

ECE DRAGON BULLETIN

ECE Vision: *Inquiring minds that grow. Authentic hearts that care.*

Important Dates

Dec 5th: 6pm K/G1 Winter Concert on HQ Main

Dec 5th/6th: 7:30-4pm Blue Mountain Book Fair @ECE library.

Dec 15th: 11:30am School Dismissal for Winter Holiday

Important Contacts

ECE Principal: mmcclure@scis-china.org

ECE Vice Principal: hknight@scis-china.org

PYP Coordinator: jhaggith@scis-china.org

EYC/EAL Coordinator: jevwalker@scis-china.org

Mandarin Coordinator: szeng@scis-china.org

ECE Secretary: hq-ece-secretary@scis-china.org

ECE Nurse: hq-ece-nurse@scis-china.org

ECE PAFA Rep: Haley van Os and Kayce Lane

PAFA_hq_ecerep1@scis-china.org

ECE Transportation: hq-ece-transportation@scis-china.org



Principal's Message,

Children raising their voices in song and movement

This week we celebrated the voices of our Prekindergarten students. It is amazing how over 80 students can come together to keep a beat and project their voices together in song. Led by our ECE music teacher, Ms. Erin Babb, our Prekindergarten students set our spirits high for the coming holiday season through fun, upbeat gingerbread and snowflake music.

On the ECE campus we are committed to early years development of our students in the area of Visual Arts. The Visual Arts includes creating, presenting, responding and connecting to their world through artistic ideas and work. Our musical concert encompasses these skills and promotes the group and individual understanding of this developmental process.

We also celebrated another Chinese Culture Day with all our students. Visit your class websites to see pictures of your children exploring and enjoying a piece of Chinese History and Culture.

Important Links

[Weekly Lunch Menu](#)

[2017-2018 Parent-Student Handbook](#)

[2017-2018 School Calendar](#)

[2nd Semester 8 day schedule](#)

Handbook Message

5.3.7 Bus Expectations

Bus Safety is expected every day and every trip. It is important that your student understand and abide by the rules and expectations of bus safety and behavior.

Inappropriate bus behavior is monitored and when necessary the counselor, teacher, and parent are informed of a student's actions and how the student will prevent a repeat of the violation.

Attached is an updated visual that will be included in all busses. Please review [this safety sign](#) with your student to ensure clear understanding and support from home.

SCIS *has a mission to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring learners who contribute positively to their communities*

Keeping Healthy & Safe-AQI in Shanghai

I recognize AQI is a delicate subject for many of our SCIS families. I am using this space to simply share with you school policy and how we utilize our flexible play space to meet changing needs on the ECE campus.

The SCIS AQI [policy states](#) that we remain indoors when the AQI reaches 200 or above. SCIS has invested thousands of dollars into the massive filtration systems that are present in both ECE buildings. Teachers are able to adjust airflow and filtration between low and high within their own classrooms. Outdoor play time is typically scheduled both in the am/pm of most days.

The AQI standard is measured by the USConsulate, China. The AQI number is then monitored and communicated to our staff through our registered nurse when it reaches SCIS limits. Since we have many alternative indoor playing spaces on the ECE campus, especially in Bldg B, we are able to adjust children's play locations in a flexible manner at all levels of AQI.

If you request your student to wear a mask during the school day please direct your request instructions and the mask to your classroom teacher. If you have any comments please do not hesitate to contact me, Ms. McClure.

PAFA Update:

Teacher Appreciation Week Committee--PAFA is seeking parents to help with the planning, preparation, and activities for this special week of fun events for our awesome SCIS teachers. This year Teacher Appreciation Week is March 5-9. The planning committee will have their first meeting in January after winter break. Please contact your school representatives or scan the QR Code to join this group.



Valid until 12/7 and will update upon joining group

Traditions from around the world

Our Kindergarten students are beginning a new unit on **Celebrations**. Our central idea is traditions and celebrations connect people from various cultures. We are looking for parents and members of the SCIS community to come in to share a cultural holiday/celebration to help make this unit even more meaningful for our students.

You are encouraged to come and introduce your culture or celebration to the Kindergarten classes through photographs, videos, books, costumes, instruments, dances, songs, crafts, artifacts, food, and more! This introduction then can be followed by activities that students can do on their own. If you or anyone you know is interested in sharing, please send an email Ms. Kit akittelson@scis-china.org to arrange a date and time.

Primary Years Programs – Janette Haggith, PYP Coordinator

In an inquiry classroom, teachers view much of what their students are doing and saying through an assessment lens. One way they do that is by using a **'reflective pause'** within a teaching journey to inform both assessment of learning and evaluation of teaching. These can also be called **'understanding check-ups'**. As I visit classrooms throughout the day I see many **'understanding check-ups'** in action. Teachers use the feedback from these check-ups to plan their learning experiences to ensure that the needs of all students are being met. Here are a just a few examples:

- **Think Pair Share** – Students are given a question or problem related to a targeted skill or concept. They have time to think on their own, then share their thinking with a partner and then some thoughts are shared with the whole group.
- **Thumbs up/down/sideways** – This is a quick strategy in which students use hand signals to identify how confident they are with what they have learned. Thumbs up – I understand. Thumbs sideways – I get some of it, but need help with other things. Thumbs down – I don't get it.
- **See, think, wonder** – After watching a video clip, looking at an object or picture, or being asked to reflect on something related to the unit of inquiry, students can write, draw or say their response to the questions: "What did I see?", "How did this make me feel?", "What did this make me wonder?".
- **1st/2nd/3rd thinking** – At the beginning of a unit students record their thinking about the concept or central idea. This could be done on a chart as a whole class discussion in which the teacher records the students' ideas, or students can draw or write about the concept in groups or individually. This task can be repeated two or three times over the course of the unit so that students can reflect on the growth in their understanding and thinking.
- **Exit ticket** – At the end of a lesson, teachers ask students to tell them (or in older grades students are given post-it notes to write down) one thing they have learned, a question they still have or something they are confused about.

Message from Mr. Balli

Dear ECE families,

Are you looking for just the right gift for the holidays or just some great books to include in your home library?

The Blue Fountain book company is bringing a vast selection of books for all ages to the ECE campus next week.

Plan to come by our ECE school library

- Tuesday, December 5th
- and/or Wednesday, December 6th
- 7:30am-4:00pm
- to browse and select your books.

If you have any questions or need any suggestions for books, please contact the ECE Librarian Josh Balli @ jballi@scis-china.org.

