

# LS WEEKLY BULLETIN

Weekly Bulletin 12 | November 11, 2016 | Elizabeth Gale

## Important Dates

- **November 19:** PAFA Bingo Night from 5:00-9:00pm
- **November 25:** Professional Development Day for teachers. No school for students.
- **November 24:** Lower School Assembly. 1P will be presenting.
- **December 2:** Lower School Assembly. KG will be presenting.
- **December 8:** Grades 2-5 Winter Concert starting at 4:30pm
- **December 9:** Prekindergarten – Grade 1 Winter Concert starting at 1:00pm



***Congratulations to 1M for their terrific assembly performance. Thank you for teaching us about personal histories, generations and families. We learned so much!***

During the past 2 weeks students in Grades 1-5 have been participating in lessons on **Conflict Management** led by Mrs. Caban our Lower School Learning Support Teacher. Mrs. Caban has introduced students to the conflict-management program, **Kelso's Choices**. This program is based upon nine options students can choose from to resolve minor conflicts on their own. Through their participation in lessons with Mrs. Caban, students will be able to determine the difference between minor problems they can handle and serious problems that require an adults help. For more information on Kelso's Choices and the ways in which you can use aspects of this program at home, please visit: <http://kelsoschoice.com/community/parent-page/>

Reminder: A nurse from WorldPath Health Clinic will be visiting SCIS to give **flu vaccinations** to students and parents who have completed the consent form and paid money. More information can be found in the attached flier and consent form. The consent form and money is due **November 18<sup>th</sup>**. The shot is administered at school **on November 23<sup>rd</sup>**. This is a great way to stay ahead of the flu season. If you have any questions, contact our school nurse, Lynn Fu at [lfu@scis-china.org](mailto:lfu@scis-china.org)

Stay Warm and Have a Great Weekend!

Liz Gale  
Lower School  
Principal



Dear Families,

Please mark your calendars for the **Lower School Winter Concerts**. Students in Grades 2 through 5 will be performing on Thursday, December 8 starting at 4:30pm in the Theater. The concert is scheduled to last for one hour until 5:30pm. The following day, December 9 Prekindergarten through Grade 1 students will participate in their Winter Concert, which is scheduled to begin at 1:00pm. More information regarding these two events will be communicated in the upcoming weeks.

## Photos from a Wonderful Week of Learning

It's been a wonderful week of learning here at SCIS-Pudong. On Monday after school, all Lower School Teachers participated in two TTT (Teaching Teachers Teaching) sessions led by Mr. Kelly, Mrs. Caban, Ms. Myers, Ms. Clodfelter, Mrs. Luebbe and Ms. Hinds. Teachers were able to learn from colleagues surrounding topics such as growth mindset, conflict management, reading assessments and best practices in early childhood. Regularly having teachers collaborate and learn together is proven to enhance and increase student learning.

In the classroom, Grade 2 students continue their inquiry into storytelling and understanding the unique characteristics of fables, fairytales and folktales. Kindergarten students inquire into what "play" looks like around the world, while Grade 4 learns about how the brain functions and the ways we can grow our brains by taking risks and learning new things. Grade 5 students are inquiring into migrations throughout history and the reasons why people migrate, while Grade 3 focuses on the "changing earth." Prekindergarten students are inquiring into art and how artists work, while our youngest nursery and preschool students learn about one another's likes and dislikes and what good friends do. The assembly presentation from 1M helped all students understand the power of our personal histories and how we can make connections among our stories and experiences.



## 21<sup>st</sup> Century Transdisciplinary Skills in the PYP?

Within the September 9 Lower School bulletin, the concept of “standards-based” learning was addressed. As you may recall, “standards-based” means that there are defined learning objectives for students in each grade level and across all subject areas and disciplines. However, the emphasis on standards and content knowledge does not undermine the importance of identifying specific 21<sup>st</sup> century skills that students will be taught as they inquire into each unit within all core and specialist subjects. As a parent, it is important to know that the Primary Years Program (PYP) identifies five transdisciplinary skill-specific focus areas that transcend all subjects and grade levels. As students’ progress throughout the program they will develop a broad range of social, communication, thinking, research and self-management skills that are not only valuable for learning that takes place within the classroom, but also in life outside of school. In order to ensure coverage of all skills, classroom teachers collaborate and identify the particular skills that align within each of the six transdisciplinary units of inquiry.



The following table highlights the five transdisciplinary skill focus areas:

Thinking Skills	Social Skills	Communication Skills	Self-Management Skills	Research Skills
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acquisition of Knowledge</li> <li>• Comprehension</li> <li>• Application</li> <li>• Analysis</li> <li>• Synthesis</li> <li>• Evaluation</li> <li>• Dialectical Thought</li> <li>• Metacognition</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Accepting Responsibility</li> <li>• Respecting Others</li> <li>• Cooperating</li> <li>• Resolving Conflict</li> <li>• Group Decision-making</li> <li>• Adopting a variety of Group Roles</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Listening</li> <li>• Speaking</li> <li>• Reading</li> <li>• Writing</li> <li>• Viewing</li> <li>• Presenting</li> <li>• Non-Verbal Communication</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gross motor Skills</li> <li>• Fine motor skills</li> <li>• Spatial awareness</li> <li>• Organization</li> <li>• Time Management</li> <li>• Safety</li> <li>• Healthy Lifestyle</li> <li>• Codes of Behavior</li> <li>• Informed Choices</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Formulating Questions</li> <li>• Observing</li> <li>• Planning</li> <li>• Collecting Data</li> <li>• Recording Data</li> <li>• Organizing Data</li> <li>• Interpreting Data</li> <li>• Presenting Research Findings</li> </ul>