

# LS WEEKLY BULLETIN

Weekly Bulletin 33 May 11, 2018

## Important Dates

- **May 31<sup>st</sup>:** Lower School Assembly featuring Prekindergarten at 8:15am in the Black Box.
- **June 1<sup>st</sup>:** Lower School Variety Show at 1:30pm in the Theater.
- **June 8<sup>th</sup>:** Lower School Field Day and Parent Appreciation BBQ.
- **June 12<sup>th</sup>:** Grade 5 Moving On Ceremony at 10:30am in the Black Box
- **June 13<sup>th</sup>:** End of the Year Class Parties from 2:00-3:00.
- **June 14<sup>th</sup>:** Lower School Farewell Assembly at 8:15am in the Black Box. Last Day of School for students. Semester 2 Report Cards distributed via scis-parent email.

Dear SCIS Families,

Next week, students across grade levels will begin the process of moving into their sixth and **final unit of inquiry** for the school year. At this point in the year, it is so wonderful to observe students as they conduct independent inquiries and ask thoughtful questions on topics that are meaningful to them. Please take a few minutes to read the unit overview below to gain deeper insight into the types of inquiries and big ideas that your child(ren) will be learning about during the remaining five weeks of the school year.

As we near the end of the school



*This week, Grade 5 students celebrated the completion of the PYP Exhibition with an ice-cream party on Tuesday. On Friday, they participated in the Grade 5 Transition to Middle School Day where they experienced some of the joys of being a Middle Schooler at SCIS!*

year, I would like to take this opportunity to say **thank you and farewell to our departing Lower School teachers** who will be moving on to new educational adventures. Ms. Kate Dobson and her family will be transitioning to an international school in Africa, while Ms. Rebecca Macoskey will be furthering her educational studies at the Orff Institute in Austria. Ms. Meghan Hinds will still be an SCIS-Dragon, however will be moving to the HQ-ECE campus to teach preschool. We appreciate your commitment to the SCIS community and wish you the best of luck in your next chapter. Once a Dragon, Always a Dragon!

On Friday, Grade 5 students participated in a **Middle School Transition Day** where they had an opportunity to learn more about what they will experience as a Grade 6 MYP student. Dr. Volpe, Ms. Shanks, Mrs. Kelly and

The Grade 6 students and teachers planned a variety of fun activities for the Grade 5 students to participate in throughout the morning.

**Lower School Field Day** will take place on Friday, June 8<sup>th</sup>. In order for this event to run successfully, we will need many parent volunteers to assist with running the field-day stations. For more information please read the announcement below or contact Ms. Tarsi at [tbali@scis-china.org](mailto:tbali@scis-china.org)

Grade 4 students have begun their new unit of inquiry focused on Marketplace and are looking for **guest speakers** who can share their experiences surrounding business ownership, finance or marketing. Please contact Mr. Bart Kelly at [bkelly@scis-china.org](mailto:bkelly@scis-china.org) if you would be interested in sharing your knowledge.

Have a great weekend!

Liz Gale  
Lower School Principal



# Lower School News and Announcements



## FIELD DAY

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

**Field Day for the Lower School will take place on Friday, June 8<sup>th</sup>.** On this day, all students in Prekindergarten through Grade 5 will participate in a variety of fun outdoor activities where they will use their physical and collaborative skills to complete an assortment of challenging tasks. Students will move freely with peer groups through activity stations that will be set up around the soccer field. To ensure the activity stations run smoothly and successfully we are **looking for parent volunteers** to assist in leading a station. Students in Prekindergarten through Grade 2 will participate in Field Day from 9:30am until 11:30am, while students in Grades 3-5 will partake in the fun from 12:30 until 2:30pm. If you would be interested in helping run a station for 45 minutes during the PK-2 Field Day and/or the 3-5 Field Day please contact Ms. Tarsi Bali at [tbali@scis-china.org](mailto:tbali@scis-china.org)

**As a way for us to express our gratitude for all that you do, we would like to invite all parents to attend a**

### **PARENT APPRECIATION BBQ**

**Date: Friday, June 8<sup>th</sup>  
Time: 11:30am – 12:30pm  
Location: SCIS Cafeteria**

**Please come and enjoy a BBQ style lunch with your child either before or after they participate in Field Day!**



## **Lower School Variety Show**

**June 1 @ 1:30pm**

The Lower School Variety Show will take place on Friday, June 1 beginning at 1:30pm in the Theater. Variety show participant forms were due on Friday, May 11<sup>th</sup>. Students who are participating in the variety show will have a dress rehearsal on Wednesday, May 31 starting at 1:00pm. All lower school students will attend the variety show and support their peers as they showcase an array of talents on the Theater stage.

If you have any questions regarding the variety show, please contact Mrs. Laurie Luebbe at [lluebbe@scis-china.org](mailto:lluebbe@scis-china.org) We hope to see you at this fantastic event!



## An Inquiry Into . . .

Next week, all grade levels (Kindergarten through Grade 5) will be immersed in their sixth and final unit of inquiry for the school year. It has been an incredible year of learning for SCIS students and teachers as they have inquired into a variety of real world topics that are relevant, meaningful, significant and engaging. This final unit will allow students an opportunity to utilize all of the thinking, research, communication, self-management and social skills they have developed over the course of the year to engage in authentic learning experiences that are inquiry based and driven by students' interests and questions. The below table provides specific details on the units of inquiry for students in Kindergarten through Grade 5 from now until the end of the year.

<b>Grade Level</b>	<b>Trans-disciplinary Theme</b>	<b>Central Idea</b>	<b>Lines of Inquiry</b> <i>An inquiry into. . .</i>	<b>Selected Concepts</b>	<b>Guiding Teacher Questions</b>
<b>Kindergarten</b>	<b><i>How the World Works</i></b>	Scientists follow a method to learn new things.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How scientists conduct experiments.</li> <li>How scientists make observations and record findings.</li> <li>How scientists make conclusions and share their results.</li> </ul>	Function Change Reflection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How do scientists conduct experiments?</li> <li>How do scientists make observations and record their findings?</li> <li>How do scientists make conclusions and share their results?</li> </ul>
<b>Grade 1</b>	<b><i>Sharing the Planet</i></b>	The distribution of limited resources (water) creates challenges for life of earth.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The dependence of living things on water.</li> <li>Why fresh water is limited for some.</li> <li>Our responsibilities and challenges with water.</li> </ul>	Causation Connection Responsibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How are living things dependent upon water?</li> <li>Why is fresh water limited for some living things?</li> <li>What are humans' responsibilities and challenges with water?</li> </ul>
<b>Grade 2</b>	<b><i>Sharing the Planet</i></b>	Animals adapt to changes in their environments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How animals adapt to changes in their environments.</li> <li>The positive and negative impact that humans and animals have on each other.</li> <li>Humans responsibility to protect animals</li> </ul>	Responsibility Change Causation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How do animals adapt to their environment?</li> <li>What are the positive and negative impacts that humans and animals have on each other?</li> <li>Do humans have a responsibility to protect animals?</li> </ul>
<b>Grade 3</b>	<b><i>Sharing the Planet</i></b>	Plants have distinct characteristics that make them vital to humans and the planet.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plant parts and how they work.</li> <li>Human and animal dependency on plants.</li> <li>Environmental conditions that may threaten plant life and humans' responsibility to protect plants.</li> </ul>	Function Connection Responsibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What are the different parts of plants and how do they work?</li> <li>How are humans and animals dependent upon plants?</li> <li>What environmental conditions could threaten plant life?</li> <li>Do humans have a responsibility to protect plants?</li> </ul>
<b>Grade 4</b>	<b><i>How we Organize Ourselves</i></b>	Marketplaces depend on the ability to produce goods and supply services that can be exchanged.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Medium of exchanges in various marketplaces (trading systems)</li> <li>Interconnectedness of economies through supply and demand</li> <li>Ethics of the marketplace</li> </ul>	Function Connection Responsibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How does a global marketplace work?</li> <li>How are economies interconnected through marketplace?</li> <li>What are the ethics associated with marketplace?</li> </ul>
<b>Grade 5</b>	<b><i>How we Organize Ourselves</i></b>	Government systems influence the lives of citizens.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The types of political systems</li> <li>How political systems meet the needs and wants of individuals and society.</li> <li>Citizenship and the role of a citizen</li> </ul>	Form Connection Perspective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What are the different types of political systems?</li> <li>How do political systems meet the needs and wants of individuals and society?</li> <li>What is your role as a citizen?</li> </ul>