

A LETTER FROM PRINCIPAL

Dear parents,

It has been a cold start to the new year but our hearts have been filled with warmth as we look forward to a holiday and new semester. The kindergarten is decorated with traditional red and gold and you can feel the energy and excitement when you first enter with our front door display. We hope that you all are enjoying a good start to the new year, the year of the rat.

While we had to postpone the Charity Drive event from Friday the 10th to Monday the 13th due to weather, I am pleased to report that it was a giant success and thanks to your generosity we were able to raise 42,027RMB! Together with the Huixin campus we reached a total of 109,711 RMB, an amazing contribution!

Almost all families from both Bayside and Huixin campus shared their votes for the 3 charitable causes and the 109,711 RMB will be distributed as follows: 24.61% for GREENPEACE, 53.45% for UNICEF, and 21.94% for the SUZHOU ANIMAL SHELTER. On the day of the Charity Drive, the kindergarten transformed into a marketplace with a variety of vendors and entertainment. To enhance the environment our staff dressed in bright red clothes, which filled the chilly day with color, comfort and warmth. We kicked off the event with the lion and dragon drum dance. The audience was mesmerized by the show and got us all in the holiday mood. After that we had special performances from our students and staff. Children dressed as small rats and beautiful fan dances gave our special Bayside character to the show and families were happy to see familiar faces performing for them.

These last few days of the semester you have received semester progress reports, portfolios, and resources from teachers. Please remember to return the progress report and portfolio upon returning from the holiday, as it will be completed at the end of the 2nd semester.

On the last day before the Chinese New Year holiday, we celebrated with our classic "Dumpling-A-Thon". It was also a spirit day and students were allowed to wear traditional Chinese clothing to school. The campus and offices will be closed from/including January 18th- February 2nd and the first day back will be on Monday February 3rd.

In the next semester we look forward to "Festival of Colors" in March, "Open Classes" in April, "Children's Day" at the end of May, and "Summer Concerts" in June. There will be 2 Spirit Days, one on April 22nd for "Earth Day" where children can wear blue/green clothes and another on June 24th for "Dragon Boat Festival" where children can wear green/golden clothes at school.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS FOR THE COMING MONTH(S):

-January 18th- February 2nd (from/to and including): The whole school will close for Spring Festival holiday. First day back is on Monday February 3rd.

-March 23rd-27th: Parents are invited to class and present a cultural activity from their home country or countries they have visited for our "Festival of Colors" theme. (Please arrange with teachers if you wish to join, notice follows).

We are saying goodbye to the year of the pig and we are welcoming the new year of the Rat ("Metal Rat" if including the Chinese element theory of the old perceived five elements: Wood, Fire, Earth, Metal, and Water). The Rat is the first in the 12-year cycle of Chinese Zodiac signs (1972, 1984, 1996, 2008 and this year). The Chinese word shu may refer to rat, mouse, or other rodent type animal. There is also a yearly month of the Rat and a daily hour of the Rat. Rats are highly adaptable and can be successful at everything. They have good instincts so they're able to spot every chance in business. Rats are extremely perceptive, wise and have good problem-solving and observation skills, but they are not very persistent with what they are doing. While not good at routines, rats excel in creativity (according to Google and Wikipedia).

Thank you all for helping make the year of the pig a memorable one, and I look forward to what the year of the rat will hold for us all! Happy New Year!

Sincerely,

Ms. Joanne
Principal- Bayside Campus

亲爱的家长:

新年的伊始通常伴随着寒冷,但是我们的内心始终是火热的,因为我们期待着春节,期待着新一年的到来。当您走进幼儿园时,可以看到园内满眼的中国红和中国金色,洋溢着浓浓的年味儿,也预示着即将到来的鼠年好兆头。

虽然天公不作美,我们的新年慈善游园会由于天气原因推迟了,但是在大家的鼎力支持下,游园会取得了巨大的成功,我们一共筹集到了人民币 42,027 元,按照家长们之前的投票比例:绿色和平组织 24.61%,联合国儿童基金会 53.45%,苏州动物保护协会 21.94%,我们的善款也将会按照以上比例分配。再次感谢大家的爱心!

游园会当天,幼儿园变成了一个满是各种慈善商品和体验活动、民俗表演的新年集市。为了营造新年环境,我们的员工和小朋友都穿上了具有中国传统风格的服装,大家的精心装扮给游园会增添了一丝色彩,也吹散了寒冷。游园会以具有中国传统特色的舞狮舞龙表演作为开场,家长和小朋友们都沉浸在节日的欢乐气氛中。接着,老师和小朋友们也给大家带来了精彩的演出:有鼠妈妈带着一群可爱的鼠宝宝们,教师和孩子们的戏曲风格舞蹈等等,无一不在展示着玲珑湾的风采。

相信大家都收到了老师发的成长报告册、相册本和部分资源包。假期结束后,请您将报告册及相册本交还给老师,下学期将继续使用。春节前的最后一个上学日,孩子们穿着中国传统服装入园,以新纽顿传统的“新年饺子节”活动红红火火的结束了一年的学习和生活。以下是新学期活动预告,具体内容大家可以关注新学期行事历:

下学期让我们一起期待三月的“多元文化节”,四月的“家长开放日”,五月末的“儿童节”,六月的“夏季音乐会”。下学期有两个活动,孩子们可以穿着自己的服装,一个是4月22日的“地球日”,孩子们可以穿蓝色/绿色的衣服,另一个是6月24日的“端午节”,孩子们可以在学校穿绿色/金色的衣服。

重要日期提醒:

-1月18日-2月2日:全园春节假期。2月3日星期一是开学第一天。

-3月23日至27日:家长们将有机会进到班级里,参加“多元文化节”活动。(如果您有兴趣参与,请与老师联系,详见后续通知)。

感恩在大家的共同努力下,猪年成为了难忘的一年,让我们共同期待鼠年更精彩!

最后,祝大家新年快乐!阖家幸福!

杨娟 园长
新纽顿玲珑湾幼儿园及全体员工