

June 2009

SPECIAL EVENTS AND REMINDERS

June 15th – Summer School begins.

July 10th – Summer School ends.

August 14th – Parent Orientation.

August 17th – 2009 Fall term begins.

Enjoy the Summer!



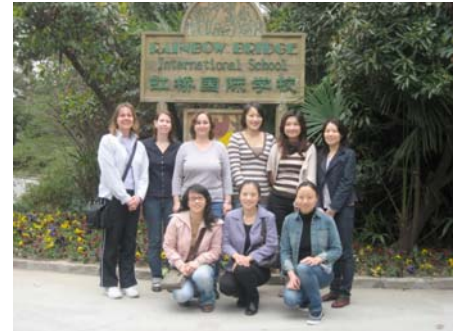
Principal's Message

It's been a wonderful experience watching your children learn and grow with us this school year. Over the past months we've seen students' tears change to smiles, fears change to confidence, and questions change to knowledge.

We've witnessed the sharing of culture and laughter, the discovery of science and our environment, the beauty of song and charity, and the excitement of completing tasks that seemed impossible at the start of the year. It's been a remarkable time and we all at Rainbow Bridge would like to say 'thank you' for sharing your children with us.

We would also like to thank you for your support throughout the year. Your words of encouragement and involvement in school events have helped create a school community that is unified and growing strong. We appreciate all the time you spend working with your children at home fostering their love of learning.

A big thank you and congratulations to the parent committee for raising 18,000 RMB for the Wang's orphanage located in the Anhui province of China. Your efforts throughout the school year have been inspiring and your generous donation will positively impact the lives of many children for years to come.



Thank you parent committee!

On behalf of the RBIS community, we would like give a warm farewell to the teachers seeking new horizons and new experiences for the upcoming school year: Mr. Bill, Ms. Carissa, Ms. Casey, Ms. Stacey, Ms. Amy, Ms. Michelle, Ms. Juliana, Ms. Hannah, Ms. Trixie, Ms. GarMaan, Ms. Sandra, Ms. Allie, Mr. Brandon, Mr. Court, Ms. Edna, Ms. Marylin, and Ms. Rosita.

We at Rainbow Bridge will miss you all greatly and wish you the best in your future pursuits. As this year comes to an end, we can look ahead to the start of another exciting school year filled with new possibilities and opportunities for growth. Have a wonderful summer!

Sincerely,
Rebecca Zipprich
Principal, Rainbow Bridge
International School

Early Childhood

The highlight of this month in early childhood has definitely been our end-of-year concert, which was better than ever! Our toddler group, who were much more confident than ever before, joined in with their parents and their teachers, Ms Katie and Ms Edna, singing *The Wheels on the Bus* and other fun songs. Then all the Early Years classes sang loudly together with the song *I am a Pizza!* They also displayed their beautifully hand-painted t-shirts that had pizzas on them with all sorts of fun and delicious toppings.



The preschool classes, whose confidence has also grown so much since our December performance, sang and danced proudly. Ms Jill's class also impressed us with their own dramatization of the Billy Goats Gruff!

And finally our Pre-Kindergarten classes wowed us with a mixture of acrobatics, bling and complex dance moves. I would like to give a special mention to Ms Stacey whose concert performances year after year have been truly spectacular. We will surely miss them next year!



This will be the final newsletter for the school year. It has been an exciting year in the Early Childhood. The various classes have been involved in so many fascinating and different projects and inquiries this year. Thank you to the teachers and children who have inspired us all this year!

Linda Matthews
Early Childhood Curriculum Coordinator

Elementary

This has really been a wonderful year. The elementary school eagerly took on the challenge of continuing our inclusive and differentiated learning environment while incorporating the process of inquiry across the curriculum. The result was a more dynamic and exciting learning atmosphere across the grade levels, and everyone benefited! This month, all classes have been preparing for the Spring Performances. At Rainbow Bridge, we feel strongly that these performances reinforce many valuable language arts skills, including public speaking. Plus, they are a lot of fun.

The kindergarten classes tied all language arts instruction to their production of the Wizard of Oz. They read the scripts, created costumes, wrote about performing and watched the movie to compare and contrast the stories.



The students really got into their roles and performed with great gusto! Parents and teachers were very proud. More importantly, the students were very pleased with the result of all their hard work.

Both first grade classes chose books to change into a “reader’s theater” production. Reader’s Theater is the process of changing a book or story into a script which is practiced and used during the performance. The focus is on reading fluency rather than memorization. Ms. Ruthann’s class performed The Three Little Javelinas by Susan Lowell, which is an update of The Three Little Pigs and takes place in the American desert. This was a wonderful reminder of a unit the class had explored earlier

in the year when studying traditional stories. Ms. Sandra’s Class created a reader’s theater production based upon the book The Great Kapok Tree: A Tale of the Amazon Rain Forest by Lynne Cherry, which was of particular interest for them because they had been learning all about rain forest ecosystems. Both performances were wonderful.

The second grade classes combined for a musical play entitled, Busy Bees: Life in a Honey Bee Hive. First, both classes learned a bunch of facts about bees. Then they helped Mr. Michael write songs using these facts. While doing this they also practiced the lines from their plays during their language arts block. It was a fun performance to watch, and I think many of the other grade levels were surprised to learn how complicated the lives of bees are.

The third grade classes worked together to bring to life a play written by their fellow third grader, Shanshan Lieu. It was entitled Invasion of the Tree Planting Aliens from Neptune, and it was a knock out! Those watching the play learned some useful facts about the important role trees play in our environment, that the desert of Mongolia is spreading, that Shanshan is a gifted and funny writer, and that our third graders are sages on the stage!

The 4/5 multiage class transformed two chapters from Louis Sachar’s Wayside School is Falling Down into a wonderful and funny play. Many of us were surprised by the comic timing the students have. They closed their show with a fun song and dance routine from High School Musical. Good show!

This has been a wonderful month and a remarkable end to the school year. Summer is here! We hope you all have a great one!

Bill Hall
Elementary Curriculum Coordinator

Music

Another big event for students and the school has just concluded. The Spring concert was amazing and there was lots of effort put into it by the children. The early years and preschool students did an excellent job during their performances while up on stage. They showed their musical competence through their singing as well as moving with the music. The concert serves as the reflection of what the children have been doing inside their own classroom and in the music class. They were taught about simple rhythms and tonal patterns that helped them develop their musicality, their ability to sing in tune and in rhythm, and their ability to move their bodies to the beat of the song.

Mr. Glenn

Art

It has been hard navigating a way through the art room over the past few weeks. If you happened upon our third floor art studio, you would find yourself confronted by a huge spaceship, a massive beehive, a house made out of tumbleweeds, and a giant kapok tree. It sounds as if we in the art room have fallen down a rabbit hole, but, in actuality, it was just the RBIS students preparing their props and costumes for the Spring Performance!

The biggest challenge for us was creating life-like images of the main characters in the Wizard of Oz. We created puppet-like effigies mounted on bamboo poles, which were then carried around on stage while the Kindergartners acted and sang their parts. There was Glenda, the good witch, the Scarecrow, the Lion, the Tin Man, the Wicked Witch of the East, and, of course, Dorothy. Being made from pie tins, foil, and even Chinese coins glued on to look like bolts, the Tin Man was many of the children's favorite out of all the characters. The production looked good and sounded good, and we were all very proud of ourselves after the performance was finished.



Now, sadly, the year is at a close. It has been a very productive year and the arts have definitely flourished here at RBIS. We are so happy to have been a part of it. We look forward to continuing to guide your children through the creative process and empowering them through their weekly artistic encounters next year.

Mr. Alex and Mr. Romel

Computers

It is the end of the school year here at RBIS and students are really excited to know what the last day of school is going to be like. Throughout this year the older students have learnt about the tools they will be using during most of their academic life. We have studied and familiarized ourselves with word processors, spreadsheets and slideshows. We also talked about search engines and how they help you with school work. The young ones discovered computers while playing with their favourite characters and learning about all the wonderful things the world has ready for them. They enjoyed colouring fruits and vegetables with the help of their computers as well as listening to stories and learning about shapes, letters and colours. *(Computers continues on next page...)*

(Computers continued...)

This has been a very exciting year and students will very much welcome the summer rest!! Enjoy the summer and hope to see you all next year!!

Ms. Silvia

Photo Gallery

