

Hao Xiao Xi

Our “Good News” Bi-Monthly Newsletter
September 4, 2009

The faculty and staff of QSI Chengdu welcomes you back to school!

By MRS. NOLL

Welcome to QSI Chengdu. The faculty and staff are looking forward to working with your children this year. The curriculum is challenging and our expectations are high for each student. We have planned many fun and exciting events throughout the year for all of our age groups. It is wonderful to watch our returning students mature as learners and to see our new students fit in both socially and academically to our program. Glad you are here!

URGENT! Housing Needed

By MR. NOLL

We are **in need of beds** for the visiting students for the **nights of Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, September 16, 17, & 18**. Thus far we have positive responses from twenty-three families providing approximately 34 beds. Thank you to those of you who have been so generous!

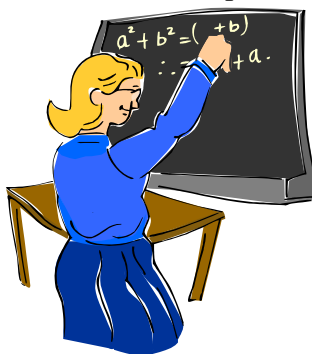
We still need more bed space!! We have not heard from some of our Level 11 through Secondary 3 families! Also, those of you who have an elementary student who wish to help with our hosting need to sign up today. Please help us to provide a unique and rewarding experience for a student or two from a visiting QSI-China school.

Fill out the form on the back of this newsletter and send it back to school with your son/daughter by Thursday, September 10. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

If you have already sent a form to Mr. Noll, thank you, and please do not send another.

Back to School Night September 10, 7-8:30 pm

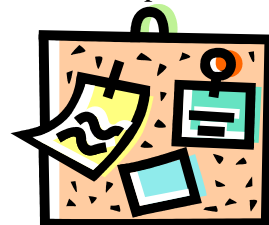
All parents are invited to school on September 10 from 7 – 8:30 pm to meet the teachers.



Teachers will hand out schedules, discuss curriculum, homework and many other things during the evening.

Parents and teachers will meet in the MPR at 7 pm where parents will be introduced to all teachers before going to their child’s classroom. Each teacher will give two “talks” so parents with more than one child may hear two classroom teachers during the evening. Specialists will be available all evening to discuss their programs.

This evening is designed to give parents an overview of the curriculum, review expectations for each classroom, establish a relationship with the teachers and see the classroom where the children learn. This is not the time for individual conferences. A sign-up sheet will be available should you want to meet with the teacher privately and conferences can be arranged by phone at any time.



We look forward to seeing parents on September 10! **This evening is for parents, please make babysitting arrangements for your children so they may stay at home.**

Summer School Fun

By MS. NOLL

Pirates, rockets, beach fun, camping and dragons were just a few of the themes played out during QSI summer camp. From mid June until July 17th,



students age 4 to 14 from all over Chengdu enjoyed the organized activities. Classes took field trips to the dinosaur museum and the science museum.

Swimming took place three days a week. Pirate and knight gear was made and worn for weeks after summer camp by the 7 to 9 year olds. Sand castles were built and enjoyed by the 4-6 year olds. Rockets were created and marshmallows were roasted by the 10-14 year olds.

Here are a few words from our participants about their experience:

“Playing water polo, when all the kids were against the teachers was the most fun.”

- Darian

“My favorite part of summer school was the sleepover, where we could just campout and have fun.” - Sjoerd.

“It was just fun to hang out with everyone.” - D.J.

“Swimming was the best.” - Nils-Emil

“I liked hiding eggs in the sand, but there was one we could not find later...” - Francis

This was a wonderful experience for new students to meet friends and become acquainted with QSI before the year began. We had many students join us from other schools around Chengdu, providing diversity to this unique experience. QSI summer camp was an outlet for students spending their summer in Chengdu to play, learn and socialize.



The staff greatly enjoyed being a part of this experience and thanks all QSI students that joined in the fun. Keep QSI summer camp in mind for next year!

CIWC Barbeque at QSI

CIWC has planned a WELCOME BBQ for September 12th from 5 pm until 8 pm. The BBQ will be held at QSI International School. The cost will be 50 RMB for everyone over 16 years old, and 25 RMB for everyone 6-15. This will include a BBQ hotdog, sausage, or hamburger provided and prepared by KC Meats, salads, chips, and a soft drink or water. Beer and wine will be available for purchase. Roots and Shoots will be selling popcorn as well.

Tables will be set up but if you would like to

bring a carpet and picnic on the grass, you are welcome to do that. There will be music and the sport court will be available for pick up games. A fun evening for the whole family.

We would like to know approximately how many people will attend, so if you are

coming would you please email Karin Noll (karinnollqsi@hotmail.com) or Emelyn Oortwijn (emelyn-in-china@hotmail.com) with your name and how many people in your party. If you decide to come at the last minute, that is great as well.

Please come and enjoy yourselves! Get acquainted with the community or see your friends after the summer! We look forward to seeing you all on September 12 from 5-8 pm. - CIWC Board

Special thanks to the sponsors of this event:

KC Meats, Yafei Dental Clinic, Maxxelli, Zoe's, Peter's Tex-Mex, Parkway Health, Bookworm and Shamrock.



Transportation on Buses

We now have four buses and all of them make at least 4-6 stops. We want to thank parents for being at the bus stops ready with your children in the morning and there to pick them up in the afternoon. We are doing our best to include all of our new students on the buses while keeping the time students spend on the bus short.

All students are required to wear seatbelts, listen to the monitor, and sit quietly in their seats during the ride to and from school. We reviewed the rules at school during the first day assembly.

All of the buses are nearly full so it may not be possible for students to plan play dates or parties and have other students ride the bus home with them. Please call the office a day ahead of time to ensure your child may go home with another on the bus in the afternoons. Ms Rachel will check the bus list and let you know if it is possible for your child to ride another bus home.

If your child is ill or you will be bringing them to school, please call the morning bus directly to let the monitor know your child will not be riding the bus. This will allow the monitor to keep the bus on schedule. The phone number and monitor for your child's morning bus should have been sent home the first week of school. If you did not receive this information, please call Ms Rachel and she will send it home.

Dates to remember:

Sep 7: After School Activities (ASA) begin

Sep 10: Back to School Night for parents; 7 pm

Sep 16-19: Middle School Festival in Chengdu for all QSI China schools-

HOUSING NEEDED!

Sep 25: ½ day; 11:30 dismissal

Sep 26- Oct 4: Holiday

Oct 14: PSAT for Secondary students

Oct 16: 1st Quintile (Q1) ASA ends

Oct 22: Q1 ends

Oct 23: Fall Festival; 6-8 pm at QSI

Oct 28: Q1 status reports issued

Oct 29/30: Parent-Teacher conferences;

12:15- 4 pm (students dismissed at 11:30)

Parent Support Group (PSG)

Co-Chairs: Berenice Hernandez, Lan Ping and Selina Lu

The Parent Support Group is open to every parent at QSI Chengdu! The first meeting of the PSG was on September 2. All meetings are held in the library at 11 am.

At the first meeting we discussed numerous subjects and parents volunteered to help out in the many activities QSI Chengdu has for the children during the year. Here are some of the activities the PSG supports:

- **Passport Club:** Students from 5-10 YO are invited to participate in learning geography during the year. Each month students are given a list of 5 specific countries and must learn their locations on a world map. Parents come in during lunch to quiz the students on where the countries are on the map. If the students are able to point them out, they get a stamp in their passport for that month!
- **Weigh and Measure:** Twice a year the PSG comes to weigh and measure the students. The results are sent home to families.
- **Fall Festival:** All students and their families are invited to join in a fun evening of games, food and dress-up! The PSG supports the evening by bringing food for the Roots and Shoots booth.
- **International Week:** The PSG organizes the countries represented at school and works with a faculty representative to plan activities for the week. This is a wonderful event and each country here at QSI (over 25) is represented!

The PSG supports After School Activities by volunteering to run some of the ASAs. Cooking is a favorite!

We encourage all parents to come to the meetings and join in the fun. If you missed the first meeting, join us for the next one on November 2. The next meetings will be on January 6, March 3 and May 5.

The Counselor's Corner

By RON NOLL



Tests and more...

Welcome to all of you who are new to Chengdu as well as those who have returned for another great year at QSI. As with many international schools each fall, we have a large group of new students and families joining our returning students and families. It is a great time of year when new friends are made and new teachers are introduced. There are always many questions to be asked and answers to be sought. This is what we are all about: asking questions and seeking answers and explanations. As the counselor at QSI Chengdu, I am here to help sort out those important questions when I can and guide if needed. Please feel free to call me at school (8511-3853) or drop me an email at noll_ron@hotmail.com if you have any concerns about your child(ren).

This year we are pleased to announce that QSI Chengdu is an official SAT testing center. That means that all of our students who wish to register for the SAT reasoning and/or subject tests will be able to take them right here at school. This year's tests include the PSAT as well as the SAT and of course the AP exams in May. Advanced Placement (AP) course offerings for 2009-10 are: Biology, Calculus, Chemistry, Chinese, English Language and Composition, European History, and World History.

QSI Chengdu also offers the ACT (American College Test) as well as a new MAP (Measures of Academic Progress) which will replace the IOWA tests, and lastly the ERB writing test. Below is a listing of dates for these tests, some of which are approximate.

Test	Dates	Students
MAP	M-F, Oct 5-23 M-F, Mar 22- Apr 9	L5- S4
PSAT*	Wednesday, Oct 14	All S1-4 students are eligible
SAT	Saturdays: Nov 7, Dec 5, Jan 23, May 1, June 5	Usually only secondary students (must pre-register on line)
ACT	Oct 24, Apr 10	Secondary students only (must pre-register on line)
ERB	Mar 22-26	L8- S4
AP Exams	May 3-14	Students in AP courses only

*If you are a parent of a student in the Secondary 1 – 4 program, it is advisable that your son/daughter take the PSAT test on Wednesday, October 14. The cost is \$13 US or 90 RMB. This is not only a great practice for the SAT, but is used by North American Universities for future potential student admissions! An information booklet will be sent home soon.

Health and Safety at School

Several of our families had scares this August when coming back into Chengdu. Either someone on their flight had a fever, or someone in the family was not feeling well and was pulled aside. The airport is testing anyone with a fever for H1N1. However, if you do not test positive within several hours, you are allowed to go home. Often they suggest that you stay home for several days.

Here at school we are helping the students focus on washing their hands, covering their mouths when they cough and other basic steps that help prevent the flu from spreading. These are good practices to review at home as well. If your child is not feeling well or is running a fever, please keep them home while they are running the fever and 24 hours beyond.

As the flu season starts up again we will be in close contact with the consulate and health officials. If you would like more information on the H1N1 virus, please go to www.cdc.gov/H1N1flu/ga.htm.

Back to School Night

An evening for parents!

Sept. 10 7-8:30 pm

All parents meet in the MPR for staff introductions.

7:20-7:40 – Session 1

*elementary classroom teachers

*11-Sec 4 parents to Music, PE, IT,
Art, Chinese.

7:45-8:05 – Session 2

*elementary classroom teachers or
specialists

*11-Sec 4 follow schedule for classes

8:10-8:30 – Session 3

* elementary specialists

*11-Sec 4 continue to follow schedule.

Teachers will give you an overview of curriculum, their schedule and brief expectations for homework, etc. Parents may sign up for individual conferences (to be held at another time) so please keep your questions general at Back to School Night.

This is an evening for parents, please make arrangements for your children to stay at home. We look forward to seeing everyone on September 10th.



Middle School Festival Housing update!!!

We are **in need of beds** for the visiting students for the **nights of Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, September 16, 17, & 18**. Thus far we have positive responses from twenty-three families providing approximately 34 beds. Thank you to those of you who have been so generous!

We still need more bed space!! We have not heard from some of our Level 11 through Secondary 3 families! Also, those of you who have an elementary student who wish to help with our hosting need to sign up today. Please help us to provide a unique and rewarding experience for a student or two from a visiting QSI-China school. **Fill out the form below and send it back to school with your son/daughter by Thursday, September 10.** Thank you in advance for your generosity!

If you have already sent a form to me, Ron Noll, thank you, and please do not send another.

I will gladly help out by hosting _____ students for the three nights, September 16, 17, & 18.
#

Name: _____
QSI Chengdu student

Address: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

Do you have any pets such as cats, dogs, or birds in your home? _____
Please specify

Parent signature: _____ Date: _____