

KANG CHIAO SPOTLIGHT

Issue 1

Education for the Future 培育未來人才的教育

國際處主任 賴國宜

今年暑假帶國中畢業的女兒去義大利旅遊，有一天我們在威尼斯的聖馬可大教堂廣場逛街，她突然被一家懷舊的文物店吸引，興奮的拉著我說：「媽媽你看，這是什麼東西？好特別！我要把它們拍下來，傳給同學看。」我一看竟然是一整樹窗的打字機，曾幾何時，打字機竟然變成懷舊店的骨董了，我跟女兒說：「這有什麼稀奇！我上大學時也有一台呢！」女兒瞪大眼睛好奇的問我：「你也有一台！做什麼用？」這一問，受震驚的反而是我了，一個世代的差距有這麼大嗎？對於現代的孩子而言，那個電腦還不普及，沒有手機和網路的時代，應該都叫做「古時候」吧！

網路和科技的進步，快速的改變我們的生活，也帶動全球化的競爭，身為大人，只依賴自身的經驗和學過的知識，已不足以教育現代的孩子，如何創新課程，培養孩子面對未來的能力，是當今父母和教育者最重要的課題。2017年寒假，小學部國際處舉辦第三次海外教育參訪，有了前兩年新加坡和香港教育參訪的經驗，這次，我們飛得更遠，到科技最發達的美國，實地了解，面對變動的未來，這個科技大國，如何調整教育政策，強化人力素質，培育學生21世紀的關鍵能力。

此次的美西教育參訪，我們共參訪四所辦學績優且課程各具特色的小學，第一所參觀的Union Ridge Elementary School，因為辦學成效佳，今年學生爆滿，教室不足，六年級只好在貨櫃組合屋上課，該校和康橋一樣使用Reading Street教材，以閱讀為核心，從閱讀題材再延伸寫作，這和我們讀寫合一的課程設計不謀而合，老師們依照教學年級分組進班觀課，從跨州共同課程綱要(Common Core State Standards)的實踐、教學計畫到教案設計，有很多實際的交流，雖然，我們在台灣，但竟然和美國的小學老師有相似的理念和教法，真是天涯若比鄰。

參訪的學校當中，有兩所實施STEM課程，其中Louisa Boren STEM K-8成立於2002年，是一所K到8年級的STEM公立實驗學校，校長Mr. Ostrom以堅定的教育理念領導全校教職員共同推動STEM課程，將STEM的精神，落在探究式、跨領域、動手操作並結合科技的專題中，其課程實施成效，以及所有老師與行政人員的教育熱忱都讓我們印象深刻。另一所也實施STEM課程的Clyde Hill Elementary School是位於Bellevue學區的明星小學，熱心的校長Ms. Olin，知道我們對STEM課程的興趣，還特地安排學區STEM課程發展師訓人員來為我們做一場STEM的研習，讓我們對STEM課程的工程設計過程(STEM Engineering Design Process)有更實際的體驗。

這幾年國際處一直參考美國Common Core State Standards (跨州共同課程綱要)來制定小學的英語教學計畫，並透過學年教師之間共同備課、議課來進行教學研究，除了精進學生的基本語言能力，更希望透過英語專題課程(Reading Project)，培養學生批判思考、問題解決和溝通發表的能力。

本學年，我們將以STEM的理念和課程模式，在五、六年級實施結合科學、科技、工程和數學的康橋未來技能專題課程(Kang Chiao Future Skills)，以專題探究的方式，培養學生整合跨學科的知識，學習創新、資訊科技和生活技能。

未來會一直變動，適合環境的競爭力也會跟著變，學校無法再用過去的知識，來教導學生解決現在，甚至未來的問題，如何培養孩子面對未來的關鍵能力，是本校英語課程發展和教學研究的重點，今後我們也將齊力塑造一個鼓勵創新的校園文化和課程內涵，將康橋打造成一處培育未來人才的學校。

From the Editor

Welcome to the New School Year

國際處主任 賴國宜

歡迎所有家長跟我們一起迎接106學年，在青山校區許校長的支持之下，我們很高興的宣布，親親康橋的英語版正式獨立出刊，我們將它命名為Kang Chiao Spotlight，希望它能像聚光燈一樣，呈現更多精彩的英語教學實況，讓家長們更了解英語課程。

新學年開始，我們歡喜迎接可愛的小一寶貝們加入小學的行列，這一期特別報導暑期小一先修課程，和開學後協助小一新鮮人適應的教學活動。在教育的過程，家長是老師最佳的夥伴，透過一年級中外師給家長和小朋友的一封信，誠摯邀請家長和我們一起來協助孩子們順利展開快樂、豐富的學習之旅。

新版的Kang Chiao Spotlight，還有特別為孩子們設計的Fun This Month單元，配合節令和學校行事，以趣味的方式呈現多元文化，拓展孩子們的視野，培養對不同文化的理解與欣賞，這一期主題是「開學」，快來看看，除了開學典禮，還有哪些意想不到的開學活動。下一期我們將提供更大的版面，呈現學生優秀的英文作品，敬請期待。

誠心期盼這份英文校刊，除了促進學校與家庭的連結，也能增進親子英文閱讀的樂趣。



What's New?

- ★ Welcome to your first English Village, Grade one's!
- ★ Don't forget - it's Monthly Must-Reads time again!





First Steps

English-Transition Camp in Kang Chiao

~ Jennifer Ni
Teaching Coordinator, International Department



The teacher greeted each of her students.

Welcome to our first graders! The transition period from kindergarten to elementary school is very important for children. A new environment can create new challenges. Being well adjusted can open up a world of potential. All of them are excited and full of expectations for new challenges. They are eager to wear their new uniforms and school bags, and look forward to enjoying their first stage of school life. This summer, the transition camp at Kang Chiao started on August 8th. After taking a short nap, the first graders learned English by going to both the foreign teachers' and Chinese English teachers' classes—two periods each during the whole afternoon.

The transition camp is a two-week period during the summer time. It has been a wonderful program to help our first graders adapt more quickly. The purpose of having the transition camp is to allow our first graders the opportunity to get familiar with the new learning environment, get used to the new schedule, and of course, most importantly, to meet their new teachers.

In these two weeks, the first graders started to learn their routines and follow class rules. They also got to know their teacher's expectations. In the Chinese English teacher's class, they learned ten different topics, including "Getting Acquainted", "What's in my Schoolbag", "Explore the Campus", "The Library", "My Summer Vacation" and so on. In "Getting Acquainted", students met their new classmates and got to know each other through ice-breaking songs and games. In this lesson, they also learned the class rules and procedures. For "Making New Friends", they read a story about Rainbow Fish and got a

chance to do arts and crafts to introduce their personalities. In "School Safety", they learned safety rules so that they can stay safe when playing on the playground, doing activities in class, and when taking the school bus. When learning about "Explore the Campus", they walked around the campus with their teachers and drew their favorite places at school. Afterwards, they were more familiar with every corner of the campus and found the coolest hang-out spots where they can share their secrets with good friends during break time. When doing "My Schoolbag", students showed pictures of their schoolbags to everyone in class, and they also learned what they can bring to school. The most interesting topic for students was "The Library." Not only could they listen to stories from their teachers in the library, but also enjoy reading their favorite books in the tree house!



The teacher picked up the students from their lockers.



Students enjoyed listening to a story in the library.



Students introduced themselves.

In the foreign teacher's class, students learned how to be successful grade one students through theme-based learning. Students explored the world of nature and insects, reading a magazine, Buggy Bugs, to gain more background knowledge. Teachers designed activities that taught students class rules, routines, and teacher expectations. For example, a story about ants and grasshoppers taught students they can accomplish anything in class if they give their best effort. Group activities exploring the life-cycle of butterflies conveyed the importance of teamwork and how to work well together. Students designed their own butterfly masks and shared their artwork with each other on stage to develop participation and expression skills. Each activity involved routines that when followed were rewarded with praise to motivate good behavior. There was also a focus on phonics sounds and ABC writing. Both were introduced by singing songs and watching interesting movie clips to create enthusiasm towards written work in grade one.

Elementary school is a big turning point in life; being a first grader, the child will need to face and adapt to the pressures of learning. It is very important that parents work together with teachers to prepare their children for elementary life. After this two-week transition camp, we can already see positive changes in all our first graders. From their faces and the interaction between the teachers and the students, we can tell that every child enjoyed the time and built up their confidence. They like to come to school and enjoy learning English with their teachers. We also believe that they will be able to adjust to this new learning environment very well and are ready to be successful first grade learners. This is the first step towards a wonderful elementary school experience.



Students observed the larvae in the nature area.



The teacher instructed how to copy the homework into the communication book.



Grade 1 teacher letters



~ Tina Wei
English Teacher, International Department

Dear students,
Welcome to Grade 1! This is the beginning of an adventure and we are so happy to help guide you through the first year of elementary school.

There are a few things to remember. Your parents are no longer by your side as you wander through the hallways with hundreds of other students. Please remember to slow down and take your time going to your next class – do not run! Not only will you miss out on the colorful posters on the walls, you might even fall and hurt yourself or bump into others. Also, make sure you have everything you need before you go to the next class. The teachers have prepared exciting lessons for you and you do not want to miss anything while you go back to your homeroom to get the materials you need. Going to the bathroom during class will also take time away from your learning. Spend a few minutes before class or during the breaks to visit the bathroom so that you don't have to miss anything important.

Learning to be independent is a big part of growing up. The teachers will be there to support you and to guide you through many great experiences. I am sure you will be able to explore your curiosities and foster your creativity while making lifelong friends along the way. Most importantly, I hope you will enjoy your English classes and develop a strong passion for learning. I can't wait to see everyone use what they learn in class to become more confident with speaking, reading and writing in English in their daily lives. Good luck to all the Grade 1 students this year!



Yours sincerely,
Grade One English Teachers



~ Sherri Yu
English Teacher, International Department

Dear Parents and Guardians,
Congratulations on this new chapter in your child's life! Grade one is full of excitement, learning, and new adventures. To start the year off right, here are some suggestions that we would like to share with you!

Life skills come first. Have you ever experienced your child coming home without their English communication book or homework? It does happen, especially in the first few months of the school year. While it is tempting to want to do everything for our children, we should allow them to make mistakes. But it would be concerning if they never learned how to sharpen a pencil or pack an English bag on their own. Teaching our children to keep their learning materials organized can save a day of learning!

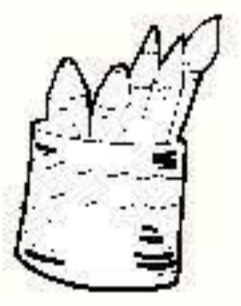
Set up a daily routine. As teachers, we always follow the syllabus and assign homework regularly on designated days. Tests are scheduled on Mondays and Fridays. As parents, we can set up a daily routine and use spare time wisely, like asking our children to memorize a word or two in the car each day, or while waiting. Our children would then develop a good mindset and learn to do things efficiently. Feel free to contact a teacher with any questions or concerns.

Listen to what your child cares about the most. Did you know that some students are motivated to come to school just to be a leader or to meet their kindergarten friends during break time? Or that other students can lose focus for something as small as a missing eraser? As teachers and parents we have so much to teach our children, and learning to listen to them and motivating them is the key to boosting a good learning attitude.

Spend quality time together. Learning English is a long journey. The time spent with our children is precious! We can check the communication book together, and we can read our favorite English books together. We can tell our children how much we appreciate their good work and effort in reading, writing and presenting. And no matter how much English we speak at home, our children will feel our love and be more willing to show us their very best!

We look forward to sharing this rewarding journey with you!

Yours sincerely,
Grade One English Teachers





OLD TRADITIONS AND NEW BEGINNINGS

After a long summer, students are excited to come back to school, to see old friends and make new ones, to engage their minds and experience new things. We hope you are too! Are there any things you look forward to on your first day of school? As you think about them, let's visit some other countries to learn more about their traditions on the first day of school.

Germany

In Germany, school kids are given a large paper or plastic cone, or Schultüte, on the first day of first grade. This cone is decorated, and filled with toys, candy, and school supplies. It is given to children to celebrate the beginning of their school days, and to make the first day of school more fun and exciting!



Poland

Polish kids have to wear white and black on their first day of school. Girls wear a white blouse with a black skirt or pants, and boys usually wear a suit. There is an opening ceremony where students are welcomed into the school. At this school, the principal welcomed students with a huge pencil!



Russia

In Russia, the first day of school is on September 1st, and is called "Knowledge Day". Students show up to school dressed nicely, and with flowers for their teachers. The "First Bell" also happens on this day: a first grade girl sits on the shoulders of an 11th grade boy and rings a bell all around the school.



The First Day Back at Kang Chiao

On the first day back at school, children excitedly climbed off the buses. The principal warmly greeted them with a smile and a high-five! Kang Chiao also has a special tradition for students on the first day. A beautiful arch of balloons is set up in the courtyard on the 3rd floor. This is the "Tung Chin Gate" (聰勤門) or the "Gate of Intelligence and Industry". Balloons in the shape of clouds decorate the foot of the gate, while the top is done in rainbow colors. You may have noticed that two vegetables hang from either side of the gate, green onions and celery. As with many Chinese traditions, these vegetables are chosen because they share the same sound as the words for "intelligence" (聰明·同音蔥) and "industry" (勤勞·同音芹). There is a rhyme that goes along with the gate, "Touching celery on the left, and scallions on the right, ensures your school year is productive and bright!" (左摸蔥來右摸芹·包你勤快又聰明)

The Opening Ceremony started with Kang Chiao's orchestra playing inspiring music, and Principal Shu followed with motivational words. The school listened with interest as both students and teachers alike shared stories about their summer experiences and adventures. Whether programming robots, or hiking through Nepal, the ability to speak English allowed everyone to get the most out of their experience. Finally, everyone stood while students sang Kang Chiao's school anthem. English truly does "bring you the world!" Before we end off, we have a few inspiring words from the teachers here at Kang Chiao to you the students.



References <http://www.europeanmama.com/15-fun-facts-about-schools-around-the-world/>

Teachers' messages



Today's students will need to be able to solve the problems of tomorrow in areas of energy, clean water, poverty, technology, and medicine. That is why I am so excited about our new

Kang Chiao Future Skills (KIFS) classes, where we will work together in groups to find solutions to real-world problems. Let us embrace our future together!

Mr. Niemandt

Welcome to a new school year! I hope all of you believe in yourselves, try hard, ask if you need help, fill your hearts with laughter and a smile. Compliment others and be proud of your accomplishments. Dream, believe, wonder, inspire, love and always listen.



Ms. Teresa

An Invitation to Write

Do you have something to say that could motivate or inspire your classmates? Would you like to share with us the goal that you have for yourself this year? Write it down and bring it to the ID office before **October 10th** and we will display your writing for students and teachers to read.

