This week in the Primary School has been Book Week. Our theme was Heroes and Villains and children from Pre-Nursery to Year 6 have been reading a variety of books and celebrating in wild and wonderful ways and had lots of fun in the process.



PICTURED ABOVE *Our Year 4 students dress up as their favourite fictional character to celebrate the end of Book Week.*

Our Primary Library has been open every night and lots of parents have taken the opportunity to come in and read with their children and enjoy some yummy milk and cookies at the same time. Years 3-6 were lucky enough to enjoy a visit from Hong Kong based author Sarah Brennan who writes the fabulously funny Chinese Calendar Tales. She spoke to the children about her inspirations for all of her stories and the Chinese History and culture she weaves into them, as well as captivating us with a reading of her new book 'Sybil Snake'. Hopefully she has inspired a few budding authors? All week classes have been getting together with their reading buddies. Older children have taken stories down to Early Years Cubs and Key Stage 1 and read to the younger children. It has been great to see such enthusiasm for reading across the school.

Our week culminated in a dress up day on Friday. Children came to school dressed as their favourite brave hero or evil villain. As they arrived at school on Friday they discovered the appearance of a mysterious Big Red Button in the playground. 'Do Not Touch!' a giant glittering sign ordered, but why? Lots of whispered considerations were heard, why was it there? What would happen if someone did push it? Minds raced and lots of imaginative outcomes were deliberated. This prompted some wonderful discussion in classes and the production of some fantastic writing. Children enjoyed the freedom of letting their imaginations run wild. But of course we will never find out what would have happened if the button was pushed as no one was brave enough to push it.

## Author Sarah Brennan shares her tale of Sybil Snake

LIZ WOOD, YEAR 4 TEACHER

As part of Book Week in Primary this week, Key Stage 2 were delighted to receive a visit from the Hong Kong based children's author Sarah Brennan. She read her most recent book, The Tale of Sybil Snake, making connections to Chinese history and the only female emperor Wu Zetain. The story also links to the Chinese legend of the White Snake and the children learnt about how the Silk Road played a crucial role in world history to disseminate ideas and trade. Sarah signed books and was thrilled to discover the children were so interested and keen to learn both about her books and Chinese history.

## COMING SOON

### FRIDAY 8 NOVEMBER

8:40-15:30 Book Week ends: Primary  
13:00-14:00 Visit from City University  
Hong Kong: Y12-13  
16:15-17:15 SISAC D1 Boys  
Basketball: Y10-13  
16:15-17:15 SISAC D1 Girls  
Basketball: Y10-13

### MONDAY 11 NOVEMBER

10:30-10:40 Remembrance Day  
Assembly: Y7-13  
16:00-19:00 Student Parent Teacher  
Conference: Y8

### TUESDAY 12 NOVEMBER

CISSA C2 A Boys Football: Y7-9  
16:00-17:00 CISSA C1 Boys  
Football: Y7-9  
16:00-17:00 CISSA C2 B Boys  
Football: Y7-9  
16:00-17:00 CISSA Junior 1 Boys  
Football: Y5-6  
16:00-17:00 CISSA Junior 2 Boys  
Football: Y5-6

### WEDNESDAY 13 NOVEMBER

13:15-13:45 Lunchtime Maths Club: Y7-8  
16:15-17:15 SISAC D1 Boys  
Basketball: Y10-13  
16:15-17:15 SISAC D1 Girls  
Basketball: Y10-13  
16:30-17:30 SISAC D2 Boys  
Basketball: Y10-13

### THURSDAY 14 NOVEMBER

8:40-12:50 Sports Morning: Y9-10  
8:40-15:30 My Country, China and I  
Day: Y5  
8:40-15:30 Visit to the Aquarium: Y2  
16:00-17:00 CISSA C1 Girls  
Football: Y7-9  
16:00-17:00 CISSA C2 A Girls  
Football: Y7-9  
16:00-17:00 CISSA C2 B Girls  
Football: Y7-9

*Please check our school website  
for the most up to date details of  
all our events...*



# PLEASED TO MEET YOU

SAM RAE, DEPUTY HEAD FOR ADMISSIONS, TRANSITIONS & TRANSFERS

*How long have you been at BISS Puxi?*

This is my 6th year!

*What do you love most about working here?*

The students.

*What's your favourite thing to do in Shanghai?*

Explore and find new little gems, be it restaurants or shops.

*What do you miss most about England?*

My family and Walkers- salt and vinegar crisps.



## PTA CORNER

The Parent-Teacher Association is very excited to announce that Stephanie Stephenson and Sabrina Galasso have taken on the important roles of Co-Chairpersons, beginning this week. Parents, teachers, and staff, please give them a warm welcome and our most enthusiastic support. Their energy and ideas will benefit both the PTA and the entire school community!

Dust off your Christmas jumpers, Santa hats, reindeer antlers, and snowflakes: You, a member of our school community, are officially invited to take part in the Winter Wonderland Extravaganza! Details and ticket order forms were sent home in the backpacks this week. CAS students are creating a fantastic, family-oriented afternoon, setting the mood for Christmas and end-of-year holidays. This new event replaces the Christmas Fayre of previous years with a more intimate, themed celebration. The Parent-Teacher Association is supporting the CAS students in an advisory capacity, and with tasks such as ticketing. If you'd like to help in any way, or if you have any questions, please contact [PTA@bisspuxi.com](mailto:PTA@bisspuxi.com). There is still time to donate prizes to the Christmas basket raffle, or to sponsor the Extravaganza by offsetting costs, or by donating to the Starfish Foundation directly.

## FUN EAL ACTIVITIES

JAMES CARSON, EAL COORDINATOR

Monkey Puzzles, the popular game ideal for Cambridge English: Young Learners, is now available as an iOS app for iPad and iPhone. This game is perfect for anyone who finds learning with technology particularly engaging. Monkey Puzzles provides eight different mini games using vocabulary from the Cambridge English: Young Learners' exams and is a great way to practice English at home with your children.

## SHANGHAI DUTCH SCHOOL

MAYKE VAN KREVEL, HEAD OF SHANGHAI DUTCH SCHOOL

The Shanghai Dutch School, which is an integral part of the our community, recently held a party to celebrate National Dutch Book Week. It was themed around sports and games and 40 students from Nursery, Reception and Years 1-4 sang, jumped and played. They also created impressive



PICTURED BELOW *Ebbe Sands gives a presentation to our secondary students in the auditorium.*



improvisational performances based on book excerpts. The children enjoyed sandwiches with Dutch chocolate sprinkles and traditional Belgian biscuits, Speculoos. It was a great event and we'd like to thank to Esmay, Sven and Asker (Year 12 and 13 students) for their great contribution and commitment.

## EBBE SAND VISITS OUR SCHOOL

This week the Danish football Legend, Ebbe Sand visited our school to work with some of our athletes and speak to different year groups about high performance and achieving one's goals. The messages and ideas passed on by Ebbe were inspirational and can be applied to all aspects of school life. "Find the gold in both good and bad situations" Ebbe Sand

## YEAR 2

Year 2 are delighted with themselves this week as they are well on their way to helping Save the Rainforest in Ecuador and Peru.

After an exciting, but very tiring fun run around the school grounds two weeks ago, Year 2 have already successfully

raised 7,397RMB for their Rainforest project. There may have been a few bumps and scrapes along the way and some very red faced children at the end, but Year 2 had a great time, especially when warming up and cooling down with Mr. Broadbent's dance routines! The money has flowed in and we are astounded with the total, which has blasted last year's achievement out of the water!

We will be sending off all our sponsorship money at the end of the year to a charity called Cool Earth. They have a school fundraising programme that will give the children of Year 2 access to lots of competitions, activities and resources, as well as the opportunity to help protect acres of the rainforest.

Year 2 would like to thank the parents and their friends for all the support and money donated as they could not have achieved this alone.

We are looking forward to raising even more towards our total in March, when we will be running a cake sale!



# THE GIVING TREE

TONY ZHANG 12P AND THE STUDENTS OF THE GIVING TREE COMMITTEE

The Giving Tree Committee would like to say a big thank you to all the secondary students and families who contributed to The Giving Tree this year. It is a great honour and privilege to be able to help improve the lives of migrant children through our gifts. Through this year's donations we have achieved great results, in being able to assist 300 children in need.

Since its inception Giving Tree has been able to help the children of migrant families from underdeveloped, rural areas of China and provided them with important items they wouldn't otherwise have. To all who have purchased a bag, please fill the bag with a hat, scarf and a pair of gloves, a toy and educational toys as specified by the child on the bag. Please return all filled bags to the secondary reception by Tuesday 12 November. We will be having a bag sorting session on the 14 November from 3:35pm – 5:30pm and we'd like anyone who's been involved to come and help out on the day.

Furthermore, the Giving Tree Committee have scheduled a ceremony on Friday 29 November at Fu Hang Migrant School to hand out the bags personally to the children. Parents who have donated a bag are welcome to join, but due to limited space with our transportation, please let Ms Coong (l-coong@bisspuxi.com) know if you are interested.

On behalf of the Giving Tree Committee I would like to thank you once again for your generous donations and we look forward to your continued involvement in the future.

# SPORTS REPORT

## ACAMIS Rugby

COACH TONY HALALILO

On 1 and 2 November we took our Under 19 team to participate in the ACAMIS Rugby tournament, hosted by BISS Pudong. Our boys had done everything possible to prepare for this tournament including succeeding at every fixture so far in Shanghai. This was obvious in the opening game against big strong Australians who were outmatched out wide with the pace of Ryan Grant, Alex Hull and Pohan Su. We won our first game 29-5.

Next we played our arch rivals Dulwich College Shanghai. The game began with one of the biggest defensive efforts of the year, with Dulwich throwing everything at the boys through the forwards, and starting off the scoring. It was not long before Alex Hull crossed over for our reply and opened

the flood gates to a flurry of points in the second half which meant we managed a convincing win of 24-10.

The day did not get any easier, with BISS Pudong up next and, as they had won the same number of games as us so far, they were pushing for a win. In an even deeper struggle of desperate defense our boys successfully held off a stream of forward attack and at half time the score was locked at 5-5. In the dying seconds BISS Puxi, pulled off a great attack, finally crossing the line to win the game 10-5.

Saturday saw us set up with an easier semi-final against a walking wounded Australian side, beefed up with two D2 players from BISS Pudong, who thankfully and generously offered their services. The final score was 27-7 to BISS Puxi. This set up the BISS final with Puxi facing our sister school from across the city, Pudong.

Pudong had improved as the tournament went on, however the fitness, positive energy and continuous supportive play from the Puxi boys prevailed in an exhibition of wonderful back play. Stream after stream of attack wore the Pudong boys down and this just encouraged the BISS Lions as they bounded to victory 34-0.

Many thanks to the cheerleaders, parents and staff who came out to support us. Players of the tournament were named as Thomas Manteo, Charlie Johnson and Sven Weinholts. A final credit to the entire team who were humble in victory and made the school proud in yet another great rugby win. Next week is the last week of CISSA football, so look out for a full roundup in next week's newsletter.

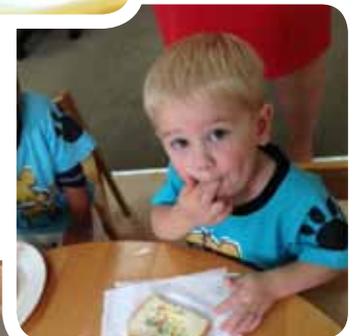
## CISSA Football

COACH PAUL KELLY

The C2 girls played in another round of tough matches coming up against a strong Suzhou team, a big SAS team and a well organised YCIS team. The girls again played some really good football and managed to finish with a win, a draw and a loss. The loss came at the hands of Suzhou who had a strong forward who scored all 3 of their goals. Ann Tseng scored a consolation goal but our downfall was a lack of communication. We managed to address this in our next match and beat YCIS. We defended well with Antonia Ingman and Mhairi Jervis playing strong games and Phoebe Li beginning to grow in confidence going forward. Our final game was against SAS and although we toiled we could not score the goal our play deserved. Scoring goals has been an issue and we hope to address it in future matches. However, I would like to take the opportunity to praise the team for their style of football and understanding that they are building for the future.

# EYCC

EARLY YEARS CUBS



*Pre-Nursery have been role playing Peter Pan and making fairy bread this week.*

Want to become the Hong Kong  
Young Writer of the Year?

# New Tales of the Gobi Desert

Become inspired by the Gobi desert, submit your creative work to us and showcase your talent. Fiction, Non-Fiction, Poetry and Cover Art entries are all welcomed.

## Winners and shortlisted students

- will have their entries published in a printed anthology
- will be invited to our awards ceremony
- will win prizes, certificates and trophies

Every submission will be published online  
and one lucky student will be named  
The Hong Kong Young Writer of the Year 2014!



All students who are interested in participating  
in the competition please contact:

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In association with



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This is your chance to design a solution. Choose a problem. Investigate. Experiment. Create.

Become scientists and engineers and show us what a difference you can make.

Competition launches October 2013



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