

西風

The Westside Breeze

50th Anniversary Edition



Message from Principal Stella Wu:



In light of Westside Chinese School's 50th Anniversary, I would like to thank all the past administrators and parents for their unwavering dedication. The foundation they have built has allowed our school to blossom from a few students into the successful institution it is today.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank today's parents, teachers, and administrators for their hard work. Without you, the activities we currently enjoy, from the annual New Year Festivals to the weekly snack times, would not be possible. I am

honored and humbled to serve as principal, and I firmly believe in continuing the hard work of those before us. Let us all come partake in the volunteering spirit!

校長的話:

在歡慶我們中文學校五十年校慶之際，我要感謝所有以前的家長，老師及行政人員。他們堅持的奉獻，他們建立的學校由幾個學生開始到今天一個成功的教育機構。我還要藉此機會感謝今天的家長，老師及行政人員辛勤的服務。若沒有你們；我們目前所享受的這一切活動：從新年表演到每週的午餐都不會有。我覺得很榮幸又很謙卑能擔任校長為大家服務，我深信秉承前人的努力工作。讓我們一起來參與延續志工的精神！

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VOLUNTEERS SPOTLIGHT: PAUL CHU AND I-CHANG

Mr. Paul Chu and Mrs. I-Chang are long-time volunteers at Chinese school. The couple have been selling snack tickets for over 10 years. If you have ever bought food during snack break, surely you must have met them when you purchased your tickets. They usually sit in the cafeteria against the auditorium wall. Over the winter break, I conducted a brief interview with them. During our talk, I realized that their hard work and steadfast dedication to not only the school, but also our community and country, is truly inspirational. Paul is a World War II veteran who served in the U.S. Army as an English-Chinese



Mr. Paul Chu and Mrs. I-Chang



translator, as well as a truck driver who brought supplies across the rugged terrain from Burma to China.

In addition, Paul helped me realize that selling tickets at school is only part of his job; he is also responsible for preparing the tickets at home before they can be used. Every year, he makes sure that about 30,000 tickets are validated by a stamped CLSSC print. Currently, I-Chang and Paul have a granddaughter enrolled. They see their volunteering as important and needed. I hope Paul and I-Chang's heartwarming devotion to our school and our children has inspired you to volunteer too! ~Stephanie Liu

朱老先生和她美麗的太太看起來好像我們祖父母的年紀 約在 80 到 90 歲，是我們學校的長期義工，他們已經賣了十年的餐卷，如你在學校買過食物，你一定向他們買過餐卷。他們的攤位擺在點心區靠禮堂的牆邊。在中午點心時間我訪問了他。在訪問中我才發現他們不單替我們學校服務，還替我們的社區，我們的國家效勞。真是鼓舞人心。朱爺爺二戰時服務美國陸軍任中英文翻譯官，也做過卡車駕駛從緬甸運送物資到中國，駛經崎嶇的山脊和峰頂的道路，他也替警局做文書登錄的義工二十年。

此外，她還告訴我一件事，在學校賣餐卷僅是這個工作的一部份，先頭工作是在家裡把一大網票剪開，每十張分好，賣時才不會亂。每年他要備妥三千張餐卷，每張票還得蓋上西區中文學校的章。朱爺爺認為他的工作很重要 而且是必須的。他們有個外孫女在西區中文上課。

我希望他們對我們學校和孩子的熱心奉獻能鼓舞你們也來當義工。-劉佩貞

Teacher Interviews

王靜宜老師 (Wang Lao Shi) - 親子中文學前班與兒童中文合唱團

By Lulu Liu

王老師來自台灣，擁有加州大學戴維斯分校音樂理論與作曲博士，國立臺北藝術大學作曲碩士與音樂學士等文憑。王老師滿懷教學熱忱，從事音樂教育工作至今 15 年。來美國之前，她擔任國立台南藝術大學應用音樂系之講師，且於數所高中與國中的音樂班任教；赴美攻讀博士期間則任教於 UC Davis。

除音樂創作與鋼琴演奏外，王老師亦傾心於中國文學，從小摯愛中國語文及文化。喜愛寫作的她，文章見報多次。她與西區中文學校自 2013 年起即結下不解之緣，先後擔任 B Track 與親子中文學前班的老師。閒暇之餘，她喜歡烘焙，烹飪與閱讀。王老師希望以寓教於樂的方式來引導孩子學習，看到學生有所成長是她最大的快樂。秉持著對中文的熱愛，對教學之熱忱，王老師願在美國為推廣中文與音樂教育盡一份心力！



Teacher Chin-Yi Wang is instructor of the Parent and Me Class and the Children's Chinese Chorus EC class. She comes from Taiwan. Ms. Wang received her PhD in Music Composition and Theory from UC Davis. She received both a BA and MA in Music from Taipei National University of the Arts with a major in composition and minor in piano. As a life-long learner with a true passion for teaching, Ms. Wang has 15 years of experience teaching music, piano, and Chinese. She has had the opportunity to teach at UC Davis, Tainan National University of the Arts, Gifted and Talented Music Programs in secondary schools of Taiwan.

Ms. Wang has been passionate about Chinese literature since her childhood. She started teaching at Westside Chinese School in 2013 and has been the teacher for B track and the Parent and Me Class. Her hobbies include baking, cooking, and reading.

Ms. Wang loves children and enjoys working with them. Her goal is to teach through fun activities and pass on her cultural heritage to her students. It's her delight to see her students grow!

文征老師 (Wen Lao Shi – 3A)

BY AMELIA CHIEF

我來自中國的江城湖北省武漢市。我畢業於武漢大學國際貿易專業，後來從事房地產評估工作 12 餘年。我平時最喜歡做的事是閱讀中國的歷史書和品嚐美食。2014 因孩子來西區中文學校學習，我作為志願者在學校做過分餐員、班級聯絡人，助教和代課老師。通過旁聽有經驗老師的教學和對各類學生個體差異的分析，我逐漸喜歡上中文教學的工作。我希望能通過自己的努力，真正做到因材施教，使每個學生的智慧、才能、興趣特點都得到發展。



I come from the City of Wuhan in Hubei State. I graduated from Wuhan University and majored in International Trade. I worked as a house evaluator in the real estate business for more than twelve years. I often read Chinese history books. That's my favorite thing to do. I also like to taste delicious food. My child started attending Westside Chinese School in 2014, and since then, I have volunteered in the school in the following positions: snack services, classroom coordinator, teaching aide, and substitute teacher. I became interested in teaching Chinese after watching experienced teachers teach and how they adjust their teaching according to student's various needs. I hope through my hard working, I can help each and every student reach their full potential.

楊文琦老師 (Yang Lao Shi – 6B)

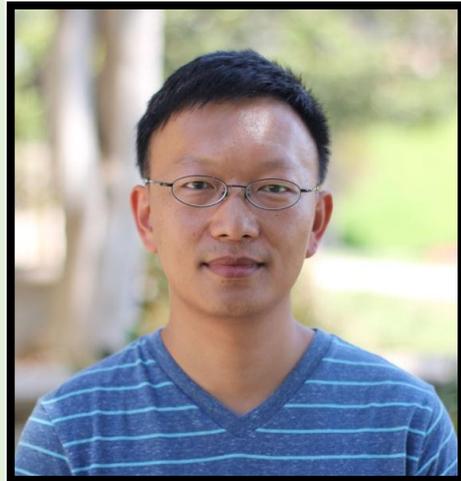
BY WILLIAM ORTIZ

我是楊文琦老師，我來自台灣。我畢業于國立台中商專國貿科。來美進修後于舊金山州立大學英文系畢業。我在求學時，中文一直是我喜愛的科目之一。來美國後在學校遇見很多對學習中文感興趣的同學。一開始只是做為語言交換，幫助彼此學習各自的母語。畢業後，為補貼在成人學校兼職教美語的不足，我開始接家教學生，正式展開教中文的生涯。教中文最大的樂趣是看到學生們不但漸漸學會這個世界上最難學的語言之一，而且透過學中文這個機會，能多瞭解中國的歷史和中華文化！我希望學生們能打好中文的基礎。聽和說的能力要具備，因為這是和人溝通最快的一項工具。至於讀和寫，就是幫助對中文和其背後的歷史和文化有基本的瞭解。我閒暇時喜愛看電影，旅行，為家人烘焙烹飪。



My name is Wenchi Yang and I graduated from Taiwan's National Taichung College of Business with a degree in International Trade. In the U.S. I received a degree in English at San Francisco State University. Chinese language has always been one of my favorite subjects in school. After arriving to America, I realized that many of my classmates were interested in learning Chinese, so we started to teach each other our native languages. After graduation, I taught English at an adult school and in the meantime, tutored students Chinese. I enjoy teaching Chinese because I love seeing students slowly yet gradually learn one of the most difficult languages in the world, while at the same time, discover Chinese culture and history. I hope I can help students build a good foundation in Chinese. I believe it is important for them to learn how to listen and speak, as this enables them to communicate. As for reading and writing, both are also important in facilitating students' understanding of Chinese history and culture. In my free time, I like to watch movies, travel, bake, and cook.

我來自台灣,我在台灣的大學主修化學,拿到大學文憑後,又在台灣讀了碩士.之後來到美國念博士.攻讀分子生物學領域.目前在洛杉磯加大從事神經科學的研究.即便我住在美國;但是拜網路之賜,我的生活仍然緊密的和中文世界聯繫著.中華文化和西方文化很不相同.我覺得把中國世界介紹給美國人會是很有趣的.最好的方法就是教中文.我給那些說英文的人教中文,方法就很不像我當初怎麼學會中文的.舉個例子來說,我之前就從來沒有上過中文文法課,因此,我覺得我好像在重修中文,而不是在教中文.而在這個我很熟悉的語言中我發現了很多構想,到目前來說這是很有趣的經驗.我喜歡閱讀,還有在網路上瀏覽新聞.我每個月還讀小說,去享受外面世界的繽紛.我也在臉書上讓家人,還有台灣的朋友分享我生活的點滴.這是一個方法用以聯繫我來的地方.我是一個科學家因此我把我大部分的時間花在實驗室裡做科研.



I grew up in Taiwan, where I studied to receive a bachelor's degree in chemistry and later a master's degree. After that, I came to the U.S. to earn a Ph.D. in the field of molecular biology. Currently, I do research in neuroscience at UCLA. Even though I now live in the U.S., due to the power of the internet, my life is still tightly connected to the Chinese world.

Chinese culture is very different from western cultures. As this is so, I believe it will be interesting to introduce this world to Americans. One of the best ways to do so is by teaching Chinese. The way I teach Chinese to English speakers is actually very different from the way I learned Chinese. For example, I have never taken any Chinese grammar classes before. Therefore, I feel like I am relearning Chinese rather than teaching it. Since I have gained much insight from studying a language I am very familiar with, teaching has so far been a very interesting experience.

In my free time, I enjoy reading. In addition to browsing news online, I still read novels every month to enjoy the beauty of other worlds. I also like to share my life on Facebook with my family and friends here and there in Taiwan. It is a way to stay connected to where I am from. I am a scientist; therefore I have been spending most of my time doing research in the laboratory.

西風

The Westside Breeze

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高晨老師 (Gao Lao Shi – 2A2)

BY CATHERINE LI

高老師來自中國上海。她畢業於復旦大學，然後在加州州立大學長堤分校取得教師資格。她之所以對教中文有興趣是因為愛中文。並希望更多的人能學習這門精彩和精深的語言。她很喜歡跟她的學生在一起共同學習，他們各有各的天賦而且精力旺盛。她從孩子們那裡學到很多東西。孩子們激勵她努力成為一個更好的老師。她是京劇的鐵桿粉絲。她也喜歡烹飪。在中國時，她是一名編輯和記者。在美國取得執教資格後，她在洛杉磯聯合學區的數所學校做了幾年老師。她希望她的教學更能因材施教，以滿足學生不同的學習需求，她盡力營造一個積極向上的學習環境，使學生愛學中文，學好中文，並能夠在實際生活中學以致用。以前她從未想過會成為一名老師，總是擔心好多"如果....."。但逐漸地，她發現做老師是一項好有回報的工作。她很慶幸會有機會跟這些小天使在一起共同學習。至於那些"如果....."，對付的辦法有一個，就是關愛學生，待他們視如己出。如果家長和學生有任何意見和建議，請隨時聯絡她。大家一起努力，使新學年成為一個愉快而高效的學習旅程。

Gao Lao Shi is from Shanghai, China. She graduated from Fudan University and got her teaching credential from California State University, Long Beach. She is interested in teaching Chinese because she loves Chinese and would like more people to learn this wonderful language. Gao Lao Shi enjoys working with the talented and energetic students at Westside Chinese School. She has learned a lot from the kids. They inspire her not only to try to be a better teacher, but also to be a better person.

Gao Lao Shi is a hardcore fan of Beijing opera. She also enjoys cooking and was an editor and journalist in China. After getting a teaching credential in the U.S., she taught at several schools in LAUSD. She hopes to personalize instruction for her students to meet their various learning needs. Gao Lao Shi tries to create a positive and encouraging learning environment so that students enjoy learning Chinese. After they step out the classroom, she hopes students are able to apply what they have learned to real life.

Gao Lao Shi never dreamed of becoming a teacher before and always worried about the "what if..." Gradually, she found that being a teacher is such a rewarding job and felt lucky to have a chance to work these young angels. As to those "what ifs," the solution is to love and treat the students as her own kids. Love never fails. She hopes that "parents and students will communicate with [her] anytime when they have suggestions and concerns. Let us work together to make the new school year a joyful and productive learning journey!"



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Sawtelle Blvd in West Los Angeles, often referred to as Little Osaka, is a popular stop for teenage and college students alike. One of the hottest spots on this street is a bustling boba place called Volcano Tea House. I am sure many current Chinese school students know of the boba there, but what many don't know is that the shop owner is a former principal of Chinese school. This past December, I paid a visit to Volcano Teahouse to interview former Principal Huang, who served from 1993-1994. As I sat down with him at a table outside to talk, I noticed that his employees clocking out would refer to him as Principal Huang. He tells me the title caught on since students and parents under the time of his administration would still call him principal when they came for boba.



Founders of Westside Chinese School.

As we talked, he told me that Chinese school's founding purpose was to serve as a culture and community center for Chinese immigrant families. Unlike many other Chinese schools, Westside Chinese School was not formed under a parent organization, such as a Chinese Association. He then explained that at its earliest, Chinese School was not an official school. The first students who learned Chinese studied outdoors at Palms Recreational Park over the weekends. They were children of parents who were international students, most of whom studied at UCLA. The fathers would play basketball at the park and the mothers took this opportunity to teach the children Chinese.

As more and more students joined the weekend study sessions, there became a need to put the students in classrooms. Palms Middle School became our first host school. Principal Huang, who is also a retired programmer, recalls initiating the first online registration database of students and buying our school's first 24 pins dot matrix printer that could print Chinese characters. He said that prior to being principal, he was also a parent volunteer and a board of director. He tells me that Chinese school has helped establish a solid foundation of the Chinese language for his children, which enables them to more easily pick up the language later in life. He also wanted to let me know that before leaving his post as principal, he added a class B membership to the school's bylaws, which allows former parents and administrators to return to help the school's administration, but withholds them from voting.

西洛杉磯的紹泰街,也被稱為小大阪,是青年學子常流連的所在,其中一個熱門的地方,就是一間忙碌的波霸小店名叫火山茶鋪,中文學校的學生都知道那家店,但有一樣可能不知道,店老闆是我們以前的校長黃授良先生(1993-1994)。上個月我去拜訪了他。我們坐在外面進行採訪時;我注意到那些店員打卡下班經過我們時都稱呼他黃校長。他告訴我這是因為在他任內時的學生和家長來買波霸時還是習慣稱呼他黃校長。

他告訴我西區中文之成立是為了華人移民家庭文化傳承及聚會的目的地,不像其他的中文學校;先成立了社團或協會,之後再成立一個下屬單位的學校。他進一步解釋說首批學生是週末在棕櫚公園露天上課,家長多是洛杉磯加大的留學生,爸爸在公園打球,媽媽就藉機會教小孩。

當學生越來越多了,就需要教室上課了。就借用棕櫚中學的校舍上課。黃前校長是電腦主機工程師,他寫下了首個學生註冊程式和資料庫。套用了中文字庫,買了學校第一台舊式 24 針印表機,能打中文。他說之前也做過家長志工和理事等職位。他說中文學校幫他的小孩打下了結實的中文基礎。在他們日後的生活裡更容易的拾起中文。他說在他任期最後一年他在學校成立章程裡加入了乙種會員一項,其入會資格凡是本校前家長,前職員都可回校從事行政工作,但沒有投票權。

Interview with Former Principal Wu -- 訪問前校長吳如真 By Stephanie Liu

This past December, I paid a visit to the West Los Angeles Office of Tzu Chi, a humanitarian organization with roots in Taiwan, to interview former principal, Principal Wu. After having served as principal of Chinese school from 1990-1991, Principal Wu is currently the chapter leader of Tzu Chi in West L.A. She tells me that she is also a parent of 3 daughters, all of whom graduated from Chinese school and are now very successful adults. One daughter is a pediatrician who uses her Chinese to speak to patients. Another uses her Chinese to speak to employees at her company factory. She also has a grandson currently attending, making her family a member of our community for 3 generations. During her term, Chinese school, which was hosted at Palms Middle school, had about 350 enrolled students and, as she emphasized proudly, a long waiting list. Most families were of Chinese heritage, different from the growing diversity of students we have now. Looking back, Principal Wu says that Chinese school to her was like one big family. The families knew each other and could tell who were related to whom. Even to this day, families would host reunions to catch up.

Her fondest memory at school was the Sports Meet. Parents, acting as coaches, would prepare students by training them prior to the competition. On game day, one of the parents would bring a freezer full of popsicles to share with the families as they cheered on our competitors. She also warmly recalls that our school formed basketball teams to compete in tournaments against other schools. Many of the dads played basketball when their kids were in class, and would coach them ball after school. The moms would stay in an empty classroom to chat and drink coffee. Sometimes, the parents would listen to guest speakers the school invited to give talks about their specialized fields.

Chinese school is not exactly like how it was in the past. For example, snack time would involve multiple families taking turns bringing snacks and drinks to share, free of charge. Another interesting fact, she says, is that extracurricular classes used to be mandatory and took place before the last period, different from how we have it now switched.

這個月(12/2016),我去拜訪了慈濟在西洛杉磯的辦公室,這是一個人道救援的機構,根在台灣.在那裡我訪談了西區中文學校的前校長吳如真.他在1990-1991年擔任校長後就從事慈濟在西洛杉磯的辦公室領導.她告訴我他的三個孩子都是西區中文畢業的學生目前都是很成功的大人.女兒是兒科醫生,能用中文和華裔病人問病情,另一個女兒在公司服務,有時會去工廠和講中文的員工溝通.他的孫子也在我校就讀,一家三代都在西區中文.她記得在她任內學校設在棕櫚中學有350名學生.她很驕傲地說:由於校方納力制約.當時有很長的候補名單.大多數學生中文為母語,不像現在是多族裔的學生.她回憶中文學校就好像一個大家庭.互相認識也都知道誰是誰家的小孩.而且至今還聚會.



Snack time back in the day.

她最喜歡回憶的事就是華人校際運動大會,家長好幾個月前就充當教練訓練學生,比賽當日有家長會帶來一大桶的冰棒,學生大喊加油口乾了吃.她很興奮的憶起學校組成籃球隊和外校比賽,平常學生上課時爸爸們就是球員在籃球場上打球,放學後他們又變成教練教學生打球.媽媽們就在空教室裡聊天喝咖啡,有時家長們就去大禮堂聽校方邀請來的各行專業的講解.

“現在的西區中文學校和以前的有些不一樣,”他說:“她猶記得午餐時刻,每一家都擺出各自帶來的食品而且是免費交換食用.”另外一件有趣的就是:“課外活動本來是必修課在倒數第二堂課上,不知道為什麼改成最後一堂課了?”

西區中文學校和我-前任校長嚴大喜

我和家人於 1992 年移民來美國，剛來美國的時候，我先生還在台灣上班，所以我是母兼父職，因送小兒子到西區中文學校去學習中文。也認識了很多朋友，得到很多的幫忙。我加入義工的行列，先是做總務，我記得每個星期五去好事多買一些零食之類的食物，星期六帶到學校點心時間用。後來我又做了財務，讓我對西區中文學校更進一步的認識。於 2000 - 2002 年做了兩任的校長。離開西區中文學校之後，我繼續在中文學校聯合會做義工，看到每一年，西區中文學校的學生都很積極的參加中文學校聯合會的一些活動，都有優異的表現。這些不得不歸功於老師們的辛勤教導和同學們的努力，讓我也與有榮焉。西區中文學校等於是我在美國的娘家。我永遠以我是西區中文學校的一員為榮。



Westside Chinese School and Me- Interview with Former Principal Annie Yen

In 1992, I immigrated to the U.S. with my family, initially leaving my husband working in Taiwan. In America, I had to serve as both a mother and a fatherly figure for my children. Ever since sending them to Chinese School, I met many friends who have offered me tremendous assistance during this time, of which I am very grateful for. The first official volunteer position I held was as Director of General Affairs. I still recall going to Costco to buy the snacks sold for snack time. Soon after, I advanced to the role of Financial Director, which allowed me to better understand the logistics of running the school, and later prepared me to become principal for two terms, which I served from 2000-2002. Our family's involvement with Chinese School was forsaken after my children graduated from Chinese school, but my heart remained involved in Chinese education. Once again, I took up volunteering, this time with the Southern California Council of Chinese Schools (SCCCS). To this day, I help organize students from the different Chinese schools in South California in the competitions SCCC hosts. Competing entails hard work for both students and teachers; therefore, I am extremely proud of them. Westside Chinese School is my home, and I am honored to count myself as a permanent member.



嚴前校長及家人。

Former Principal Yen with family.



西區中文三位前校長:左起梅毅,嚴大喜, 刘安琪 (坐者)。 Three former principals. From left to right: Mrs. Mei Yi, Mrs. Yen Da Shi, and Mr. Liu An Chi.



2000 年學生過萬聖節.

Students in costume celebrating Halloween (2000).

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Five Fast Facts about Pandas



1. Pandas have a vestigial thumb, which means their thumbs have become less effective over the course of evolution. Their extra digit helps them to hold and manipulate bamboo.
2. Pandas have lived on Earth for 2-3 million years.
3. Pandas are the most expensive animals to keep in captivity.
4. A group of pandas is called an embarrassment.
5. Mother pandas in captivity give birth to twin pandas more often than pandas in the wild.

Pandamania!

By Amelia Chief and William Ortiz



Pandas spend up to 14 hours a day eating as much as 27.5 pounds of bamboo leaves and stems. However, they can digest only about 17% of it.



A Panda's Diet

Pandas are endangered; there are about 1,000 pandas left in the wild. One of the leading causes for their decline is the loss of their habitat and their food, bamboo, due to humans clearing areas for crops. These black-and-white bears spend up to 14 hours a day eating as much as 27.5 pounds of bamboo leaves and stems. However, they can digest only about 17 percent of it.

It is interesting to note that pandas evolved from bears that ate both plants and meat; pandas started eating bamboo exclusively about two million years ago. Researchers say, that despite their current diet, pandas possess an overall gut structure that is unique compared to other plant-eaters: the microorganisms in their gut are actually more similar to carnivorous than omnivorous bears. Their gut is also covered with a thick layer of mucus to protect against splinters.



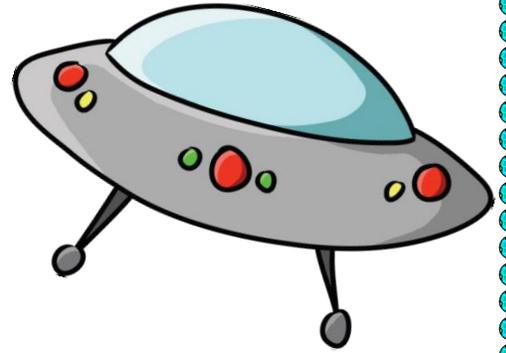
They may appear sedentary, but they are skilled tree-climbers and efficient swimmers.

PANDAS IN THE ZOO

In the Taipei Zoo, there are two pandas named Tuan Tuan and Yuan Yuan. They are adorable! Their names together, Tuan Yuan, means reunion. On July 6, 2013, Yuan Yuan gave birth to a baby panda, a girl named Yuan Zai. Yuan Zai is the first panda ever born in Taiwan!

An Extraterrestrial Dream

By Amelia Chief



“Come on, Leona!” Mom exclaimed. “You’re going to be late for Chinese school!”

Sigh. I wanted to learn Chinese, but who knew class was in a creepy building where an alien invasion had taken place? Scientific studies say that the aliens have long since disappeared, but still! Some people say that spooky faces appear out of nowhere!

I trudge to the bus stop. If only Mom could go with me, but it would seem cowardly to ask her. Cowardly?! Why am I worrying about my dignity when my life could be in danger? I climb on the bus and get off at 771 Spaceship Boulevard, where Chinese school is.



I tremble as I get off the bus. Eek! A shriek runs through me.

“Hi!” says Iris, my best friend from school. “Are you going to Chinese school?”

“Yes,” I reply.

“Me too!” she exclaims. “Let’s hope we’re in the same class.”

“Yeah!” I say brightly. “Then we can protect each other from the aliens.”

“You actually believe that legend?” Iris stares at me in disbelief.

“No, but I’m still scared,” I say, my heart thumping.

“Let’s go!” shouts Iris.

I run side by side next to her. My heart is still thumping. With every stride, I’m getting closer to being abducted by aliens!

In about five minutes, we arrive at a brick building. It looks like a dungeon. The clock says 1:58. I gasp. In the legend, the aliens crashed at 1:00, were forced to leave at 1:20, and secretly appeared again at 1:58!

“AAAAAAHHHHHHH!” I screamed.

Iris just stares at me.

Neigh! Neigh! That sounds like a horse! A horse with eight legs appears. Aliens!

“*Oh no!*” I think.

“Leona! It’s time to go to Chinese school!”

That’s Mom’s voice. Wait. Huh? How is that possible?

Mom is at home. I’m in Chinese school. The horse appeared, and...and... I try to run but there’s something on top of me. I open my eyes. My fuzzy pink blanket! Where am I?

“Do you want me to walk with you?” she asks. “I wouldn’t mind. The campus is really pretty.”

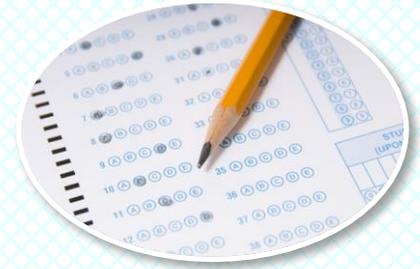
Oh! I get it now! It was all a dream.

“*Oh,*” I think. “*I predict Chinese school will be very fun.*”

And I was right. I had three hours of pure bliss. I love Chinese school!



SAT II Chinese and AP Chinese Exams Compared



By Catherine Li

Both the AP Chinese and SAT II Chinese exams show colleges your achievements in Chinese. Taking one of these exams can improve your chances of admission into competitive colleges.

Practice SAT 2 Chinese Exam will be provided in class at Westside Chinese School on 03/04/17.

SAT 2 Chinese Exam

- SAT 2 scores are recommended by many colleges, and required by some competitive colleges.
 - Total time: 60 minutes. Consists of 3 multiple choice sections. The listening section is 20 minutes long, while the reading and usage sections share a time block of 40 minutes.
1. **Listening Comprehension:** Tests the student's understanding of short statements and dialogues.
 2. **Usage Section:** Tests the ability to complete sentences logically. Both questions and answers are given in traditional Chinese, simplified Chinese, Pinyin, and Bopomofo. Students can choose the form that they are most comfortable with.
 3. **Reading Comprehension:** Tests your understanding of the themes, setting, and main ideas of passages. The passages are in both traditional and simplified Chinese, while the questions are in English.

AP Chinese Language and Culture Exam

- The AP Chinese Exam may allow students to earn college credit.
 - It tests understanding and usage of the Chinese language as well as knowledge about Chinese culture.
 - The AP Chinese Exam is administered on a computer.
 - The student may choose either Simplified or Traditional Chinese for reading and writing.
 - The student must be able to type with a keyboard and may choose between Microsoft Pinyin IME (MSPY) or Microsoft New Phonetic IME.
 - The Exam contains a multiple choice and a free response section:
1. **Multiple Choice:** Contains 30-35 questions in the listening portion, and 35-40 questions in the reading portion.
 2. **Free Response:** In the writing portion, the student is given a series of pictures and writes a story. Then the student reads and answers an email message. For the speaking portion, the student answers a series of questions and gives a presentation about Chinese Culture.