



From the Principals

December has arrived and so too has the start of new units of inquiry!

The end of unit two was exciting with some teams sharing their learning with other classes. Grade Two invited students to their Caring Day, where students raised funds for a variety of charities. Grade Four celebrated their learning with an Invention Convention, demonstrating science knowledge and innovation for today's fast changing world. Grade Five were also practicing their science skills in an Energy Expo (and it served as a valuable experience in the lead up to the Grade Five PYP Exhibition).

Please read on in this newsletter issue to find out about unit 2 learning from each grade team!

Clara Li and Karen Mathieson
Vice principals, Co-Heads of Primary



Last Clothing Recycling Drop off for 2018!

We will be having our final collection of clothing (including footwear and accessories) for 2018 on Friday 14 December. Please bring in any children's or adults clothing that you do not need anymore and drop them off in the box outside Ms Kelly's office. This clothing will be brought to Qinghai province. All clothing is welcomed but warm clothing for children is particularly in need.

DATES TO NOTE

13th Dec
G1 Concert

18th & 19th Dec
G3 Field Trip

21st Dec
School Ends at 12:00

22nd Dec - 6th Jan
Winter Break

12th Jan
Production Students
Drama Day

Primary Reception



PR went on their first field trip to the Shanghai History Museum on 1 November; the students were all excited and pumped up as this was their first trip since school started. The visit helped students make connections between the past and present as they looked at the models of old streets of Shanghai and how vehicles evolved. After the visit to Shanghai History Museum, we all moved on to a smaller museum within the same building, known as Landmark Paradise. At that museum, students got to see things that they were more familiar with, and yet somehow futuristic as they had to put on VR lenses for a couple of the short rides they took. After the trip, our students were exhausted and yet were able to see the evolution of things from the past to the present and some glimpses of the future. We concluded that this was a fruitful trip for students, teachers and parents.



GRADE 1

During Unit 2 Grade 1 students inquired about, "Food systems and how they play an important role in our community". We went on a field trip. Some of the classes went to BioFarm while others went to the ORD farm. At the BioFarm, the children were able to pick their own seasonal vegetables and herbs as well as look at and feed some of the animals. The children even had the opportunity to make cookies with their herbs. At the ORD farm the children picked their own seasonal vegetables and made soy sauce which they could take home to ferment. This was a great hands-on experience for the children to look at the produce part of the food system.



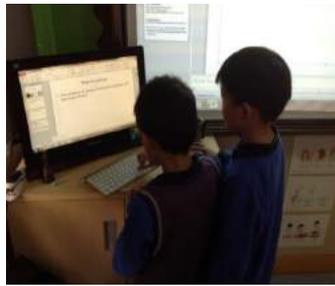
GRADE 2

2D

In Grade 2, Unit 2 was about cooperation to help living things. In 2D we decided to help Qinghai students. We asked their teachers, and they told us they needed books. Our 2D thought of ways they could help. They decided to hold a fair where they would sell things to gather money to buy new books. They also decided they would make origami, games, prepare shows and activities to reward people that brought used books.

2H & 2F

During our unit, 2H and 2F showed caring and cooperation by taking action to help The Haven and the SCAA (Second Chance Animal Aid). These organisations help abandoned, stray and sick cats and dogs, and try to give them a better life. After listening to guest speakers from the two organisations, 2F and 2H decided to raise funds for them by holding a 'Save the Cats and Dogs Fair'. Leading up to the fair, the students created games, painted pictures, wrote books and made origami. During the entire process, they showed great enthusiasm and were very excited to hand over the money they had raised!



GRADE 2

2A & 2B & 2C

2A, 2B, 2C class students have had the opportunities to learn about orphans in Shanghai and the function of orphanages. Representatives from Puzhi charity and Shanghai Healing Home came and talked about their roles and challenges of managing an organization. Students were empathetic towards abandoned babies who also have medical problems. Furthermore, they decided to support these organizations by raising money and awareness. On November 28th, students hosted little fairs and sold a variety of work such as paintings, crafts and games they had been working on. All 3 classes have raised a total of 4465 RMB and successfully donated the money to Shanghai Healing Home and Puzhi Charity Organization.



2G & 2I



2g and 2i collaborated together to brighten up the lives of residents at Shenzhou Elderly Care home. The director Ms Ruan visited us on 25th October as a guest speaker and introduced students to the aims and mission of the home and how she and her team work to meet the needs of the elderly in their care. Our first visit was on 30th October where we had a chance to meet the residents and tour their facilities to get ideas of what we could do to take action to show care and support for them on our next visit. Students enthusiastically returned to school and started to plan how to take action to help the elderly feel cared for. Students decided on a variety of activities to prepare: from traditional paper cutting, puppet shows, story book writing and reading and joke telling, Chinese idioms to performing a musical showcase of talent and singing the national anthem. Every group worked to prepare their action for the final visit on 27 November, 2018. Ms Ruan presented the students with a calligraphy poster from the elderly encouraging them to study hard and keep on caring and helping people. It was a very significant unit in that it uniquely gave students the opportunity to really take the initiative on taking action in a way that many of them had not experienced before.

GRADE 3 LEARNS ABOUT PHOTOGRAPHY

The grade classes have been studying photography and how to take good photos. They have practiced the rules, studied light's effects, taken photos from different perspectives, sought to interpret messages in pictures, and have commented on others' photos. An enjoyable challenge was creating photos with a specific message. The students also tried taking photographs with different kinds of lighting, and even with reflections in mirrors. An important part of the unit was the proper use of iPads and being responsible with them, as they used the camera feature in various locations around town. After editing, cropping and printing, their best photos were put into a masterpiece keepsake photography album!



GRADE 4 INVENTION CONVENTION

Inventions are all around us, but do we ever wonder how they were made? Who thought of them? Exploring *How the World Works*, groups of grade 4 students designed and built inventions they felt would have an impact on society. Work on this unit required a great deal of cooperation and our enthusiastic students rose to the challenge, creating fantastic inventions and presenting them in our annual Invention Convention.

In this exciting unit, grade 4 had the privilege to invite an inspiring Taiwanese product designer, Mr Carl Liu, to be our guest speaker. He showcased the inspirations behind his many products and everyone was intrigued by the delicate fan he designed for the world expo in Shanghai. Carl encouraged our students to continue asking why and keep on trying alternative ways to make our lives more efficient.

We visited the impressive Science and Technology Museum as our field trip for this unit. Being one of the most frequently visited museums in Shanghai, our students were no stranger to this enormous venue. However, children have started to notice the simple machines that they have never noticed before. From the gears and pulleys in the glass escalators, to the levels and axles around the machines and the actual building itself! Our children also had fun discovering the rivalry between Nicola Tesla and Thomas Edison as well as how our lives are still influenced by Tesla and his inventions.

During their inquiry journey, our children had the opportunity to inquire into science concepts such as force, friction, gravity, electric circuits and magnets. They took action by applying their scientific knowledge into a wide range of design and creation projects such as desk lamp, electric alarm, bubble making machine, mini-vacuum clearer, cardboard games and egg drop challenge. Applying new found knowledge in project-based learning is one of the best ways to promote student agency. The term 'agency' means when our students have ownership of their own learning and action that comes from that learning. Agency has the power to encourage meaningful and intentional action while developing their leadership skills.



GRADE 5 YOUNG SCIENTISTS AT WORK GUBEI TASTER DAY

Budding scientists from grade 5 showcased their knowledge, skills and attitudes at the Grade 5 Energy Expo held on Thursday 29th November 2018. The experiments showed energy transformation using various forms of energy ranging from electromagnets and chemical energy from lemons, potatoes and batteries. Students also explored the effectiveness of hydro power, wind energy and solar energy in their experiments.

The Science Expo aimed at giving students an insight into the process of preparing for the PYP Exhibition and what it will look like and feel like. The students' reflections highlighted the following attitudes: cooperation, creativity, confidence, enthusiasm and tolerance. One student pointed out, *"During this process, I have learned that being a good group member is very important because one has to be reliable, trustworthy and responsible so as not to let the group down."*

What a memorable experience for one and all!



On 20th November 2018, excitement was in the air when all the grade 5 students visited the SUIS Gubei campus. They realized, suddenly, that they were the smallest in size compared to the others- a point that was shared by the Principal, Mr. David Walsh in his welcome speech.

Students were given a tour around the school with a school prefect as guide. They also attended a science lesson where they had to solve a crime and a drama lesson where they enjoyed 'mirroring' and even got to try their hand at manipulating lights! These sessions which allowed them to experience the varied and exciting curriculum at Gubei as well as a delicious snack left the G5 students looking forward to an exciting middle school.



Another successful Giving Tree charity event has concluded, with 200 bags from our school delivered to needy children on Wednesday, 21 November. Ms. Clara, our co-vice principal, along with Mr Joe, Ms Sondra, Mr Rama and Ms Susanna, joined the visit to the migrant school and saw how thankful the children and staff were to receive such gifts. The generous gift bags included a winter coat, water bottle, stationeries, a toy and Chinese story books for the needy children. This migrant school had over 3000 students of all ages, and there were about 60 children in each primary class.

GIVING TREE VISITS A MIGRANT SCHOOL IN SUZHOU

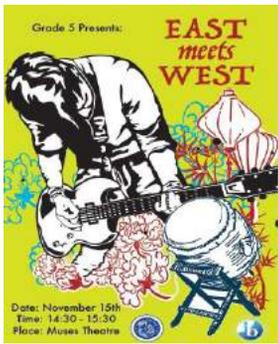


The Giving Tree committee wishes to thank the families who filled or sponsored a bag, as well as the many students and teachers who helped sort and organize bags during their lunch break. Twelve grade five students were allowed to participate in delivering the bags. After seeing a very different kind of school, one of our students remarked how great our campus is when we returned back to school!

Thank you everyone involved in making this charity drive a huge success! We would also like to extend a huge thank you to Mr. Joe and Ms. Sondra, who were our lead coordinators, and put in countless hours planning and sorting bags, along with the help of Ms. Tina and Ms. Ada Fang. Our school united to take action!



G5 CONCERT



The first concert of the school year was held on Thursday, November 15. The Grade Fives put on an amazing show that impressed the enthusiastic audience of parents who were in attendance.

This concert was called "East Meets West" and had each class performing one traditional Chinese folk song instrumentally and then singing a popular Western song that was the class' choice.

5A started the concert walking onto the stage clicking their sticks and then began an energetic version of "瑶族舞曲 - Yao Dance". The song included excellent keyboard playing and strong drumming on the Chinese drums and cymbals. Tony also did a great solo on the drum set. The class then sang a song by Coldplay called "Something Just Like This". That song had very strong ensemble singing as well as some great small group solos.

5B then came onto the stage and started with their traditional Chinese song called "纺棉花 - Spin Cotton". This group included 5 very talented violinists, some excellent keyboard players and a very confident percussion group that played the Chinese drums, drum set and cymbals. The Western song they sang was by Wiz Khalifa and was called "See You Again". They sang the very melodic chorus of the song beautifully and did an amazing job of the very difficult rap sections of the song.

5C then came onto the stage and performed "阿佤人民唱新歌 - Wa People Sing New Songs". This song had very intricate drumming parts for the Chinese drums and cymbals and featured an excellent solo on the drum set by Channing. The keyboard players really shone in this song with quick and accurate playing. 5C then sang an Alan Walker song called "The Spectre" which featured a lovely slow introduction with small group performances and then a spirited second half with all the audience clapping along with the performers.

5D began their performance with a commanding introduction on the drums and then the keyboard players took over with a quick and lively version of a famous Chinese folk song from Anhui called "凤阳花鼓 - Feng Yeng Song". They followed this with their very tuneful version of an Alan Walker song called "Alone". This song featured strong ensemble singing as well as some very fine small group solos.

5E took on a big challenge by learning a difficult Chinese folk song simply called "笛里吐 - The Flute Song". This song had a complicated melody played by the keyboards and two fine violinists and some demanding drumming on the Chinese drums and cymbals. Bruce also did a great drum solo on the drum set. 5E then sang a beautiful song by Selena Gomez called "Wolves". This song had some excellent small group singing as well as a strong ensemble performance.

5F then performed the internationally known Chinese folk song "茉莉花 - Jasmine Flower". It started beautifully with a vocal solo by Mia and cello solo by Elaine. They were joined by violinist Annie and flautists Chiara and Mickey. The Chinese drums and drum set then took over with their powerful rhythms. Their second song was a very famous Alan Walker song called "Faded". This song featured some fine solos, small group singing and a strong ensemble.

The concert ended with all of the Grade 5 students on the stage performing a very energetic and enthusiastic version of "Handclap". Everyone in the theatre was clapping along with their strong and vibrant voices. This concert was a meeting of East with traditional folk songs and West with modern popular songs. The students learned a lot of music preparing for the concert and the parents all agreed that it was an effort that was enjoyed by all.



SPORTS NEWS



The SUIS HongQiao girls' football team received yet another first place trophy at a large ten team home tournament on Saturday, November 24. The girls scored 24 goals and allowed only one in against them. Coach Paul commended the team on their passing, dribbling and shooting performance, as well as communicating on the field. The B Team has come a long way with their skills. They fought hard at the tournament and coaches Mr. Anthony and Ms. Sondra are proud of their progress. With the football season about halfway over, the girls teams will soon take a winter break then resume practices in the spring. Coaches appreciate the efforts of the team mom, Mrs. Parton, who helps with communication and special events. The girls have had a great first three tournaments, and look forward to more great action in the spring!

GO SUIS HONGQIAO GIRLS!





NEWS FROM SUIS GUBEI CAMPUS

The 2018 Arts Soirée: Review

The annual SUIS GB Arts Soirée was a huge success once again this year highlighting the creative talents of our upper school senior students. Guests were invited to experience the Arts Soirée in four locations around campus: the drama studio for acoustic and small group performances, the auditorium for The Addams Family teaser and various ensembles, the second-floor foyer for visual art, and the library for an immersive theatre experience. The inclusion of student-run art workshops was also a new twist for this year's soirée as patrons could get involved with the art-making process and become artists themselves.



Scan the QR code to follow the official SUIS GB Wechat account.

The music department once again showed the fruits of their rigorous labour as students wowed audience members with their immense soul and passion. Ranging from acoustic arrangements to sweeping orchestral suites, the drama studio and auditorium provided musical backing for the second-floor art space.



Patrons were also able to catch a glimpse of our upcoming production, "The Addams Family" at this year's soirée. With live instrumental scores arranged, performed, and conducted entirely by students, "The Addams Family" is guaranteed to be a hit this year.



The immersive theatre section was a new feature at this year's soirée and demonstrated the talent of the LAMDA 9 & 10 students as guests were invited to engage in intense face to face monologues with them. Heart-wrenching performances struck the emotional core of the guests as they walked away contemplative and certainly wanting more.

Standing steadfast among the musical acts and immersive performances was the second-floor art space exhibiting the incredible artworks of our senior students. Serving as another testament of their dedication for the arts, the artworks on display highlighted sculptural sensitivity, painting proficiency, and conceptual depth. Guests were able to catch a glimpse as well of our upcoming G12 IB DP Visual Arts exhibition as they were on display throughout the art space. At the centre was the performance art space where G10 and G11 students expressed complex social and personal ideas purely through movement and visual aesthetic.



It is worth noting as well that many of the students who showcased their talents at this year's event are double (and sometimes triple) threats displaying creative artistry in music, drama, and visual art.

The successful evening is owed to the strong creative and performing arts departments on campus and the dedicated teachers who run them. Further to that is our perpetual thanks to the PSG and parent community whose undying support of their children and the Arts encourages events like the Arts Soirée and illustrate how brilliance shines in more ways than one.

