

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2014



Our Year 3 and Year 4 students during their performance of 'Elf'...

## THE END TO A VERY BUSY TERM...

By Lisa Milanec, Principal

It is hard to believe that fifteen weeks ago we welcomed everyone to school for the start of the 2014/15 academic year - we welcomed back our returning students and said hello to over one hundred new families back in August. We have seen the weather change from stifling heat to freezing temperatures, with several days of pollution thrown in here and there. We have seen new friendships made and old friendships rekindled. We have enjoyed new topics and experimented with new ways of learning. We have shared student successes and challenges achieved. We have even welcomed new babies to our BSB community!

Now here we are bringing the autumn term to a close. I know our students and our team of staff are most deserving of a rest and a need to recharge their batteries in preparation for the adventures that the spring term will bring. I hope all of our families get the opportunity during the holidays to spend time with their friends, families and loved ones and make the most of the break ahead. We look forward to welcoming you back ready for the start of a new term.

It is of course a time when we do have to say goodbye to some of our families and I hope you are taking with you many fond memories of your time here in Beijing and at BSB Sanlitun. For some of our students it is the only school they have ever been to and I hope we have been able to inspire you and develop a love of learning that you will carry with you throughout your education and into adulthood.

On behalf of everyone here at BSB Sanlitun, a very Merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year to you all!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

15<sup>th</sup> December - 5<sup>th</sup> January  
School Holidays

6<sup>th</sup> January  
First Day of Spring Term

Welcome Coffee  
for New Families  
8.30am @ Primary Campus

8<sup>th</sup> January  
Meet & Greet  
for IMPS Teacher & Parents  
@ Primary Campus

13<sup>th</sup> January  
PA Meeting  
9am @ Primary Campus

Years 3 & 4  
FOBISIA Swimming Training  
3pm - 4.30pm

14<sup>th</sup> January  
U9, U10, U11  
Handball @ BSB Shunyi  
10am - 2pm

20<sup>th</sup> January  
Years 5 & 6  
FOBISIA Swimming Training  
3pm - 4.30pm

23<sup>rd</sup> January  
Year 5 Visit to The Science &  
Technology Museum

Coffee Afternoon  
for Tadpoles & Pre Nursery

## A FESTIVE TIME IN EARLY YEARS

By Kirsten Harding, Nursery Angel Fish Class Teacher

Dear Parents

It has been a very busy term for all the children in Early Years and I am sure that they are ready for a good rest. It has been fantastic to see how quickly the children settled into school and how much progression in their learning has been achieved.



I was particularly impressed with the confident voices of the Reception children during their recent Christmas production and enjoyed listening to our youngest children singing at the Early Years Sing-A-Long. I shall now look forward to seeing the children again in the New Year bouncing with energy.

The Early Years Team would like to take this opportunity to wish you all and your children a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.





## A SUCCESSFUL TERM IN KS<sub>2</sub>

By Zoe Hubbard, Year 3 Puffins Class Teacher

What a perfect way to end our term and start the Christmas holidays with the Year 3 & Year 4 performance of 'Elf'. I am sure everyone who saw it would agree that the children showed an enormous amount of confidence with some amazing acting, singing and narrating. A big thank you to all the children and staff in Lower Key Stage 2 for making it happen.

Our Key Stage 2 children have had a fantastic term and there has been a really good mix of topics across the different year groups. Year 4 managed to get around the world in 80 days, Year 3 walked the path of the Ancient Egyptians, Year 5 explored coastlines whilst Year 6 had a roller coaster ride with their fairgrounds.

Year 3 children were able to share their Ancient Egyptian topic with their parents during their recent 'Egyptian Exhibition'. The children were very excited to have this opportunity and proudly took their parents through their learning journey. Feedback from parents suggests that they enjoyed the morning too. Some parents even managed a visit to Tutankhamun's tomb!



*Year 3 sharing Ancient Egyptian topic with their parents*

As our first term comes to a close, I would like to thank all members of the Key Stage 2 team for their continual energy and hard work. I would also like to thank you as parents for supporting us by helping the children to recognise that learning takes place beyond the classroom.

We wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and look forward to seeing the children refreshed and enthusiastic at the start of the Spring Term.

## A FANTASTIC TERM IN KS 1

By Rebecca Kerry, Year 2 Pandas Class Teacher

This week, KS1 have had a spectacular end to their first term. They have been singing, painting, glittering, gluing, dancing and constructing, along with learning phonics and maths with a Christmas theme.

I was so proud this week when a Year 1 child came to visit my classroom with a fantastic story he had written about The Snowman. During the last two weeks, Year 1 have been learning to retell the story of The Snowman using actions and a story map to guide them. They then used their Flexible Thinking skills to develop interesting adjectives which they wrote on to their 3D Snowmen. I'm sure the Year 1 parents, as I was, will be very impressed by the quality and maturity of the words the children came up with when they take home their snowmen at the end of the week.

Year 2 have also been very creative this week. They have been completing their dioramas about the habitat they have been researching over the last few weeks. They are now experts on the habitats of penguins, camels, eagles and tigers. During this topic, Year 2 have learnt about the special body parts of animals which make them specially adapted for their habitats such as talons, beaks, hooves, webbed feet and humps.

All classes in KS1 joined together for a fantastic disco on Thursday as part of their Christmas parties. They enjoyed dancing with their friends and teachers as well as playing some traditional British party games. I would like to wish all KS1 children and their families a very Merry Christmas and I look forward to seeing you again after the holiday.



*KS1 in Christmas Party*



*Year 2 showing the dioramas they created*



## BUSY, BUSY, BUSY!

By Christine Armstrong, Deputy Headteacher

What a bumper-filled end to the first term here at Sanlitun! I feel incredibly privileged to have seen the amazing BSB Sanlitun choir perform at different events around town, as well as seeing the Year 3&4 Christmas production of Elf, a Nativity show from our Reception children, a sing-a-long Christmas with our youngest children and a staff pantomime performed to the children today, our final day of school. Mix that in with our Christmas parties, Christmas Fayre and special Christmas lunch and I am well and truly ready for the winter celebrations to begin.

As a school we work hard to ensure that alongside the excellent teaching and learning in class, there are lots of other opportunities for the children to grow, develop and learn. This time of year shows just how much opportunity there is for the children. As well as the performances I have mentioned above we had children organising and delivering Christmas gift boxes to underprivileged children; children running their own stalls at the Christmas Fayre; children undertaking extra physical training in preparation for sporting events; children working on the Global Classroom 'Make it Right' campaign in conjunction with OXFAM and here I mention but a few things that allow our children to learn beyond the classroom. The children in our school, as well as staff here, are looking forward to a well-earned break and we look forward to everyone returning re-fuelled, re-energised and ready to learn!

It would be wrong to sign off without mentioning another group of people that have also been working extremely hard this term, and I'm sure are also in need of a well-deserved rest! Our PA, led by Cat Lambert, have hosted and participated in lots of events this term and have done an incredible job. Recently we have had Santa's Secret Shoppe and the Christmas Fayre which has seen PA volunteers working incredibly hard for the benefit of others. Thank you for everything that you do, and I hope you all have a restful break.

To one and all I wish you a happy holiday season.



*Year 6 delivering the shoeboxes that our BSB families generously donated*

## SANLITUN CHRISTMAS CHOIR

By Lisa Milanec, Principal

I would not be able to finish this term without giving a special mention to our Sanlitun Christmas Choir. This amazing group of 34 students have performed on five occasions during the last four weeks, giving up their weekends and evenings to represent our school. Our first performance took place at The Kerry Hotel, Christmas Tree Lighting, where the children sang two sets of Christmas songs, whilst guests enjoyed drinks and nibbles in the hotel foyer. Our second performance took place at our very own Christmas Cracker event, where the children sang on our school stage whilst a range of arts and craft activities took place in our school hall.



*Our first performance at The Kerry Hotel*



*Our performance at our very own Christmas Cracker*

We then returned to The Kerry Hotel, Adventure Zone, where we performed as part of the one year anniversary of the Adventure Zone's opening. We had in fact, performed there the year before for the actual opening, so it was great to be invited back for the anniversary celebrations. Our students also enjoyed the opportunity to play at the Adventure Zone after their performance. This was indeed a busy weekend and the following day we took the journey down to The Westin, Financial Street where we performed two sets at the Pre-Christmas Sunday Brunch. The students performed their first set on the staircase, as guests were welcomed to the hotel and into brunch, and the second performance took place within the actual brunch setting, where guests were able to gather around and join in with the Christmas songs. Over 90 of our BSB families also attended this event, so the choir had fantastic support from some very familiar faces in the audience.

Our final performance took place just this week on Wednesday evening when we made the short journey to the Four Seasons hotel to perform at their Christmas Tree Lighting. Again, the choir performed on the central staircase in the Opus lounge overlooking the enormous Christmas tree that was on display. As soon as the lights were turned on the students began their programme with 'Deck the Halls' which was very fitting to what was the start of a very festive evening.



## SANLITUN CHRISTMAS CHOIR CONTINUED...

By Lisa Milanec, Principal

I cannot begin to explain the amount of work that went into each and every one of these performances, and you can only imagine the amount of hours of rehearsing and preparation that took place to ensure these performances were of the very highest standard. In fact it is quite hard to believe that some of these students were only 8 years old. Each and every student was an absolute credit to the school and I have been so proud to tell everybody that these students were part of our BSB Sanlitun family. We have received so many compliments about the children, not only about their performances but also about the manner in which they have conducted themselves at each venue.

I would like to personally thank our Music Department, Mr Henry Charlesworth and Mrs Iva Borisavljevic, for all of their hard work and dedication to the choir, as well as Mrs Christine Armstrong who has been a fantastic support, attending every performance and arranging all of the logistics to ensure each performance was carried off smoothly. A big thank you too to all of the staff at The Kerry Hotel, The Westin Financial Street and The Four Seasons who enabled our performances to take place without a hitch and for being such generous hosts.



*Performing at The Kerry Hotel, Adventure Zone*



*Welcoming guests at The Westin Financial Street*



*Performing at the Sunday Brunch at The Westin Financial Street*



*Our final performance at The Four Seasons*

## HANDBALL SUCCESS

By Rachel Spencer, Head of P.E.

The handball season started with a bang last week with our under 9s playing at BIBA and U11s playing at BCIS. Both teams returning with an abundance of goals, victories and smiles.

### U11 HANDBALL AT BCIS

The U11 team played in the handball exchange at BCIS last Wednesday. Both boys' and girls' teams played extremely well and showed the JISAC teams that BSB, Sanlitun cannot only dominate at football, but also at handball as well.

The boys' team, a mixture of year 5 and 6 played some amazing handball. Strong in both attack and defence, the boys not only looked fierce but played with energy and sheer determination. The boys won 5 out of the 6 matches they played against BIBA (2-1), BCIS (7-1), Daystar (4-0), BCIS 2 (3-0). They lost a very close game against Harrow (2-1) but put in a tremendous effort throughout. Fantastic play by Miles, Nuwan, Jason and William who worked the attack and opened up many scoring opportunities. Outstanding defence by Seiya and Sora with controlled support play from centre players Philip and Adam. Our goal keepers Isaac and Marc made some excellent saves with only 4 goals scored against us in the tournament. A daring long shot by goalkeeper Isaac converted into a goal - great effort!

The girls' team, again comprised of year 5 and 6 dominated the tournament. The attacking play between Obaha, Hannah, Meijie and Sandra was exceptional, along with strong defence by Lena and Manon combined with support play in the centre from Malia and Venetia. The scores were: Harrow (7-0), BIBA (4-0), CISB (4-2), Daystar (4-0) and BCIS (5-1).

Even though it was a great day of the start of the handball season, it is the last tournament for three of our key year 6 players. We sadly say goodbye to Isaac, Nuwan and Hannah who are leaving at the end of this term. A huge thank you for all your efforts to sport here at BSB, Sanlitun and we wish you the best of luck for your future sporting careers and achievements.



*BSB U11 Handball Team*



# Primary Debating League

This term a team of dedicated students from our school entered the Global Classroom debating league.

They had two weeks to research the motion and then work together to make opening statements, up to 8 posts and then a closing statement. They carried out research, analysed it and wrote well constructed arguments.



The  Global Classroom

The motion is: Technology is ruining human relationships

Sanlitun 1 were arguing *for* the motion. Chicago 3 were arguing *against*.


As a reminder, here are the names of the students in each team:

Sanlitun 1	Chicago 3
Quinn McKissack	Georgia Scarr
Adam Portch	Sabrina Hayes
Martina Lannot	Emma Baker
Sarina Soleimani	Samantha Coleman
Lena Kirchner	Rossana Takhsh
Claire Stromseth	Kathleen Baffa
Chloe Huang	Jordan Hazlehurst
Grant Korb	

## The results

**Sanlitun 1**, what a great team performance. The research you carried out added a lot of weight to your argument. It is just a shame that you waited until your closing statement to share the details of your findings. Next time, you could use the preparatory two weeks to do your research so you're armed and ready.

**Chicago 3**, you made a made a lot of very good arguments about the importance of technology. Next time try to make sure that every argument you present is always linked back to the motion ... in this case, why technology is not ruining human relationships. That would add a lot of weight to your arguments.

The  Global Classroom	Sanlitun 1*	Chicago 3*
Opening Statement	8	8
Post Quality	25	19
Closing Statement	7	7
Total	40	34

Congratulations to Sanlitun 1 and Chicago 3 who really challenged one another with well-organised and well-presented arguments. If you have a chance, go and have a look at their debate to see how two teams can really work together to raise the standard.



The  Global Classroom

## Debating League leader board

Position	Team name	Score (/50)
1	Sanlitun 1	40
2	Chicago 3	34
3	Chicago 8	27
4	Chicago 6	17
5	Prague Bosses	15
6	Prague Pranksters	11
7	Bratislava 3	10
=8	Great Debaters of Bratislava	7
=8	BSCGDT	7
=10	Bratislava Bosses	6
=10	Chicago 4	6

Congratulations to our debating team who not only won their debate against Chicago 3 but are top of the leader board overall!

**GO SANLITUN!**