



THE BRITISH SCHOOL
OF BEIJING, Shunyi



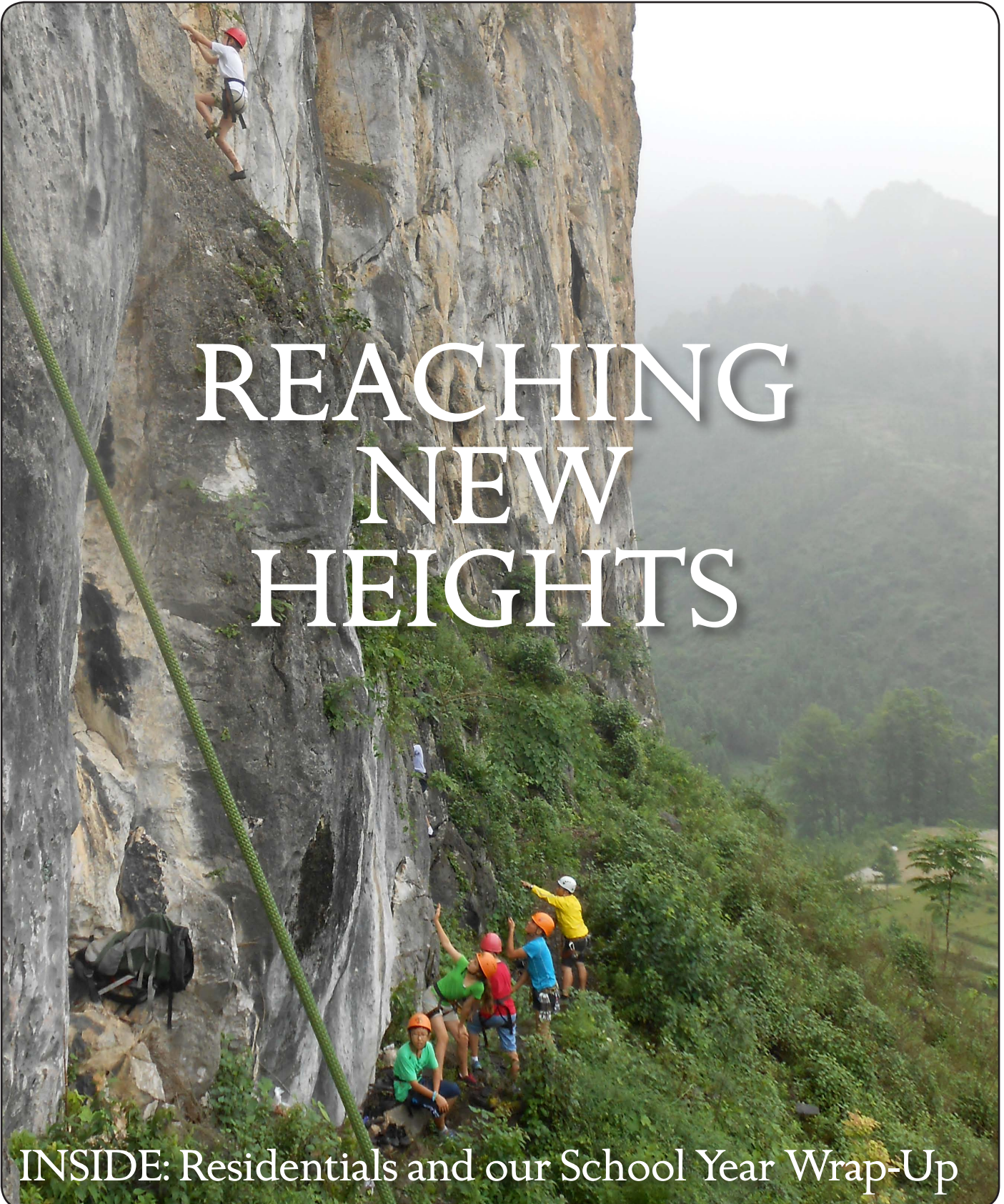
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REACHING NEW HEIGHTS

INSIDE: Residentials and our School Year Wrap-Up

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Friends

In this, my last message of the year, it is inevitably a time to look back and reflect on the year. At the beginning of the year, we began to use the phrase 'the BSB family'; there is always a risk that we use terms like this too much but I have to say it has taken on real resonance. We are a family; I believe that one of our strengths is that we treat every child and every parent as an individual, as one of our own.

First and foremost I want to thank that BSB family for the amazing and warm welcome you have extended to my family and me. Lucy, Eli and I could not be happier being here, and that is thanks to so many of you. We feel part of the community and hope that we will stay for many years to come.

Looking back over the past academic year, I do believe that the school has made massive progress in so many fields. The focus on academic standards has been number one on the agenda, and I could not be more proud of the success we have achieved. I am genuinely excited to receive the IGCSE and A-Level results in August this year, which will be the validation of this success. We are truly proud to be a school that does not have selection tests on entry, because we believe our teachers have the skills to make sure that your child will achieve more here than in any other school, and I believe that these results will show this. With our focus on this type of academic achievement, next year we will go from strength to strength. If this sounds like a proud boast, it is not intended to be – as I have often said, we achieve what we achieve because we always believe we could do better yet. Our colleagues are passionate about your child's success and we will not rest until everyone achieves beyond what they previously thought possible.

A school is about so much more than mere academics, and in the past two weeks we have seen phenomenal examples of that. The Performing and Creative Arts Soiree was, quite simply, one of the best things I have seen in a school. The quality of the Art, Drama, DT and Music (where we had 33 musical items of an extremely high standard) showed just how strong these creative subjects are at the school. At our Sports Awards Evening this week we celebrated more trophies and medals than ever before and awarded our most prestigious internal trophies – the Sportsman and Woman of the year in each age group. Last year, approximately 250 pupils took part in regular sport outside of curriculum time; this year it has been 579.

As it is the end of the academic year, we sadly have to say goodbye to a number of our staff and students, such is the way of international schools. We have had a chance to thank them publicly in assemblies and some meetings with parents, but now is my chance to thank them formally. I think the commitment and dedication of my colleagues is second to none, the care they show for individual students and their willingness to go the extra mile quite exceptional, and their capacity to relentlessly seek improvement in everything we do remarkable. For those colleagues who are now leaving this team, we will miss you. You have left your own mark on BSB and I hope you leave with many joyful memories and I wish you every possible success in the future.

Being a family is also about the type of people our students become, and the way they contribute to the wider community. Amongst all the things that I want to celebrate, this is the one which daily inspires me and motivates me more than any other. I said at the beginning of the year that I believed I have the best job in the world. As I have got to know these amazing individuals better, I am now even more convinced! Young people and education are my twin passions, and the young people of BSB lift us all to new heights of belief every day. They have committed themselves to the school wholeheartedly, given their best, and recognised the value of hard work and academic commitment. But, above all else, they have understood that it is within their power to make the world a better place, and have shown this in their interactions with others, both within school and in the wider community.

May I end by wishing you all a wonderful summer, wherever that may be, and every success for the new academic year, whether at BSB or as you move on to pastures new.

With my very best wishes

Andy Puttock
Principal



FRONT COVER IMAGE... This spectacular photo was taken on the Year 6 Residential to Guizhou. Photos of all the Year 3 to Year 6 residentials and the Year 2 Sleepover start from page 15.

FROM THE HEAD OF SECONDARY

Dear Parents,

We are all looking forward to “Move Up” morning on Monday when our new year 6 students will be joining us.

Mrs Cundall, our Head of Year 7 for next year, has an exciting programme of team building and “get-to-know-you” events. Students will re-join their year 6 classes in the afternoon. This is a great experience for the children as they get to meet their peers and make new friends, as well as learning their way around the secondary building.

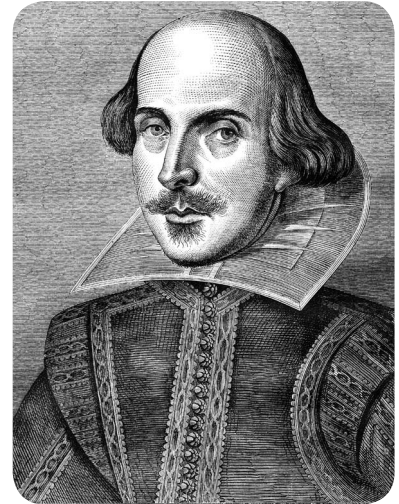
On Tuesday we are all looking forward to House Softball. This is will be a very exciting event because on Wednesday we will be awarding the annual house trophy, and the points scored in softball could make all the difference as to who our winners will be.

In addition, in the after we have another House Competition. Students are taking part in our first-ever “Shakespeare off by Heart” competition. Once again, house points will be available for the winners. Given that Shakespeare and I went to the same school, in Stratford-Upon-Avon, you can imagine that this competition is dear to my heart.

To round the year off nicely we have graduation on Wednesday. This prestigious event marks the end of the school year and so it only remains for me to wish you happy holidays and see you in August.

Best wishes,

Steve Lewis (and fellow Alumnus, William Shakespeare)



STUDENTS GO THE DISTANCE IN MATHS

from Science Teacher, Mr Richard Mason

How far away something is when you can't actually go there? Year 8 Mathematicians faced this problem of mapping space during BSB's Science and Engineering Week last week. It's a question you cannot get wrong if you want to travel to Mars or go on a Star Trek. They tackled it by triangulation, taking angles from points a known distance apart. They used a high precision telescope from the spectrometer to measure to the nearest $1/60$ of a degree and got fantastic results. Well done Year 8!

Year 7 were asked “How many blades of (plastic) grass are there on the field?”. Instead of spending years counting every one and getting in the way of the football games they took sample areas and multiplied up. So how many? We estimated that there were 1.1 Billion...nearly as many as the number of people in China! They extended the idea to find out how many deadly mosquitos in a swarm (sadly some students were too slow and “died” in agony) and how many stars in the sky..... About 100 000 000 000 000 000 000 - give or take a million billion!



Year 8 students (left) and Year 7 students (right) took on some huge maths problems during Science and Engineering Week.

FUN TIMES DURING SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING WEEK

from Head of Science, Ms Carol Pratt

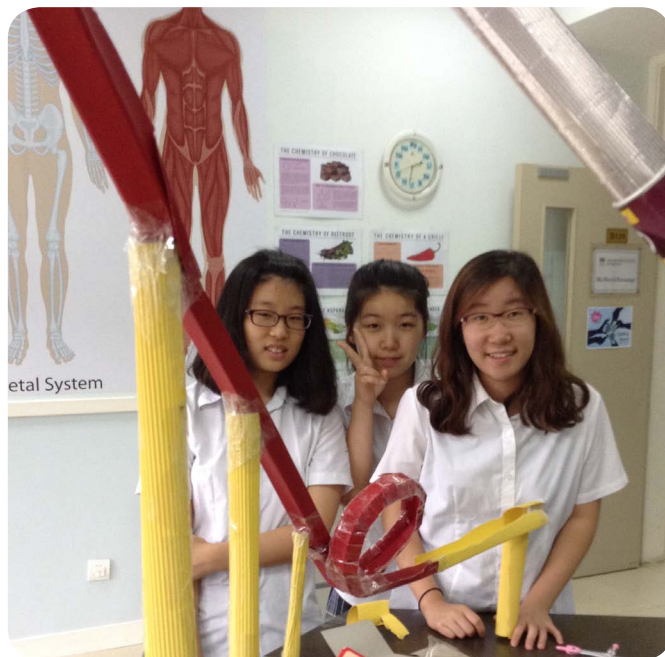
This year saw the first Science & Engineering Week at BSB, which was organised by Ms Hemming in the Science Department and involved the Maths, DT, Art and English departments. It was a truly cross-curricular event and a lot of fun for students.

There were trips to the Beijing Zoo throughout the week, and two lunchtime clubs every day demonstrating various scientific phenomena. Year 8 spent a whole day solving their engineering challenge of making a machine that times 60 seconds precisely. During Science lessons, students in Years 7-9 built bridges, towers, and roller coasters and competed with each other for the best design.

In the Maths department, students did a number of activities such as sampling techniques for estimating high numbers, measuring height using clinometers, using software to draw cooling curves, and "Monte Carlo Maths". (Also see Mr Masons article on the previous page.)

In DT, students were asked to build a self-powered "green" car and competitions were held for furthest, fastest, and best design. In English lessons, students investigated the Elizabethan belief in "humours", seen in the literature of the day, and how this influenced medicine and science. In Art lessons, students drew modern-day inventions in the style of Leonardo da Vinci.

Students and staff alike had a great week and we are already looking forward to next year!



Rockets, Rollercoasters, animal dissection and a visit to the zoo - just some of the fun activities during BSB's Science & Engineering Week.

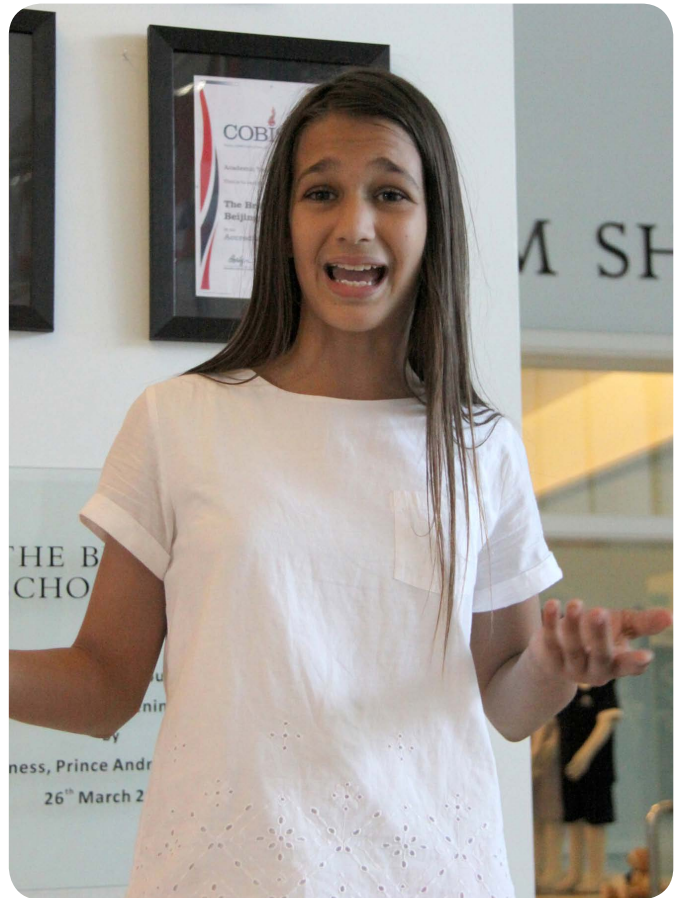
TALENT ON DISPLAY AT OUR SOIRÉE

Parents and students enjoyed an evening of Music, Art and Drama at the Secondary school's annual Soirée on Thursday 12th June.

The evening began with drama students standing on small tables and performing soliloquies to the audience as they milled around the school foyer looking at some amazing artwork from IGCSE and A-Level students.

Musicians were playing in the room adjacent and people could come in and out to listen to the performances and enjoy the relaxed atmosphere of the evening. Performances included bands, duets and soloists.

Overall the evening was a wonderful success, showcasing the hard work and excellence students have achieved throughout the school year.



Soiree, held on the 12th June, was an evening of Music, Art and Drama showcasing the talents of our Secondary students.

MORE PHOTOS FROM THE SOIRÉE



THE YEAR 10 INTERNATIONAL AWARD BRONZE AWARD ADVENTUROUS JOURNEY EXPEDITION

from Mr Nick Bourne - International Award Coordinator

Between Friday 13th June and Sunday 15th June a group of Year 10 students successfully completed a 3-day and 2-night hike and camp in the Huang Hua Cheng area of the Great Wall as part of their International Bronze Award.

The route was up and down hills, including sections of the Great Wall, and the last part was going through a canyon with students having to negotiate streams.

The students were split into 2 teams and they had to orientate their way along a route that had 28 check points by using maps, a compass and GPS. All this the students did while carrying heavy 60 litre rucksacks. The students showed lots of stamina, motivation and enthusiasm, despite the rain and summer heat. They also worked well in their teams and were a credit to themselves and the school.

A big thank you to the Insight Adventure guides Mr Simon Dilks, Lily and Tina who organised the expedition.



Pictured are Year 10 International Award (Bronze) students on their adventurous 2-night/3-day hike in the mountains.

STUDENTS JOIN LOCAL CHINESE SCHOOL FOR A DAY

from Ishita Gupta and Alyssa Elliott, Year 7 Chinese Intermediate Group

On 12th of June, Year 7 went on a trip to a nearby Chinese school. They were put in groups with the Chinese students to enhance their Chinese speaking and understanding.

Each of the groups was led by the students themselves and the rest of the members were Chinese students. There were many different activities for the children to try out, including mask painting, treasure hunt, outdoor games, riddle answering and a barter activity. They also enjoyed a delicious lunch of dumplings and Portuguese egg tarts. Students were allowed to purchase little gifts such as name paintings, clay toys and sugar candy.

The main highlight of the day was that a local Chinese news TV channel interviewed some of the students. This not only was a chance for the students to speak better Chinese but also helped them become more confident while speaking the language.

The barter activity was a great experience for students of both schools. The children had to bring small gifts to exchange with the other Chinese students. The idea was that if children liked one of the gifts the Chinese students brought, they had to try to swap their present with theirs. It was a good activity to develop their Chinese persuasive and speaking skills.

Despite the day being so hot, the children still had a great time. The teachers had organized a great day full of fun for the students.



Year 7 students had a great experience visiting a local Chinese school last week, which even attracted the interest of a Chinese News channel. Students got to practise their language skills and said they had a fun day.

ARTISTS OF THE WEEK!

From Mr Richard Harrison, Head of Art

This week Year 10 students got their first taste of a GCSE Art exam.

Students spent over 5 hours creating a finished coursework piece based on the theme of Decay.

They showed exceptional levels of concentration and skill to produce some fantastic outcomes. They have worked extremely hard since January building up their sketchbook portfolio using a wide range of Art media and studying various artists.

They move into Year 11 with a great set of skills and large part of GCSE coursework complete.

Well done Year 10 artists!



Pictured are Year 10 students undertaking their first GCSE Art Exam, excellent preparation for Year 11.

GEOGRAPHY FIELDWORK

From Mr Ed Thomas, Head of Humanities

Year 7 & 8 students have been out and about conducting fieldwork for their Geography studies.

Year 8 investigated the impact of urbanization on the local area, which included a survey of the local village. As part of this we interviewed a lady who had lived there for over 50 years, her account of changes in the area was fascinating.

Year 7 undertook a shopping survey, land use map and some footfall counts at Pinnacle Plaza.



Pictured are Year 8 students on their Geography field trip which focused on the topic of urbanization.

FROM THE HEAD OF PRIMARY

Dear Parents,

The week began on Monday welcoming the Key Stage 2 children back to what had been a very empty, quiet school last week.

The children returned safe and well from the residential visits full of tales of adventure and exciting activities. The trips were a huge success and some great ideas have come from them as to how we can improve the trips even further next year.

On Monday the final reports for the year for your children were sent home along with the class lists for your child's class next year. I was delighted to receive such great feedback from parents about the reports and how they felt they really were a true reflection of their child and very personalised to the individual. It was great to see so many of you at the parents evenings this week. It is a lovely opportunity to discuss your child's progress and round of the year with the class teacher.

Today I watched an awesome assembly by 3JW and 3LD - it truly was amazing. It contained evidence of learning, dance, theatre, examples of children's work, music and glow in the dark paint! A massive well done to the two classes, I thought you were outstanding!

Next week we have our final celebration assembly on Monday where we will read out our final stars of the week, our final pen licenses as well as our final house point totals and the winning house of 2013 / 2014 - exciting times!

On Wednesday we have the highlight of the school year, the annual prize giving ceremony. This is where the achievements and the successes of the year are celebrated for pupils who have shone in the different areas of school life.

Sadly, at this time of the year we will be saying some goodbyes to children and staff alike. We have class teachers and specialist teachers leaving, to you all a massive thank you to all you have brought to BSB and the children. You have inspired, excited, guided and nurtured the students here and you shall all be dearly missed.

We also say goodbye to our Deputy Head, Mrs Lamb, who leaves us to head into the dunes of Dubai. Mrs Lamb has been a key part of the leadership team and of the successes of the Primary School. Thank you Mrs Lamb and good luck.

To all our children either heading home or onto exciting new challenges, good luck, be bold and enjoy, you are all superstars!

This, sadly, is also my last newsletter as Head of Primary. It has been an eventful 5 years here in Beijing but for all the fantastic memories I shall take with me, thank you one and all. The school really is a special place to be, as an inspector said recently, and I have loved coming to work every day. Thank you for all the support I have received from you the parents and from the staff and children, you shall all be sorely missed.

Have a great summer, a relaxing break and come back inspired ready for next year.

Christian



MR BISHOP, YOU'VE COME A LONG WAY.... from a class teacher masquerading as a Dr Seuss character to leading our Primary School with your unique style and abundance of energy. BSB, Shunyi will never quite be the same again. Thank you and best wishes, Mr Bishop.



A WUNDERBAR FIRST YEAR OF GERMAN PRIMARY

from Christine Riedl, Head of German Primary School

This was our first year! I can't believe it is already over. All our students and teachers worked incredibly hard on this year's success of which would like to point out a few of the highlights:

In August 2013, our school celebrated its official opening together with all our students, parents and friends. Our children settled in very quickly, became star of the week, collected house points and received bronze, silver, gold and even platinum certificates. Children worked together to create great pieces of art, both for display at school as well as for the PA ball. They took part in writing and reading competitions, house competitions, Fobisea and other sports events, in year productions, PIPs and the music circus, went on school trips and Residential or had a sleepover at school. We celebrated Erntedank, St. Martin, Nikolaus, Fasching, Ostern and Mother's Day as well as International Day and Speech Day. We organized a reading night and a summer party as well as the Christmas Market, Easter Picnic and Summer Fayre.

Being a school that had to develop within only a short preparation time, we came far, so that we are now fully recognized and accepted as part of BSB. We are not yet where we want to be but see a clear path ahead of us, leading us the right way. Now, with the well-deserved summer holidays just about to be there, it is also time to say good-bye to some of our children returning to Germany and elsewhere in the world:

Noala, have a good start at your new school in Budapest.

Christina, have fun in Austria.

Ronja, we wish you a fantastic first year in Germany.

Louisa, all the best to you in Germany.

Joel, Jan, Julius and Alexander, we hope you enjoy Year 6 here at BSB.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our three leaving teachers Eva Makin, Ruth Wagner and Julia Wegener. You have helped to develop our school and our students so much further and been a pleasure to work with. We will all miss you!

A wonderful summer to all the students, teachers and parents! I am looking forward to seeing you again in August!



Highlights of the year in German Primary included celebrating the first day of school the traditional way, reading, writing and lots of learning and having a great time during Karneval. A great first year for German Primary at BSB!

WE'RE MOVING ON IN FOUNDATION STAGE

Teddies 1

This week we are continuing our topic Motion in the Ocean and start talking about the seaside. We will begin to make some sea collage using sand and shells to decorate our collages. We will talk about what we can bring and what we can wear to seaside.

Teddies 2

As we approach the end of the school year we will begin the theme of Ready, Set, Go! We will explore vehicles with the children and have fun painting and pasting different kinds of transport including trains, planes, cars and trucks. We will also use wheels to print and make marks. We will sing transport songs such as The Wheels on the Bus and I'm a Little Aeroplane.

Ready, Set, Go! will also be a great chance to talk to the children about where they are going. Many of the children will be going on special holidays, revisiting family or even moving to new homes so it will be important for them to have the opportunity to talk about these special events. We will also talk about going to Nursery and begin to help the children transition into this new phase of their lives. We will meet the nursery teachers and even have our snack in the school dining room where we will have lunch next year!

Nursery

This week in Nursery we have been very busy with our new topic 'Ready, set, go!' This has mostly taken the form of the children making a role-play airplane and flying all over the world! We have been busy making passports, ready for our journey, as well as tickets and suitcases. We played the memory game 'I packed my bag, and in it I put...' taking care to remember all the important things we might need for our holiday. The children have continued to enjoy wearing the wonderful costumes from the EYFS production, as well as the pilot and air-steward costumes.

Reception

This week in Reception children have started on a topic all about sea creatures and the sea. We have been making colourful rainbow fish and bright jellyfish using paper plates and crepe strips. In math we have been reviewing time and seeing how fast we can move the clock hands to an o'clock time our teacher says. We have also been learning about a minute and seeing how many hoola hoop spins, or catches of a ball we can do in 60 seconds. In literacy, the children have been writing the names of sea creatures, some of us have been writing the whole word, whilst others wrote just the initial or final sounds.



Lots of role play this week in Early Years Foundation Stage with students discussing the topic of moving and ready-set-go!

YEAR 1 ENJOY SIGHTS AND SOUNDS OF CULTURE PARK

from Year 1 Teacher, Ms Michelle Wheatley

Year 1 had an amazing time at the Chinese Ethnic Culture Park last week. The children watched traditional Chinese shows and saw architecture, civilisations and relics from some of the 56 ethnic groups within China.



Year 1 students enjoyed the sights and sounds of the Chinese Ethnic Culture Park, featuring some 56 ethnic minorities of China.

YEAR 2'S SUPER FUN SLEEPOVER

from Year 2 Teacher, Ms Kayleigh Roberts

The sleepover got off to a fantastic start with a giant water fight outside on the school playground. The children had a great time drenching each other and their teachers and teaching assistants. It was also a good way to cool down at the end of a hot school day.

This was followed by classroom time, which included setting out the PE mats ready for sleeping on and quite a bit of bouncing about.

We all enjoyed eating pizza, chicken nuggets, fruit and yoghurt for our evening meal as well as quenching our thirst with some fizzy drinks. After this, we went on a Panda hunt! We went round the school looking for pictures of panda's which were all different shapes and sizes. We worked in groups to try and find the most amount of panda's!

Then we went to the theater to watch 'Finding Nemo.' We munched away on some popcorn and relaxed whilst watching the film. After the film, we went back to our classrooms to get our torches and we bravely explored the school in the dark. 2GT were hiding in the corridors and they scared us by jumping out at us! To end our sleepover, we had a bedtime story and we eventually fell off to sleep in our classrooms.

A fantastic time was had by everyone and that includes the teachers and teaching assistants! Amazingly, we even managed to get a few hours sleep! The children behaved really well and were an absolute pleasure to have at the sleepover!



MORE PHOTOS FROM THE YEAR 2 SLEEPOVER

Here are some more photos of the super fun had at Year 2's sleepover.



YEAR 3 RESIDENTIAL

from Year 3 Teacher, Miss Charlotte Simon

Year 3 embarked on their annual residential trip to Wulingshan on Wednesday 11th June. This is a well-established trip and is the first time that children from BSB experience leaving Beijing and staying away from home as a year group, clearly marking the children's firm transition into Key Stage 2.

Our trip is three days and two night and although one of the shortest residential we certainly pack a lot into a short space of time. Please read on to hear about the fun and adventures we had this year, with the 5 Year 3 BSB classes and for the first time Klasse 2 from the German Primary School.

Day 1-Wednesday 11th June. The children arrived at school in the usual way although this time laden down with their suitcases. After checking everyone was present a correct the Wulingshan bags and hats we handed out, packed lunches collected and hugs and kisses goodbye exchanged. We were off to our first stop the Great Wall of China and Mutianyu where we were all going to walk the wall!

The sun was beaming and after arriving a spitting into two halves, we were off to explore. One half of us ventured to the caves and rock museum first, stopping to collect our precious gems on the way. The other half took on the challenge of climbing to the top of the wall. We met in the middle and swapped stories and before swapping paths. Many of the children fond the climb challenging and would have preferred the cable car option but they persevered and were rewarded with blue skies and perfect views of the wall for miles at the top. Back at the bottom we all met up for a well-deserved ice cream before heading off from some souvenir shopping.

This was great chance to practice our Chinese and our bargaining skills. The vendors were very impressed by the children's persistence and regularly told me what great teachers we were. Back on the bus and it was off to Wulingshan and the Moon Lake Hotel. When we arrived we waved goodbye to the buses checked into our rooms.

We were treated to lots of delicious dishes and were sure to thank the staff in Chinese. Back in our rooms we got showered and changed ready for Quiz night, many of us opted to wear our Wulingshan jumpers as night mountain air brought with it a bit of chill. After gruelling quiz led by Mr Stewart, we were treated to a bed time story from Mrs Witte and it was off to bed.

Day 2- Thursday 12th June. The second day started brilliant and early very early for many as lots of the children could not contain their excitement and were up and dressed by 6am! Wake up was not until 7am so this gave the children more than enough time to start working on the tidiest room challenge. We gathered together for breakfast at 8am and were treated to lots of dumplings, noodles, cake and bread and jam. After breakfast it was time to collect our fruit snack pack our bags with hats, water and extra sun-cream and the together for the first challenge of the day the walk to the waterfall!

We were collected by minibuses and driven up to the bottom of the mountain, after which we set off into the nature reserves with our eyes firmly on the prize. We enjoyed a beautiful water crossing over the mountain river and enjoying the dramatic heights of the rocks and strange faces and images we could spot in their cracks and crags. When we finally reached the waterfall it was a sight to behold and the force of the water provide and refreshing cool spray that we all enjoyed. Miss Simon, Mr Marr and Mr Stewart took on the ice water challenge to see who could stand it for the longest- Mr Stewart reigned supreme.



We enjoyed the walk back down the mountain pathway playing various games along the way and were relieved to return to the hotel for some much-deserved lunch. In the afternoon it was carousel time and chance for the children to try 6 different activities that the teachers had prepared: 1- Horse riding in the village, 2- jewellery making using the gems from Mutianyu, 3- T-shirt design, 4 – Rainbow loom, 5- kwik cricket and 6- indoor games. The children rotated in their day groups trying out each station.



When we completed our last task it was off to our room for some free time before dinner and after another delicious feast, time to get ready for the disco. Hair was brushed and styled, accessories were donned, party outfits ready to go, and it was Disco time! We gathered in the courtyard and Miss Simon led a huge conga line into the party room, where the children were met with disco lights, DJ Mr Marr playing the latest tunes and glow sticks galore! The children danced and sang and jumped and spun until they could not more. Just time for one more bedtime story before a discoed out trail of children returned to their rooms for the last night in Wulingshan.

Day 3 -Friday 13th June. Despite the ominous date, the sun shone and brightly as we packed our things, checked our rooms signed each other's T-shirts and waved goodbye to Wulingshan. We were heading back to Shunyi and Agrilandia the Italian Farm where we made organic pizzas and enjoyed the last stages of our trip. We snoozed a great deal on the way back to school and once there the bags were unloaded for the final time. We gathered in the Multi Purpose Room and were greeted by big welcome home hugs from family and friends.

It was a great journey and trip full of fun and laughter. A unique and special trip full of memories which we know will stay with the children for many years to come, long after the photos have faded.



YEAR 3 RESIDENTIAL



YEAR 4 RESIDENTIAL

from Year 4 Teacher, Mr Jeremy Dean

Everyone in Year 4 had so much fun on our residential in PingYao. We had a great time exploring the walls on the first day and recreating a siege of the city. Later in the week we looked at temples (not too many, don't worry!), ancient banks and even tried our hand at KungFu. A great time had by all.



Year 4 students explored the ancient walled-town of PingYao for their residential trip. Here are some memories of a special trip.

YEAR 4 RESIDENTIAL



YEAR 5 RESIDENTIAL

from Year 5 Team Leader, Mr Mark Johnson

Last week the children in Year 5 visited the historic city of Xi'an. Whilst there they had an activity packed week, which included:

- Visits to the Terracotta army
- Studying genuine 1500 year old friezes from the Tang dynasty
- A guided tour through the dynastic history of Chinese porcelain
- A visit to a local school in Xi'an
- Bartering at the local Muslim shopping quarter
- The excavation of pottery from the Han dynasty
- A tour of the mausoleum of Emperor Liu Qi
- A visit to the Tang Dynasty dance show
- A visit to the Shan Xi history museum

The children had a fantastic time and had opportunities to learn so much about our recent topic, Imperial China. Visits to the terracotta army brought the learning of ancient history to life and the chance to excavate, study ancient pictures and ask questions meant that the children were learning about history in the very best way possible. Additionally, residential visits provide so much opportunity for personal growth: to be away from the family and to experience that level of independence, to see how school is for local children and to make friends in unfamiliar environments, to barter (hard!); these are life skills worth having! This development was wonderful to see in so many of the Year 5 children. By the time they returned to school on Friday the children (and staff!) were well and truly exhausted but it was well worth the effort. A wonderful experience for one and all!



Year 5 students got to see one of China's greatest treasures, the Terracotta Warriors, during their trip to Xi'an.

YEAR 5 RESIDENTIAL



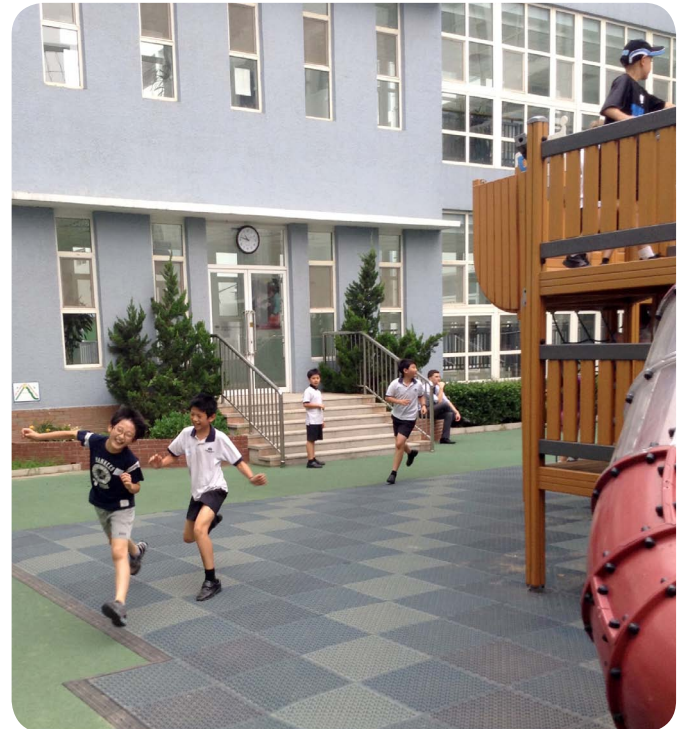
YEAR 5 EAL HAVE A FRENCH EXCHANGE

from EAL Teacher, Mrs Eva Niehorster

This year our Year 5 EAL students have taken part in various activities with their counterparts at the French school in Beijing. This included a class photo exchange and a guess who activity; questionnaires written by the different classes and answered by the French students; followed by a match-up of the children and an exchange of letters with their pen pal.

The culmination of these activities throughout the year was the visit of the French students to BSB on the morning of Friday 6 June. During this morning they had a one-minute speed chat with each visiting student, shared a snack and played on the pirate ship together. They had a mini table tennis tournament and the French children sang us a beautiful song as they left.

The BSB students made us so proud, making the visitors feel welcome and showing no hesitation in making conversation. It was a great success and such a testament to the communication skills our children have developed this year!



On Friday June 6, EAL students welcomed students from the French school in Beijing as part of their year-long exchange programme between the schools. It was a great way to show off their fantastic English language skills.

YEAR 6 RESIDENTIAL

from Year 6 Teacher, Mr Scott Niehorster

This year the Year 6 trip ventured to an entirely new location. This year the children were taken south to the province of Guizhou. After a day's travel we arrived at the small village of Getu in the Getu Valley. The accommodation was comfortable, if basic, and shared with a number of rather small room mates. These concerns were soon forgotten once we had started on the fantastic array of activities including rock climbing, abseiling and a mammoth hike through the Middle Cave and Great Arch.

One of the most important elements of the trip was visiting the local school and teaching a lesson to the children there. We led some English language lessons, taught younger children some art skills and took part in community service such as planting trees in the school grounds. We also donated the proceeds of the pencil case appeal to the school which were accepted with great joy by the children. Thanks to everyone who contributed a pencil case, especially to Mrs Cooper's Brownie troop whose efforts took us over the 200 mark.

Thanks also to our parents at the Dutch Embassy who contributed a number of football shirts to give to the children at the school, a number of whom are orphans and live at the school.

This was a fantastic trip, brilliantly organised by Mssrs Ferguson and Cottrell, and supported by the rest of the team. It was a trip with an important and long lasting message which we hope the children will remember for years to come.



Year 6 students ventured to Guizhou for their residential trip, part of which was working with children in a local school in the Getu Valley, an opportunity for BSB students to engage with the local community.

YEAR 6 RESIDENTIAL



OUR "BEST OF THE BEST" AT THE SPORTS AWARDS

On Tuesday, 17th June, the BSB Sports Department held its annual Sports Awards Evening to recognise and celebrate the achievements of our team throughout the four seasons of school sport in 2013/2014.

The evening culminated in the announcement of the Sportsman and Sportswoman of the Year for the U19, U14, U11 and U9 categories. The winners of these prestigious awards (pictured clockwise from top right) were:

U19 - Emil Bobby and Kate Ferrier

U14 - Kimbo Weng and Laura Ferrer Del Pra

U11 - Jonathon Toft-Schwarz and Marguerite Besse

U9 - Tom Waterland and Yenna Jo

