

# NEWSLETTER

What's happening | Coming Soon | Messages and Reminders

## Christmas is Coming

As an International school we aim to teach children about a variety of cultural festivals and traditions. December is approaching and, with it, the promise of great excitement as we prepare for our Christmas celebrations. This Christmas we will be putting on a festive performance connected to our Inquiry Units so parents may look forward to hearing students share insights into their learning as well as songs and dances. Our performance will take place on the morning of December 16th. We hope to see you all there!

## Focus on Friendship

K2 students demonstrated their learning at their Friendship Day last Friday. Parents were invited in to observe morning routines and then had fun taking part in games, making friendship bracelets and dressing up for the 'friends and family photo booth'. K2 students have learnt about making and keeping friends, dealing with emotions and about working together to create a friendship quilt.



## Engaging in Learning

Inquiry-based programmes require that teachers plan carefully to foster children's natural curiosity. The first stage of each Inquiry Cycle is 'Initial Engagement' in which we aim to capture students' interest and imagination and spark questions that will drive the inquiry forward.

This week various exciting engagements took place as classes embarked on the start of their Quarter 2 Inquiry Units. In K1, students entered balloon filled classrooms to inspire their unit on Celebrations around the World. K2 students visited the Eco-Park Zoo to stimulate their questions about animals and K3 came to school dressed as their favourite book characters to kick start their learning about stories as a vehicle for communication.





## Parent Information Sessions

Our last session was held on Thursday 12th November and focused on K2 & K3 Language and Literacy. Teachers from these grades delivered information about (dual language) guided reading, phonics and Chinese character learning with advice and suggestions offered to parents about how to help at home.

At our next session we will focus on **'Using Cued Articulation to support Language Learning'**:

**Date:** Thursday 26th November

**Time:** 8:45-9:45am, after drop off

**Location:** Music & Dance Room

Cued Articulation is a system incorporating a series of hand gestures linked to the sounds produced in the English language. This will be an interactive session aimed at helping parents learn alongside their child.

We look forward to seeing you there.

## ASA Survey Results

Many thanks to all those parents (over half of our parent community) who took part in our Term 2 ASA survey. We value voices from our community and appreciate your feedback in helping us to tailor our programme to meet your needs. The results of the survey found below show that the majority of families who returned the survey would like Term 2 ASA procedures to mirror Term 1. We are hoping to enhance the programme with further external activity providers and will be sharing more information in January.

Term 2 ASA Survey

	Option 1: ASAs stay the same	Option 2: ASAs with 3:30pm bus	Option 3: ASAs with 4:30pm bus	Option 4: Weekend ASAS	Option 5: No ASAS
K1A (non-bus)	3	1			
K1A (bus students)	2				2
K1B (non-bus)	2				2
K1B (bus students)	6	1			
K2 (non-bus)	2	1			1
K2 (bus students)	5	1			5
K3 (non-bus)	2	1	2		
K3 (bus students)	3	1			
Total non-bus	9	3	2	0	3
Total bus students	16	3	0	0	7
Total overall	25	6	2	0	10

## Change in MHIS Golf Teacher

Sadly we have had to say goodbye to Jack, our previous Golf Teacher, who has moved on from MH Academy to pursue new opportunities. However, we are please to welcome Fei Fei Liu to our team who is a USGTF Certified Golf Teaching Professional with 7 years experience in Australia and China.



## Admissions Update

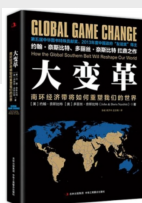
We had a successful first Admissions Information session last Saturday 14th with almost 50 families in attendance. The response to the presentations and hands-on activities for parents and children was positive and we already have families signed up for our first Assessment Session on Saturday 4th December.

Please note the change of date for our second Information Session in January, which has moved from 1/23 to 1/9 to allow us to attend a Teacher Recruitment Fair in Shanghai on 23rd. Please be sure to share this information with any friends or family who may be interested in attending the session.

## Special Guest Speaker @ Donguan Clubhouse - 11/21

Dr John Naisbitt, eminent author and futurist, will be speaking on his latest book 'Global Game Change' at the Donguan Clubhouse tomorrow from 10:30am - 1:30pm. Parents who are interested in attending are asked to email [jakiyeung@missionhillschina.com](mailto:jakiyeung@missionhillschina.com)

A limited number of *Gold Tickets* have been put aside for MHIS parents.



## Staff Profiles

In this edition of the Newsletter, we take pride in introducing our wonderful K3 team:



Justine Eaton



Xiaotian Yao



Tina Mo

**Justine Eaton** attended Embury Institute for Teacher Education in South Africa where she received her Bachelor's Degree in Early Childhood Education. She has worked as an Early Childhood Teacher in Durban South Africa and was previously employed at N-Kids English Academy in South Korea.

**Xiaotian Yao** completed her Bachelor's Degree in English from Shenzhen University. In 2012 she enrolled in a Master's Degree programme in Literature, Culture and Language Education at Indiana University in the United States. While in the US she worked at Hoosiers Courts Nursery School as a Early Childhood Teacher.

**Tina Mo** hails from Guizhou province and is a valued member of our team. Prior to joining MHIS she spent time volunteering in her children's schools, organising events, supporting teachers and working in the Library.

## Teacher PD Day - Friday 27th November

Next Friday is the second of our Professional Development (PD) days for teachers and, as per the school calendar, will be a student-free day. The focus for our PD will be 'Innovative Approaches to Dual Language Learning'.

