

OUR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Helping others to be the best that they can be

VOLUME 9 • ISSUE 11

FRIDAY 15 NOVEMBER 2013

*Parents view the finished projects of our
Year 5 students.*



IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK ...

THIS WEEK WE REMEMBERED

This week across the primary and secondary schools we held ceremonies to remember those that have lost their lives in war.

OUR YOUNG LEADERS IN PRIMARY

Head of Primary, Niki Meehan, congratulates our new young leaders in primary elected as Student Global Citizen Council (SGCC) representatives and House Captains.

PTA CORNER

The PTA are supporting the CAS

students in this year's Winter Wonderland. If you would like to help with the ticketing please email lamstu@yahoo.com with the days and times you'd prefer to help.

STUDENT SUCCESS

Congratulations are in order for Alina Young who was one of the winners of the Global Classroom Photography Challenge, and to Jae Hee who has received the first Principal's Commendation in primary this year.

INTERNATIONAL AWARD SILVER EXPEDITION PROVED QUITE AN ADVENTURE!

Thirty Year 11 students recently completed their Adventurous Journey for the IA Silver medal.

GLOBAL CLASSROOM WATER CHALLENGE

Have you got a solution for solving the world's water shortage problems? If so, get involved in this year's Global Classroom activity, The Water Challenge.

HIGH PERFORMANCE LEARNING



PICTURED BELOW *Parents gather in the Year 5 corridor and classrooms to view the Our China projects.*



“They may forget what you said, but they will never forget how they make you feel.” - Carol Buchner

One of the great pleasures of running an international school is the great diversity of activity that you find yourself surrounded by on a daily basis. Over the last week or so we have had an incredibly broad range of events at school with a contrasting continuum that ranges from the solemn and touching commemoration of Remembrance Day to the fun and engagement of book week in the primary school.

We have also had a rich variety of visitors coming to see what we are doing and hoping to learn from the wide ranging success of the students within our community. They provide us with different perspectives on the work that we are doing.

It is important that we celebrate and reward students' hard work whether it be their academic success or their successes in extra-curricular endeavours. It is great to see so much high quality work on display around the school on the wonderwalls and on the display boards in corridors across the school campus. I have very much enjoyed talking with students about their work and seeing the immense pride they have in the work that they have on display.

On a daily basis staff are supporting and encouraging students in their studies through coaching, mentoring and helping them to thrive. I have the opportunity to play my part in this with the award of Principal's Commendations to those

who have been nominated for these by staff for individually producing outstanding performances. Occasionally I have the chance to congratulate groups of students who worked together to achieve a particular goal. This week it was the turn of the Under 19 Rugby team who recently won the ACAMIS Rugby and soon jet off to play in a tournament in Singapore. It was good to hear from them what they had learned from their hard work in preparation for the tournament and from the event itself.

As you know we are always looking to improve what we do and in line with this we will be launching our new website early next week. The address remains the same as does much of the content. You will still find the school calendar and all of the letters and newsletters that we send out. However the website has had a makeover and there are some new features for everyone to enjoy. We have worked hard to have this ready to go live on Monday and we will be sending some information to help you to navigate the site.

Finally I just wanted to let you know that the primary school refurbishment programme will continue over the Christmas holiday with upgrades taking place in the Primary Sports hall and in the primary gym.

I hope you all enjoy the long weekend, Staff will all be attending the Nord Anglia Education China Regional Conference at BISS Pudong on Friday, which amongst other things will feature some important on going in service training.



PICTURED BELOW *Secondary students gather in the Quad for a moment of silence on Monday.*



THIS WEEK WE REMEMBERED

CHRIS SHARE, HEAD OF SECONDARY

Remembrance Day is a day to remember how lucky we are that time is on our side, that it is highly unlikely that any of us will ever have to fight in a war. That men, women and animals gave their lives in the name of freedom and brotherhood is a sign that humans are strong, powerful and socially aware. And we all need to make sure we are.

This is a message that all should hear and remember. The great wars of the 20th century were fought for freedom and against oppression, but never forget those wars were fought by innocent men and women on all sides who did not necessarily understand or question why they were going to war.

On Monday across our school we held services of

remembrance, and in secondary we had representatives from the student council and teaching staff read passages written during the First World War to remember the brave and give a small taste of the horror that people had to endure.

We represent the future. People fought two great wars because they had too. Now we realise that preventing war and building a bond between humans of all nationalities is the best way to avoid unnecessary bloodshed and conflict.

As we hear the stories of horror whether it be in the trenches of World War I, in the gas chambers or the jungles of World War II, or the deserts and mountains of Kuwait, Iraq and Afghanistan in more recent years, we salute the bravery of those that fought but learn our lessons and make sure we now question 'why are we still fighting?'

After the trumpet sounded the last post we held a 2 minute silence. In those quiet moments of reflection students thought of those on all sides who fought bravely, and were thankful to them for having given their lives so that we have the freedom to stand in a small corner of China united as



an international group of boys, girls, women and men. We live in a world where sadly there is still war, but the greatest possible act of remembrance is that we get along and avoid conflict where at all possible.

REMEMBRANCE DAY IN PRIMARY

JAMES MORGAN, PRIMARY HUMANITIES COORDINATOR

Displaying exemplary deportment and reverence the children listened respectfully to the Year 6 performance of Danny Boy on the steps of the Primary School during Remembrance Day this week. Ralph Gawthorpe in 5B performed an excellent rendition of the Last Post and moments of silent reflection were observed by all year groups during assembly and in class. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Poppy Appeal in primary from which we raised 5,183 RMB. The money raised will go to help those injured in war and their families.

OUR YOUNG LEADERS IN PRIMARY

NIKI MEEHAN, HEAD OF PRIMARY

Within BISS Puxi we actively encourage meaningful student engagement and create opportunities for student voice and so this week we have concluded the elections for our Student Global Citizen Council (SGCC) representatives. This process has exposed the children in Years 3-6 to the democratic election process and allowed our amazing young leaders to have the chance to promote themselves and now to take on an important school role. These students will join the House Captains and Global Classroom Reps as young leaders in the school, meeting regularly to plan school events, awareness campaigns, assemblies and discuss school matters with students, teachers and school leaders. We are so impressed by the passion and confidence of our students to put themselves forward for these roles and know they will take their responsibilities seriously. Well done to you all!

SGCC Reps

Year 3: Ben, Jacqueline, Annabelle, Rosie, Zoe

Year 4: Emma, Michael, Daniel

Year 5: Victoria, Julie, Austin, Xanthe

Year 6: Nicholas, Liza, Thomas, Louis, Tengis

House Captains

Jon Mao: Arush Tai Shan: Sabrina Chang Cheng: Max Huang He: Lara

PTA CORNER

The Parent-Teacher Association is pleased to support the Winter Wonderland this year. This event celebrates the cold weather holidays and is being organised by a group of CAS students for the whole community's enjoyment, with proceeds benefiting Starfish Foundation of Cambodia. It promises to be new, different, and loads of seasonal fun for all the family. Ticket orders are already coming in! If you haven't pre-ordered yet, send in your form and payment to school next week. This saves time when you arrive at the event, no queuing needed! The PTA

COMING SOON

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

16:00-17:00 CISSA Junior Girls

Football: Y5-6

FRIDAY 15 NOVEMBER

MUN Conference begins

Staff Training Day

SATURDAY 16 NOVEMBER

MUN Conference continues

9:00-14:00 CISSA C1 Boys

Football: Y7-9

9:00-14:00 CISSA C1 Girls

Football: Y7-9

9:00-14:00 CISSA C2 A Boys

Football: Y7-9

9:00-14:00 CISSA C2 A Girls

Football: Y7-9

9:00-14:00 CISSA C2 B Boys

Football: Y7-9

9:00-14:00 CISSA C2 B Girls

Football: Y7-9

9:00-14:00 CISSA Junior 1 Boys

Football: Y5-6

9:00-14:00 CISSA Junior 2 Boys

Football: Y5-6

9:00-14:00 CISSA Junior Girls

Football: Y5-6

10:00-11:00 SISAC D1 Boys

Basketball: Y10-13

10:00-11:00 SISAC D1 Girls

Basketball: Y10-13

14:00-17:00 Sport for Life Dance Show

SUNDAY 17 NOVEMBER

MUN Conference continues

Monday 18 November

MUN Conference ends

8:40-15:30 Art Exhibition begins: Y5-6

12:50-13:45 Whole School Council

Meeting



GLOBAL CLASSROOM Photography Challenge Winner

Congratulations to Alina Young (Year 13) for being selected as one of the winners for the Global Classroom Photography Challenge. Her photograph will be published in the 2014 Global Classroom Calendar. Alina will be awarded a certificate from Nord Anglia in the following week. Well Done Alina!



will begin processing the orders soon; if you can help, please send an email to lamstu@yahoo.com and note your day/time preference. Inquiries regarding the PTA basket raffle and general questions may be directed to PTA@bisspuxi.com.

Principal's Commendation

Well done to Jae Hee from 6B for receiving the first Principal's Commendation of the year in primary, for outstanding art work produced to explain events which took place during World War II.

HSK Exam on 1 December

If you've applied to take the HSK exam, your admission ticket

is now available to collect from the secondary reception desk. Please collect your ticket by Friday 29 November. The exam will take place on Sunday 1 December in the secondary campus in the Mandarin corridor on the 3rd floor.

On the day of the test, please register in room 350 before going to the room indicated on your admission ticket. Registration for HSK 1, HSK 3 and HSK 5 is from 1:00 - 12:00pm and the test will start promptly at 1:30pm. Registration for HSK 2, HSK 4 and HSK 6 is from 8:30 - 8:50am and the test will start promptly at 9:00am.



SEE YOU AT THE MOVIES!

RUS EKKEL, FILM & MEDIA TEACHER

It's Road Movie season for IB Film students and we will host two additional film screenings to complement our classwork! Both films are rated '15' so students from Year 10 upwards, as well as staff, are welcome to join us.

THELMA & LOUISE (1991) is Ridley Scott's Oscar-winning Feminist road movie. Starring Susan Sarandon, Geena Davis and a young Brad Pitt, the film follows its titular duo as they escape domestic boredom for a fishing trip, only for things to quickly go very badly wrong... The screening will take place in our Secondary Auditorium on Thursday 21 November, from 4:30 to 6:30pm.

INTO THE WILD (2006) is the true story of Christopher McCandless, who rejected the trappings of modern life to follow his dream of journeying to Alaska. Directed by Sean Pean and starring Emile Hirsch, this heartfelt film is one of my personal favourites and I'm looking forward to sharing it with students. The screening takes place on Thursday 28 November from 4:30 to 6:50pm.

GROW YOUR OWN

DAN SHREWSBURY, YEAR 6 TEACHER AND COMMUNITY SERVICE LEADER

As the growing season draws to a close in Shanghai the BISS Puxi Year 5 and 6 ECO ECA harvested their home grown produce and took home the goods to create some wonderful dishes with their families.

It's always great to watch as your hard work and effort reaps rewards. Our gardeners have spent a great deal of time cultivating and planting our bok choy, lettuce, borrag and spring onions and their efforts did not go to waste: a wonderful end to the planting season and a great learning experience for our pupils. Well done everyone! Let's get ready for spring. Special Thanks go to Mrs Zimmer for her continued commitment to our plants by watering them daily...the unseen Water-Fairy!

WHAT A BUZZ!

HEATHER BROWN, HEAD OF SECONDARY MUSIC

Students were treated to a fantastic trumpet master class and workshops with Laurence Gargan in the auditorium on Monday 11 November. Former Principal Trumpet of the Hong Kong Philharmonic and Singapore Symphony Orchestra, Laurence has also performed with several BBC Orchestras

and recorded for films. He gave a great demonstration of the different types of trumpet including a piccolo trumpet, bugle, Eb trumpet and the standard Bb trumpet.

Students were amazed at the different sounds and styles he could play. They also learnt about the different types of mutes such as a cup mute, straight mute, silent brass mute (great for the neighbours!) but by far the most popular was the Wah-Wah mute, better known for the 'really cool Bugs Bunny' effect!

The year 5,6, and 7 students guessed the film themes and even suggested other films which had used trumpets. Meanwhile, the brass students had a private master class where they learnt about holding the trumpet, the 'HUP' breathing technique and playing phrases rather than just notes. Gabriel Barrere 7I, George Gawthorpe 7I and Justin Graf 6U later performed in front of their year groups, displaying some of the techniques they had just learnt in the master class. Students asked engaging questions about how to tune a trumpet and the senior students gathered some great tips about how to get into university and how to get auditions. However, the biggest message of the whole day was how to create a sound from the trumpet: "buzz, don't blow" Students were invited to give it a try. The year 5, 6 and 7s were excellent at this; the year 11 and 12s need a little more work! Great fun was had by all and the students left the auditorium literally buzzing!

Special Mention goes to Ralph Gawthorpe from 5B, aged 10, who performed the Last Post on trumpet in front of the entire primary school for Remembrance Day. Possibly one of the most nerve wracking experiences for a trumpeter, Ralph rose to the challenge despite the cold and a few nerves.

What our students thought...

GEORGE GAWTHORPE 7S

"I was really inspired by how well he played with such confidence. I loved how he could play everything."

RALPH GAWTHORPE 5B

"I really enjoyed how well he played and it inspired me greatly. I really enjoyed listening to the different mutes and how he could play a lots."

ELLIE SCOTT 13I

"I found the workshop really interesting because it gave an insight into what playing the trumpet was like and also how you can pursue music in the future. I learnt a lot of things about the history of the trumpet and also how difficult playing the trumpet can be."



OUR YEAR 11 STUDENTS GEAR UP FOR THEIR MOCK EXAMS

DANIEL GROCOTT, HEAD OF YEAR 11

Our Year 11 students are preparing for their forthcoming mock examinations which will run from 21 – 29 November. In order to aid their revision for both the mock exams and for their exams in the summer they were given some advice of how to make study plans and do effective revision in their PSHE lesson this week. This advice complements the work their teachers are doing in their classes. The mock IGCSE examinations at BISS Puxi are designed to give our students an experience very similar to their exams in May/June next year. All students have been encouraged to make the most of their long weekend to do some good revision in preparation. Luck plays almost no part in these exams; it is simply about revision and preparing properly. We wish all of our Year 11 students the best with their exams and look forward to celebrating their successes in the final week of term.

DANISH PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALLER WOWS THE CROWDS

PAUL KELLY, HEAD OF KEY STAGE 4

At BISS Puxi we strive for excellence for all of our students, and as staff we work hard to model high performance. It is with this in mind that I can report that last week the BISS Puxi students had a unique experience in that former Danish international footballer Ebbe Sand came to deliver coaching sessions, run a football tournament and speak to the students about setting and achieving their goals.

Ebbe played for Brøndby, Schalke and Denmark, making over 500 top flight appearances. He scored 22 goals in his 66 games for Denmark and played in two World Cups and two European Championships. He is currently the Danish International team's strikers' coach.

Although I very much enjoyed watching Ebbe coach and seeing him interact and play games with our students, the most beneficial aspect of his visit was delivering assemblies to students in Years 7 to 11. He spoke very eloquently about the highs and lows of his career, talking about role models and goal setting. The students were engaged throughout

the 30 minute presentation with many staying behind to ask questions or get autographs. I am sure they learnt a lot about teamwork and how to overcome adversity. I would like to thank Ebbe for his time at the school and for the way he inspired our students and staff.

UNDER 11 FOBISIA GAMES

If you swim, play football, t-ball or are into athletics, these are the games for you. A team of 36 athletes from Year 4, 5 and 6 have the opportunity to represent the school in these games against British schools from all over Asia. The competition is in Beijing this year from 17 to 21 May 2014. Team trials will be held on Saturday 23 November 8:30am – 12:00pm at BISS Puxi. Please pick up your information letter from the primary PE office or find it on the website on Monday 18 November.

DUTCH ANNUAL PRESENTATION EVENING

JOB MAGER, SECONDARY TEACHER OF DUTCH LANGUAGE

In order to prepare our Dutch students for carrying out presentations to the best of their abilities, Shanghai Dutch School, an integral part of BISS Puxi, presents 'The Night of Presentations' each year in the secondary school where students present to their families and friends. By giving students a real live audience, we try to simulate a real life situation. This results in highly motivated and focused students, making a big effort to make the night a success.

Each group could choose their own topic to present on and as a result a wide variety of themes were addressed. Parents and other family members of our students were informed about 'The most popular sport in Belgium and The Netherlands' by Year 7 students. Year 8 gave very detailed, useful tips for booking a fantastic holiday to Australia and Year 9 gave us frightening facts about 'Past and Present Piracy'. After seeing the home made video 'The Truth Behind Chicken Nuggets', presented by Year 11, no one will probably eat those strangely stuffed things anymore. Year 10 warned us about the potential dangers of social media and another group gave an insight into the reasons for the war on drugs in Mexico. The night reached an absolute climax with an oral presentation, as part of the internal assessment for the IB DP, by Marit Vanquathem, Year 13. Due to a very successful night, yet again, we are thinking about booking the auditorium for next year, thanks to all students and parents involved!

SPORTS REPORT



The boys Division 1 basketball team won their third successive game on Wednesday beating a competitive and physical SISS by three points.

The boys weren't at their best but managed to keep their heads and play intelligent basketball when it mattered. Pablo Lahoz-

Powter and Allen Hong played well and managed to maintain their discipline and focus under considerable provocation. They boys face a much sterner test this weekend when they play Suzhou away.

Look out for a full football round up next week after Saturday's final events. On Thursday we saw the Year 9 and 10 sports morning. Look out for more about the event next week.