

LFA Meeting Notes on 7th November 2018

In Attendance

LFA Parents: Cindy, Josephine, Lilian, Eun Young, Sheila, Jeff, Florence, Chini, Martina, Paola, and Virginia

Faculty: Mr. Mindorff, Mr. Richard, Tina, Mr. Tom, Mr. Steven, Ms. Michele, Ms. Amya, Ms. Emma, Ms. Maude and Mr. Jarrett

Cross Country

LFA asked about participants in the CISA Cross Country on November 13th. Mr. Tom explained that during tomorrow's Inter-house Cross Country the eight fastest in each age group will earn a spot in the upcoming race. These students will be sent home with a paper explaining their responsibilities to the race. LFA will be present on the race day hosting a bake sale including waffles.

On Saturday, November 17th Leman will be hosting the ACAMIS Cross Country and LFA needs volunteers to be at the school to help selling food and drinks. The event will take place from 9:00 - 12:30.

Winter Concert Venue Change

Mr. Mindorff indicated announced that as the gymnasium could not be sound-proofed in time, the Winter Concert location has been changed to the Kempinski Hotel. This means that both concerts, Early Years and Primary & Secondary, will now take place on the same date, Thursday, December 13th. The venue is in the city and offers ample seating. This information and more details will be distributed in next week's parent newsletter.

Black Tie Silent Auction

Ms. Maude and Ms. Emma shared details regarding a silent auction to be hosted at Leman on Friday, December 7th from 6:30 – 8:30pm. All parents are invited to attend (no children as alcohol will be served). The proceeds from the tickets will go towards Chengdu Animal Rescue and will cost 200rmb. Art to be auctioned will be created by Leman students (individually or collaboratively) and will be mounted and framed. The proceeds from the art sales will benefit a school in JiuLong Province. All tickets will include wine, beer, and hors d'oeuvres. Ms. Emma requested that LFA help with the advertisement of this event via WeChat class groups.

Holiday Bazaar

LFA shared that while we will not be hosting a booth at the Holiday Bazaar on November 24th, we would like to help organize a basket of goods, donated by parents, that will be raffled to benefit the Hopeful Hearts Charity.

Tina agreed to collect the items to assemble into a basket. Leman students will performing at this event and will deliver the basket to the venue.

Hand Foot and Mouth Disease & School Cleanliness

LFA asked whether measures are being taken to avoid Hand Foot and Mouth Disease this winter. Mr. Richard assured that cleanliness is taken quite seriously and precautions are in place. Thorough handwashing is emphasized and each classroom has a digital thermometer so teachers can check a student's temperature as needed. If a student contracts the disease, he/she is required (by law) to stay away for 10 school days.

LFA wondered if it would be helpful for the bus monitor to check children's temperature. Mr. Richard was concerned that this task would slow down bus schedules and resolved that parents ought to keep sick children at home to recover.

LFA also asked about the bedding for Early Year's naps and Mr. Richard assured that the bedding is consistently washed by vigilant ayi's who do the job by hand.

AQI

LFA mentioned that some parents are not happy with an AQI of 200 being the cut off for outdoor activities and would hope the limit could be lower. Mr. Mindorff shared that while 200 is high, the school's research is that this is the standard of international schools around Chengdu and within China. When the AQI reaches 150, playground monitors will direct students to modify their play to be "less rigorous" During the second clubs season, we reduce the number of clubs based on outdoor activities. In the meantime, parents can request that their child be kept indoors at a limit that they personally decide. Contact your child's teacher if this is a request.

Water Filters

LFA shared that certain parents feel that a water filter needs to be in place for the water dispensers throughout the school. Mr. Richard assured that the bottled 5-gallon water is purchased from a company with very high standards and the water is, in fact, already filtered.

Nurse's Provisions

LFA noted that some parents would like for the nurse to have a supply of feminine hygiene materials on hand. Mr. Mindorff has confirmed that any student who arrives at the nurse's station with this request can be supplied with the materials.

Gymnasium Repairs

LFA inquired about the state of the gymnasium, specifically the lack of air filtration. Vestibules have recently been added on either side to help improve both the air quality and temperature inside the gym. More repairs are scheduled to take place in the future.

Leman Budget

LFA mentioned that some parents wonder regarding Leman's budget and would like it to be more transparent. Parents specifically want to know what capital improvements are being made throughout the school. Mr. Mindorff stated that the Leman budget is decided in partnership with Nord Anglia and they have a high standard of financial oversight and management. The Leman campus is very large with a number of buildings and grounds designed by the government to hold 1100 students. Our population is significantly below capacity so a large portion of budget is continually being spent to maintain high standards of safety and upgrade the standard of the original build quality. This means that building repairs are prioritized over things such as the tennis court improvements. Over the Winter Break for example the facia on the main building will be replaced, moving from concrete to Styrofoam fascia, creating a safer environment for the students.

Enrollment

LFA asked about the re-enrollment process for the 2019-2020 school year. Tina noted that an enrollment survey will be sent at the end of January and parents will be able to make a deposit before the end of March to secure a spot for their child.

School Uniform

LFA shared that some parents are unhappy with the quality of the school uniforms- particularly the pants. This is the first year that uniform provision has been outsourced and the school is in continual contact with the supplier passing on feedback that comes to us from parents. This will ultimately lead to a better final standard of uniform and we regret the quality issues parents are reporting. The supplier has indicated that a newer version of the PE pants is being created. If a parent is dissatisfied with any uniform item, it can be exchanged at the uniform shop as there is some variability in the uniform pieces.

Student Identification Cards

LFA inquired again about the Student ID cards as school pictures have been taking place over the last few weeks. Mr. Mindorff shared that students were photographed for the ID card as well as for their class photos. He estimates that the ID cards should be complete before the Winter Break.

Service Activities

Mr. Jarrett Brown announced that he continues to search for service activities for his students. One student is organizing a Movember "Move for Men's Health" event to raise money. Another group has been collecting books in Mandarin to donate to a local school. He asked the LFA to contact him with any ideas for service in Chengdu.

Open Forum

LFA and administration is still interested in an open forum where administration would be available to parents for questions and concerns. Mr. Mindorff noted that this will be able to take place downtown on February 20th.

LFA Meeting

The meeting began at 10:30am and ended at 11:30am.