

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

March PA Meeting

Term at a glance



**16th March – Parent Fun Event
 Walk and Tour**
12th April – PA Meeting (Morning)
**21st April – Staff Appreciation
 Event**
**25th April Parent Fun Event –
 Temple of Heaven**
12th May – Art Auction Event
**4th June – Cookbook Launch and
 End of Year Picnic**

The PA had another **evening PA meeting** this month due to the request of parents who could not attend the morning one. This was well advertised at school, in the newsletters and also in the school daily email. **We had 3 parents attend this meeting.** I would like to thank these parents however going forward the PA will not be holding any more evening PA meetings.

Senior Leadership Team Talk

David shared the preliminary feedback about the **Parent Satisfaction survey.** David along with the parents that attended had a discussion about the findings, we were also able to see how BSB Sanlitun performed in regards to other Nord Anglia schools. David is yet to receive all of the information however once he does he will share at a PA meeting and it will be posted on the BSB Sanlitun website. The feedback had a 10% increase v's last year, resulting in 68% response from parents at BSB Sanlitun. This was one of the highest response's in the region.

Christine also helped explain the rewards schemes that they have within the school for the children. As well as our teachers giving regular positive feedback and praise to the children, we use school reward systems. These allow us to reward personal achievement immediately in school.

Throughout the school house points are awarded to children for both academic & learning achievements across all areas of the school, including sports, music, choral and drama. Certificates and a strong house team spirit foster individual and team motivation to do well and grow.

Our youngest children may be 'spotted' for doing something challenging or caring. It may be listening carefully, helping a friend or answering a question in class, for example. Classes from Reception to Year 6 collect class marbles, given out by members of staff to individual children and whole classes for displaying positive personal and social behaviours, for example being kind to others, good manners, helping a friend, great busline behaviour to name but a few reasons. Each jar of marbles can be exchanged for a pre-determined class reward, which gets larger with each jar collected.

Good manners and excellent behaviour are highly encouraged in school. The ultimate accolade is a place in the Star Citizen book reserved for those who consistently demonstrate acts of kindness, generosity and good manners.

Spring/ Summer Term Events

Parent Fun Event

Thursday 16th March – The Ming and the Manchus: A Walk and Discussion at the Forbidden City with Jeremiah Jenne – Confirmation to be before Monday 13th March – Please send Name as per passport and also Passport Number for ticket purchases.

For nearly 600 years, the Emperors of the Ming and Qing Dynasties governed China from behind the high red walls of the Forbidden City. This walk and discussion looks at what life was like in the palace for the men and women who lived and worked there.

We will hear about the differences between the two dynasties. The Ming were a Chinese dynasty, founded in 1368 by a commoner who rose to become emperor. The Qing Dynasty was founded by the Manchus, a people from what is today Northeast China. Beginning in 1644, the Qing Empire ruled China by conquest.

Although the Qing Dynasty ended in 1912, the imperial legacy continues to influence China's present and future

The Ming and the Manchus: Cost including everything (no lunch) 273rmb per person

(Minimum 10 people) prices will decrease if we have larger numbers attend

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

Tuesday 25th April – In the Footsteps of the Emperor: A walk and discussion at the Temple of Heaven - Everything included in the walk (no lunch) - 200rmb per person (Minimum 10 people) prices will decrease if we have larger numbers.

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

This was a fantastic class that was fun to attend and really insightful into the Sichuan food, flavours and ingredient's. We all helped in our own ways to prepare the food and eventually we were all able to sample the delights that we had made. The group all agreed that the dishes were amazing and flavoursome! I for one will definitely be cooking Ma Po Dofu.

If you are interested in taking a group class with the Hutong or want to attend a private class with like minded friends please contact the Hutong - 1 Jiudaowan Zhongxiang | Beixinqiao | Dongcheng District | Beijing | 100007 | China 中国北京东城区北新桥九道湾中巷1号 100007 Email: info@thehutong.com Tel: +86 15901046127



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.

4th June – Cook Book Launch and End of Year Picnic – We will be selling the much-anticipated BSB Cookbook. This will also be the End of Year Picnic where everyone is welcome to come along and meet up together before we all go away for the summer.

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.

Helen Boyle founder of MCF will be attending the next PA meeting taking place on **Wednesday 12th April** – she will give an insight into the Migrant Children's Fund and what worthy causes the BSB Sanlitun PA is supporting.

BSB Sanlitun PA Cookbook

The Cookbook team showed some work in progress recipes, photography and mood layout (which are amazing by the way), they are continuing to photograph the recipes and editing is now underway which is a very lengthy process for those involved. I would personally like to thank everyone who is volunteering his or her time and effort on the cookbook. I'm sure it will be an amazing piece that everyone will want to buy and cherish as part of the BSB Sanlitun experience.

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 on **Sunday 4th June** at the school End of Year Picnic. **Pre-orders will be taken from April onwards.**

In relation to the Cookbook –

MCF students will also come to BSB Sanlitun and decorate cupcakes in keeping with the Cookbook theme. I'm sure there will be many happy students eating delicious decorated cupcakes!

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 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



Little Princess Trust

I gave a brief introduction into a new charity that both my daughter, and myself Noraa support wholeheartedly. The Little Princess Trust is a charity that is based in the UK and donates real hair wigs to children who have lost their hair due to cancer treatment or other illnesses. This summer we will be going to the UK and having our haircut as per the below guidelines. I am happy to take your or your child's hair back to the UK with me and post it to the charity. Please also include your email address with the hair, as the charity will send a certificate to you, as thanks. My daughter really feels that she is directly helping someone who is in need and really starts to understand the basis of charity and good deeds. Please contact me via my personal email address: kirstysheard@gmail.com or we chat Kirsty New

Suitable hair:

- Clean, dry hair in good condition (**no split ends**) from any gender, and of any natural colour
- Straight, wavy, curly, permed or chemically straightened
- Containing the occasional grey (less than 10%)
- Dyed, bleached/highlighted (any dyes must be of a natural colour)
- Plait(s) cut a long time ago, preserved in good condition

Unsuitable hair for our wigs:

- Hair that is less than 7"/17cm in length
- Dyed an unnatural colour (blue, green, purple)
- Largely/mostly grey hair
- Afro (the wig-maker is not a specialist manufacturer of Afro wigs. The Trust buys in these wigs separately)
- Dreadlocks

Guidelines:

- Wash and dry your hair
 - Do not add conditioner or styling products
 - Put your dry hair into a plait(s)
 - Secure at both ends with an elastic band
 - Ask your hairdresser to cut above the band/s nearest your head
 - Now have the rest of your hair cut and styled as you wish
- Put your dry plait(s) into a clear resalable plastic bag

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**.

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 to you really immerse yourself in your child's school life and activities.

PA Secretary – available from June onwards (Early hand over preferred)

- Attend the monthly PA meetings.
- In the absence of the PA Coordinator the PA Secretary would chair the PA meeting.
- Taking minutes from the meeting.

PA Event Coordinator role OR PA Event Managers (Each event to be managed by different people, the events are listed below)

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 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 organization, supervising and attending five events
- Keeping expenses within a set budget

Work required about 4-8 hours of work emailing/organizing 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.

PA Charity Board Member – available from June onwards (Early hand over preferred)

- 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 role is currently available – This role has been advertised for one full academic year and no parent is wanting to volunteer for this role. Going forward from September there will be no more Parent Fun Events planned.

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 – Tobias Gustafsson – tobias.g78@gmail.com

Charity Board - Grace Walker, Emma Murphy and Monica Howes

Grace – pangmei.wang@yahoo.com

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