

| **December PA Meeting** | **Parent Fun Events** | **Winter Events** |  
**Charity Cookbook Update**

## December PA Meeting

### Winter term at a glance

**Jan - Feb** – MIT term 2 challenge  
**10<sup>th</sup> Jan** – Next PA meeting



This was our first PA meeting that took place in the evening, as requested by working parents who could not attend the morning session. Unfortunately the turn out for the evening slot was not great, we had 2 people attend, The PA will have another evening meeting in March.

The BSB Sanlitun MIT team (Miss Booth, Miss Mccarra, Mr Haden) gave a presentation of what we should be expecting in January-February. They were all very enthusiastic to inform the parents of the up and coming Term 2 challenge, curious cities. This will be rolled out across all year groups and be student led. The aim is to identify and raise awareness of an environmental problem in school/local environment/city. The MIT team is looking for parents with expertise in environmental issues (eg. recycling, air pollution, waste management) and associated fields to come in and speak to the students in January. Please email Miss Booth ([petrina.booth@britishschool.org.cn](mailto:petrina.booth@britishschool.org.cn)) if you can help. The presentation is available on the BSB Sanlitun website, [please find the link here](#).

**Christine Armstrong** has worked at BSB Sanlitun for 8 years – Unfortunately for BSB Sanlitun, Christine will be leaving us at the end of the Summer Term. We congratulate her in becoming Head of a Primary school in Thailand. We will be sad to see her go, Christine is a strong and friendly character that will be missed by all. Deputy Head Recruitment will be taking place next week. Her replacement will be announced at the end of the term.

As everyone is now aware **Prue** will be leaving in December – I'm sure Prue knows that she will be missed – Her replacement is Majella O Doherty – The PA would like to give a big welcome Majella to the BSB Sanlitun team and look forward to seeing her daily at the school. Please help make her transition a smooth one.

Changes to the academic structure of the school – David stated that there needed to be more distributed leadership within an academic context. This was also something that was highlighted in the BSO report. Restructuring to strengthen middle management; Early Years leadership will become autonomous; the academic leadership team will be responsible for curriculum and continually seeking to promote the highest teaching and learning standards. This new level of middle management is attractive for teachers looking to develop their careers; the academic leadership team will become key contacts for parents.

There will be a Roundabout book stand/ stall, taking place at the BSB Sanlitun main Primary campus on 18<sup>th</sup> February. There will be English books for parents and kids. The school will be managing this and they are looking for 10 volunteers to help run the stall. Please contact **Majella** via email [majella.odoherty@britishschool.org.cn](mailto:majella.odoherty@britishschool.org.cn)

Ms Iva will soon be on maternity leave, Catherine Ormandy, a drama and dance specialist has been hired for 3 month's maternity cover. Catherine has lived in Beijing before and was a parent at BSB Sanlitun. She is very happy to be returning to Beijing and BSB Sanlitun with her children.

David is appreciative of parents' support of the decision to cancel the Christmas fayre due to pollution.

## Winter Events

### PA International Day – Feedback

A fun-filled event for BSB Sanlitun students – run by the parents (we had around 100 parent volunteers) International day was a fun day for the students and the parent volunteers. We all had an amazing and tiring day discovering and learning new things from 27 other countries. Everybody’s efforts did not go unrecognised, the children had a fabulous day with one child saying “This is the best day or my life”. The children and some parents had an opportunity to play games, eat delicious snacks, make craft items, learn about national animals, flags and much more.

The PA would like to say a big **THANK YOU** to **Stephanie Heydolph** for arranging and managing the International event this year. What an amazing job she did managing the parents and children for this huge event. Everyone start thinking/ planning for next year’s activities!!



### Santa’s Grotto - Feedback

The parents all helped create an amazing Grotto for Santa to visit, we had items hand crafted, pieces loaned to us and purchased – Unfortunately as the Christmas Fayre was cancelled due to the pollution levels other parents were not able to see the room in its full beauty. I am happy to say that the children were able to visit Santa (Mr Laird) and the grotto in its full glory. Year 4 students were so impressed with the grotto, they also wanted to use the pieces for their performance!



### Parent Fun Event – Cooking Class at the Hutong – Feedback

The Beijing cooking class provided a great opportunity to learn about Chinese food culture, cooking techniques and regional cuisine. We had a strong group of 10 parents and we all helped to prepare 3 dishes, which we all got to eat at the end of the class. We were also able to take the recipes home, I unfortunately haven’t had time to recreate these amazing dishes however I have heard from some people that they have tried.

If you are interested in taking part in a cooking class at the Hutong please go to [thehutong.com](http://thehutong.com)



### Parent Fun Event – Ink Painting Class China Cultural Centre (CCC) – Feedback

The Ink painting class was a breath of fresh air and a really relaxing way to spend some time with fellow parents from BSB. We all learnt new and interesting techniques and we were able to take our masterpieces home to share with our families. The teacher gave us a step by step approach to the difficult yet beautiful art of ink painting.

If you are interested in taking part in an Ink painting class please go to [chinaculturecenter.org](http://chinaculturecenter.org)



### End of term Thanks

I would personally like to send good wishes to all parents and staff at BSB Sanlitun for the Christmas holidays and New Year. The Winter term has been a very busy one in regards to parent/ children events. The PA really appreciate's everyone's hard work and efforts. If it wasn't for the great community of parents and the PA team that we have at BSB Sanlitun these events would unfortunately not go ahead. I hope you all have a very nice and relaxing break.

**Please note going forward all of the Parent Fun Events will be listed until June – If you are interested in participating please email Kirsty New – [sanlitun.pa@britishschool.org.cn](mailto:sanlitun.pa@britishschool.org.cn)**

## 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.

### Santa's Secret Shoppe – Feedback

This is a shopping event for the children to buy gifts for family and friends, near and far. Not only do the children get to have this experience they are also giving to charity as all of the profits go to the PA Charity MCF. The children have a fabulous time dashing from stand to stand seeking the perfect gift. The children independently choose, calculate and understand that Christmas is a time for giving to others.

I would like to thank everyone who has given their time and efforts to make this event a truly special one for the children.



### BSB Sanlitun PA Cookbook

The cookbook is now underway. Submissions have now been closed and we have received more than 100 recipes from families, staff and handwritten ones from children. We have a fantastic group of dedicated volunteers. Parent volunteer executive chef at New World hotel selected 6 recipes to cook as a trial process. These dishes not only look fabulous they also tasted amazing. The dishes were professionally styled and photographed by the chef and 2 parent volunteer photographers. The layout and design for these 6 recipes have provided a great direction for the cookbook by parent volunteer and graphic designer.

The cookbook team will continue with the proof reading, cooking, food styling, photography and graphic design process.

In the New Year we will be seeking sponsorship and advertising sales – If anyone is interested please email Grace: [pangmei.wang@yahoo.com](mailto:pangmei.wang@yahoo.com).

We will be launching the cookbook in May at the school picnic. Pre-orders will be taken from April onwards.

### Maidaifu apple fundraising - Feedback

Stephanie communicated that at BSB Sanlitun we collected and sold 400kg of apples. Year 6 children helped pack the apples in a 1.5 hour session. Over 10,000rmb was raised for the Maidaifu children charity.

### 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.

Please contact Grace if you are interested. Email Grace: [pangmei.wang@yahoo.com](mailto:pangmei.wang@yahoo.com)



## Other Business

### Introduction to the PA Committee

PA Coordinator – Kirsty New – [sanlitun.pa@britishschool.org.cn](mailto:sanlitun.pa@britishschool.org.cn)

Secretary - Grace Walter

Treasurer – Ira Ovesen

Charity Board - Grace Walker, Emma Murphy and Monica Howes - 1 more positions available

Grace – [pangmei.wang@yahoo.com](mailto:pangmei.wang@yahoo.com)

Parent Fun Event Coordinator – **Position available**

Events Coordinator – Stephanie Heydolph - [sanlitun.paevents@britishschool.org.cn](mailto:sanlitun.paevents@britishschool.org.cn)

Lunch Parent Coordinator – Alexandra Bichteler – [Alexandra@bichteler.net](mailto:Alexandra@bichteler.net)

### Positions available on the PA team:

#### Charity Committee

- 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

- To create fun and entertaining social gatherings for parents alike.
- To communicate with parents through the BSB forum
- To liaise with vendors who are managing the events
- Negotiating costs etc. based on numbers.

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.

Another sign up sheet is located on the PA Committee board at the BSB Primary Campus enabling you to participate in specific events and socializing gatherings etc. 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.

To get in touch with the PA with questions, suggestions, or to volunteer please email us at [sanlitun.pa@britishschool.org.cn](mailto:sanlitun.pa@britishschool.org.cn)