

# PARENT NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2008

## LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Families,

How time flies! We have completed our first half of the school year with still exciting times ahead. Many of you will be traveling this holiday season and we wish you a safe and relaxing break. I am certain it is much needed! Upon your return to 3e, for our preschool through first grade students, we have invited Tania McCartney, author of "Riley and the Sleeping Dragon," for a book reading on the morning of January 14. Children will be invited to the library for a 20 minute story time with Tania. Afterwards, children will return to their classrooms to participate in a literacy activity related to Tania's reading. Unfortunately, Tania's time is limited and she will only be available to sell copies of her book from 9:30AM-11:00AM. If you are interested in purchasing a signed copy of "Riley and the Sleeping Dragon", please let me know in advance. You can send me an email with the amount of copies you wish to purchase.

Our nursery students will have somewhat of a different experience with "Riley and the Sleeping Dragon." In order to remain true to what is developmentally appropriate, the nursery students will explore literacy with alternative activities that are to be determined by our highly skilled nursery staff. Although this may be disappointing to parents, I assure you that we are keeping in mind the best interest of the children.

We are excited to have this opportunity with Tania and hope to continue hosting visitors and guests as such. It is a wonderful experience for the children and helps bridge the gap between 3e and our community. We look forward to our scheduled story time and our return to school in January.

Safe travels to you!

Nadia Perez

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

- *Family Winter Holiday Party: Friday, December 19 @ 3PM-4:30PM*
- *Winter Holiday: Dec 19-Jan 4*
- *January Morning Coffee by Dr. Anne Soderman: Tuesday, January 13 @ 9AM*
- *Book Reading by Tania McCartney: January 14 @ 9:30 - 11:00 AM*
- *Parent Council Meeting: January 8 & 22, 2009*

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## DR. CHEN NING YANG VISITS 3E!

It was a great honor to be visited by Nobel Laureate, Dr. Chen Ning Yang on December 9. We were also visited by the Chairman of the SunWah Foundation, Dr. Jonathan Choi who has made it possible for the implementation of 3e. In appreciation to both Dr. Yang and Dr. Choi, 3e presented commemorative pieces of 3e student art work as facilitated by our Art Teacher, Ted Prawat.

We would like to thank the parents and families that joined us on that memorable Tuesday morning. Your attendance is greatly appreciated as is your ongoing support and participation! Photographs from this event are available upon request, simply email your request to [victoria@3eik.com](mailto:victoria@3eik.com)



Photo by Kevin Chang

## TRANSITIONS AND CHANGES

It has been 3e tradition to “swap” classrooms at the turn of the semester. For those of you who are new to 3e this year, what you can expect for your child at the return from winter break is an opposite schedule in terms of their English and Chinese classrooms. Your child will start off his/her day in the opposite classroom of where they were starting previously. We do this in order to balance out instructional time in both the English and Chinese languages. We will inform your child of this change; however, it is important that you reiterate this change throughout the length of your holiday. By discussing this with your child, you can help support a smoother transition for your child on January 5. Your support is appreciated.

In addition to the classroom swap, 3e will experience some staff changes. In our Chinese Kindergarten classroom, Baohua will no longer be with us after the holiday break. She has decided instead to focus her time on her studies while she works to complete her Masters. We wish Baohua best of luck in her future endeavors. Taking over for Baohua will be Helen He, who is currently the Assistant Teacher in that class. Additionally, we will be joined by Chen Zai from Beijing Normal University who specializes in Preschool Education.

Another change that you will notice is the return of Abbie Barrett! Abbie was an

Assistant Teacher here at 3e last year, who returned to the States to complete her dual major degree at Michigan State University.

Abbie will be taking over as the Assistant in the English Kindergarten room with Jen Morris. Ian will remain committed to the first grade classroom with Jen allowing for more planning time to each grade. Again, we will inform children of these changes and will need your support in doing so as well. Working together to best support your child's transition will result in less tears and fewer anxieties for them. Your support is, once again, appreciated.

If you have questions or concerns regarding the changes being made, please contact our Principal at [nadia@3eik.com](mailto:nadia@3eik.com)

## HOLIDAY SAFETY TIPS

During the holidays, you should be extra vigilant to keep your children safe. There are many extra factors that put your children more at risk for injury during the holiday season, including gatherings at the homes of friends and family that may not be childproof, home decorations such as Christmas trees and lights, and outdoor activities such as sledding and skiing. Here are some tips to keep your child safe this winter:

- ◆ Be careful with high risk foods and holiday treats that can pose a choking hazard to children under age four. This includes nuts, hard candy, grapes, raw carrots, popcorn, and apples.
- ◆ If decorating your house for the holidays with a Christmas tree or lights, be mindful of your child's age. Younger children are likely to play with ornaments and lights on trees. Only place unbreakable ornaments on the lower branches and make sure the tree is stable. Don't overload electrical outlets. Keep the tree's stand full of water to prevent it from drying out so that it doesn't become a fire hazard and keep lights and extension cords out of reach.
- ◆ Do not leave lights or candles on when you are not at home and keep them out of younger children's reach.
- ◆ When visiting others during the holidays, supervise your child extra-vigilantly until you can assure yourself that the house is childproof.
- ◆ Buy and accept as gifts, only toys that are appropriate for your child's age. If older siblings receive as gifts toys with small parts, keep them away from younger children in the house.

If your child has food allergies, be sure to keep this in mind when visiting others and having holiday meals. Be certain that the host knows of your child's allergies and does not offer foods to your child that he is allergic to. They should also be careful to not reuse dishes or serving utensils that come in contact with the allergic foods.

[http://www.keepkidshealthy.com/welcome/autumn/holiday\\_safety.html](http://www.keepkidshealthy.com/welcome/autumn/holiday_safety.html)

### Update on After School Activities, Music & Movement, and (new!) China Club Football

There is no ASA and Music & Movement on Friday, December 19<sup>th</sup>. ASA and M&M for Term 2 will begin after the Spring Festival holiday, during the week of February 2, 2009.

Please take some time over the Winter Break to fill out the ASA Term 2 registration form and return it back to school by Friday, January 9. All spaces in the classes are on a “first come first served” basis.

**China Club Football** will be offering football classes for the Winter Session! Please note that Club Football registration forms and payment are due back to 3e by **JANUARY 5, Monday at the LATEST.**

- ◆ Classes are on Wednesdays from 4:45PM-5:45PM
- ◆ Winter session is from January 14- March 25, 2009 with no classes on January 21 and 28 (9 weeks total)
- ◆ Age requirements: Birthdates between August 31, 2004 and September 1, 2001
- ◆ Location: Basketball Court at Bodyworks Fitness Centre inside Lido Place
- ◆ New student cost is 770RMB with Uniform
- ◆ Parents are responsible for transporting children to Club Football and picking them up from Lido Place

Spring Session in April will welcome the official “3e Club Football” and will take place on the 3e campus (more information to come!)

# DECEMBER 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 Tracy Ding	4	5	6
7	8 Laura Stetler	9	10	11	12 Louis Dartus	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 Ann Lloyd Reardon	22	23	24	25 Liu Ying Ze Kelly	26 Rohan Reddy Jane Xie	27
28 Irene Sun	29	30 Isaac Teo	31			

# JANUARY 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 Emily Boons	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15 Charlotte Lin Jany Hu	16	17 Victoria Li
18	19 Jinnie Sohn	20	21 Theresa Cao (YaYa)	22	23	24
25	26 Kenneth Kim	27 Li Siyao	28	29	30 Joshua Chang	31



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**WE'RE ON THE WEB!**

**WWW.3EIK.COM**

### 3e Mission statement

Our mission is to develop critical thinkers and passionate learners who can move confidently and fluidly across cultures.

### 3e Philosophy

We work from the premise that diverse educational settings offer distinct and valuable advantages for the child's learning experiences. We combine the western styled, child centered, progressive approach to learning with the teacher directed, systematic instructional practices of the East. Each approach is intimately connected to its respective language, and culture.

### Our Principles

We at 3e International strive to fulfill our mission by abiding by our philosophy, employing our approach effectively and living up to our principles. Our staff is committed to decisions and actions that follow these principles:

- All children have the capacity to learn and succeed.
- Children need to have a positive image of themselves as learners, individuals, and community members.
- Diversity of culture and language is a valuable learning resource.
- Community members contribute to the child's positive learning experiences.
- The school environment acts as another teacher as children learn about them-

## UPDATES AND REMINDERS

**3e Winter Holiday Office Hours:** Winter Holiday Break office hours are from 9AM-3PM on weekdays from December 22 – January 2. The office will close at 12PM on December 24 & 31 and will be closed on December 25 & January 1 and 2.

**3e Outdoor Weather Policy:** If the temperature is below -12° C or 10° F children will remain indoors. Even on snowy days, children will go outside unless it is too wet. Children should come to school appropriately dressed so they can enjoy play yard activities. If children are too sick to go outside, they are too sick to come to school and should be kept home to prevent the spread of any contagious illnesses. *Cold weather does not cause colds or flu. But the viruses that cause colds and flu tend to be more common in the winter, when children are in school and are in closer contact with each other. Frequent hand washing and teaching your child to sneeze or cough into the bend of her elbow may help reduce the spread of colds and flu.* (<http://www.aap.org/advocacy/releases/decwintertips.cfm>)

**Parent Council:** Meeting every other Thursday morning at 9AM, Parent Council is welcoming any parents who are interested in participating. For more information please attend January 8 and 22 or contact Molly at [mollybloyd@yahoo.com](mailto:mollybloyd@yahoo.com).

## 3E PARENT COUNCIL

Join 3e Parent Council and take an active role in school community. We meet fortnightly on Thursday mornings from 9-10:30am and welcome all parents to attend our meetings to share great ideas or raise concerns. Our main areas of interest this term are the library, school lunches and community outreach projects. For more information or to add an agenda item, email Molly Lloyd ([mollybloyd@yahoo.com](mailto:mollybloyd@yahoo.com)).

We recently prepared a mission statement to clarify the purpose and role of the 3e Parent Council:

**Our mission, in partnership with all parents, is to support the school for the benefit of all 3e families. We aim to:**

- ◆ Engage parents representative of the student body
- ◆ Foster a sense of community and strengthen relations across the school, parents and all 3e stakeholders
- ◆ Leverage the expertise and resources of parents

Parent Council meeting dates for Term 2 are 8 & 22 January; 5 & 19 February; 5 & 19 March; 9 & 23 April; 6 & 20 May; 3 June.

### Volunteer required for catering committee

We are seeking a parent with knowledge of Chinese cuisine to work with Annette Nawrath on the catering committee. The committee meets with the caterer for half an hour every fortnight to ensure school lunches are nutritious and appetising for our children. Please email Annette ([annette.nawrath@gmx.de](mailto:annette.nawrath@gmx.de)) if you would like to help with the school menu.