



| January PA Meeting | Charity Update | Class Representatives

Spring Term at a Glance

Sunday February 4th -
Chinese New Year Temple Fair
Friday February 9th - School
Closed for staff training
Monday 12th to Tuesday 20th
February - School Closed for
Chinese New Year
Friday 30th March - Last Day
of Spring Term

PA Meeting

To start the Spring Term, we held our PA General Meeting in the HUB on Tuesday January 9th after a New Parent Welcome Coffee. We introduced some new PA Executive Team Members.

Alison Strauss our new PA Coordinator and Judy Sarton our new Assistant Coordinator. Tobias Gustafsson remains as Treasurer. We announced openings remaining for Secretary, Charity Board Head and Parent-Link Head. We discussed a new Volunteer Protocol which will feature designating Year Groups to serve as Event Coordinators, with guidance from the PA Executive Team, for upcoming events. We hope to give everyone a chance to participate and have their voice heard. As always Volunteers from every Class are welcome at all Events.

We announced an upcoming Bake Sale led by Years 5/6 in late January, and also the hope to have an Easter Event (date TBD) that involves all children during the School day and is funded by the PA. Future Events planned are the Staff Appreciation day led

by Years 1 and Reception as well as the Art Auction led by Years 2/3.

We announced the final total of the Santa's Secret Shoppe profits as 17,170RMB and had a Majority vote of members present to donate the whole amount to Charity. We discussed future events and fundraising distribution such as: Bake Sale for PA funds (to benefit School events) and Art Auction for Charity fundraising.

Senior Leadership Talk

Mr Laird gave an Update on the Air Pollution policy and referred Parents to the School website for a detailed protocol. He also gave a summary of upcoming Term Events. He announced staffing changes - Mrs Laird on Maternity leave, replaced by Lee Peck to Team Teach the Year 6 Class. Mr Peck will also be available to cover should a future teaching shortage arise. Sue-Marie George will be the new Reception Teacher and a new Pre-Nursery Class has opened due to high demand with new teacher Holly Gilbert. Difficulties in quick staff turnover - need for researching and hiring new teachers and waiting on visa clearance make this process challenging. Last term's shortage of staff was highly unusual. Principal interviews will be held in mid-January as Mr Laird will leave us at the end of this School Year to be closer to family in England. Teacher recruitment for next year has also begun to attract the best teachers. Teacher turnover is affected by contracts ending and promotions offered.

Uniform update: Mr Laird emphasized following the Uniform Protocol on the Website. Parents voiced concerns re. the quality of the current uniforms - sweaters, sweatshirts, elastic pants. Mr Laird took note of all concerns and is in the process of comparing 2 new companies for quality and pricing. He also reminded Parents to label all of the children's outerwear and uniform pieces to help it from being lost. New Mascot launch was announced.

Mr Laird announced our New Mascot, as decided by the children, will be the Bulldog. There had been a contest last school year to decide on a new mascot and this was elected. The previous mascot was the same as BSB Shunyi and there was a desire to make our mascot unique. This will be phased into uniforms over the next few years.

Class Representatives

BSB Sanlitun asks for Class Representatives for each Class to “keep an email and WeChat Group” to facilitate communication and connect Parents between each other and the School. The PA being separate but related to the School would also like the Class Representatives to facilitate communication between the PA and the Parents by:

- Passing on WeChat messages to their Class WeChat groups from the PA.

We would also greatly appreciate if the Class Rep can further support the PA and Parents by:

- Attending PA Meetings and communicating info learned there to their Class, or if attendance is not possible, reviewing the Minutes and relaying pertinent info to you Class
- Leading and Organizing their designated Events or finding someone(s) who is/are willing to Lead and Organize their Year Group Events
- Participating in PA Events as a Volunteer

Volunteer Protocol

The purpose of designating Year Groups to take charge of an event is to make sure ALL Year Groups feel they are part of BSB Sanlitun Events and that ALL parents have been given a chance to help and voice their thoughts and ideas for an event.

All events are supported by the PA Executive Committee throughout the planning and executing the requirements that need to be met for that particular event.

However, the designated volunteers for the event need to take CHARGE and initiate the meetings of these Event Committees, create a WeChat group if required and start planning the requirements in order to run that event in a successful manner.

Here are some general points to remember when volunteering for an Event:

1. To be there on time as required
2. To work with other Volunteers as a Team
3. To let us know if you cannot work on the event day
4. To fulfil your part, as every person has a role and is important to make this event happen successfully.
5. To be flexible to help out if required even if it is NOT your area of expertise (we are all in this together, many for the first time)
6. Every Volunteer is REALLY appreciated! Anything we do for the betterment of this School is worthwhile and makes our School a better place.

When we all make the commitment, and follow it through until the end, we can make every Event a Success.

Next PA Meeting Date

Tuesday February 6th 8:30 am in the HUB



Charity Update

Please come to our February Meeting to hear about Love and Hope Charity from one of the Love and Hope Representatives.

PA Communications

Where can I find the latest PA News and information?

- On the School Website
- In the daily emails
- On WeChat - BSB Sanlitun Parents Group
- In the Daily email
- Monthly Newsletters
- PA Binder in the foyer of the Primary Building

Why does the PA use WeChat more often than email?

- Because we are limited to the number of emails we can send per day, we use the above methods to communicate.

To get in touch with the PA with questions, suggestions, or to volunteer, please email us at:
sanlitun.pa@bsbsanlitun.com



Welcome our New Secretary Rashmi Verma

Open PA Executive Positions

PA Charity Board Chair

Duties:

- Attend all PA Meetings
- Arrange and preside over meeting of the Charity Board Committee
- Plan and execute charitable fundraising events
- Liaison with charitable organizations and oversee the disbursement of funds to these organizations as approved by the Executive Committee

PA Parent-Link Chair

Duties:

- Attend all PA Meetings
- Arrange and preside over meetings of the Parent-Link Committee which shall serve to give back to the PA and school community from PA raised funds
- Organize and execute all events planned to benefit the School Community as approved by the Executive Committee

PA Executive Committee

- PA Coordinator** - Alison Strauss - drafts77@hotmail.com
WeChat ID: Afstrauss01 or Alison Strauss
- Assistant PA Coordinator** - Judy Sarton - ejsarton@outlook.com
Phone number 178 0100 0386
- Treasurer** - Tobias Gustafsson - tobias.g78@gmail.com
- Secretary**- Rashmi Verma
- Charity Board Committee Chair** - Available position
- Parent-Link Committee Chair** - Available position
- Lunch Parent Coordinator** - Alexandra Bichteler - alexandra@bichteler.net