

Shanghai Livingston American School

Preparing students for academic and personal success.

580 Ganxi Road, Shanghai, China 200335 www.laschina.org

Upcoming Events and Important Dates Online 2017-2018 Calendar Available on the SLAS Website

Weekly Parent Update – June 23, 2017

In This Issue

- Graduation/Pro motion
- End of School Letter
- Summer School
- Updates

Important Information!

House Uniform ハウス T シャツ

毎週金曜日はハウス T シ ャツを着用するのを忘れな いようにお願いします。

SLAS Facebook

本校 Facebook ペー ジをご覧ください! www.facebook.com /shanghailas

GREEN LIFE

地球に優しい学校を SLAS は目指しています。 その活動の一環として、資 源の無駄遣いを減らすた め、紙コップの使用を減ら

June 6月

6/26-8/4-SLAS サマースクール

July 7月

6/26-8/4-SLAS サマースクール

August 8月

- 6/26-8/4-SLAS サマースクール
- 8/14-ニューファミリーオリエンテーション EY & PY: 1pm-2pm, Secondary 10am-11am, 5th Floor 講堂にて。 在校生家庭もご参加歓迎です。
- 8/14- G6-12 生徒スケジュール受け取り 10:00am-3:00pm
- 8/15-登校開始 School Begins

2017 SLAS Yearbooks

イヤーブックの在庫があります。購入希望の方は 109 室までご連絡 ください。価格は 1 冊 325 元です。

し、各自水筒を持参いただ くようお願いしています 。

Parents Badge

子供たちの安全を守るため、保護者の方が本校を 訪れる際は必ず保護者カ ードを身につけて入校してく ださい。

Lost and Found

落とし物置き場は 1 階財 務室西隣の 118 室です。 入口は屋外園庭側から。 担当は Ms.Sally です。落 とし物をお探しの場合は、 sallysun@laschina.or g までご連絡ください。

無記名の制服、水筒、筆 記具が見受けられます。今 一度持ち物に記名がされ ているかをご確認ください。 Congratulations to our Kindergarten Graduates, and promoted Grade 5 and Grade 8 students! K-G8卒業生の皆さん、おめでとうございます!



KindergartenA



Kindergarten B



Grade 5



Grade 8

※下記、別途メール送信しております。受信されていない方は日本語デスクへ ご連絡ください。

End of School Year Letter from our Head of Schools 学校長から年度末のおたより

Dear SLAS Parents,

Each new year brings the opportunity to start fresh and make new resolutions, all with the goal of self-improvement. During this time, I hope that you and your children will take time to reflect on the past year and to set goals for the year ahead. I should like to thank you for your support and to share with you a number of important changes for the 2017-2018 school year.

1. First day of school 2017

The first day of the 2017 -2018 school year is the 15th of August (Tuesday). Students are expected to report by **8:20** AM to their first period class. Our school calendar is included with this letter for your review. You may also always access information about important events on our school web page at www.laschina.org.

2. Secondary Homeroom - Wildcat Time

Wildcat time has proven to be an effective means for communicating important school information to secondary students. Secondary students should continue to report directly to their first period class each day. The first bell will ring at 8:15AM. The tardy bell will ring at 8:20 AM. Homeroom / Wildcat Time will be immediately after Block 1. The students will be grouped by Grade. Wildcat Time will be used by teachers to cover important events and pass out and collect important documents to and from students. Twice a week, students will have lessons to reinforce our school's Core Values. Since August 2016, each Wildcat class is required to have a class Wechat for sending reminders. Teachers will use homeroom time to check in with students about their classes and their integration into the school community.

3. Arrival and Departure

Students who arrive after 8:20 AM must report to the Registrar in Room 310 for a tardy pass. Four tardies will result in an absence. Students who need to leave campus early must receive a dismissal pass from Room 109 after this has been verified by either our School Liaisons/ Translators or Admissions staff.

4. Uniform Expectations

As of August 2014, students were required to be in full SLAS uniform. <u>All Students must</u> <u>wear the white or blue polo daily</u>. Non uniform shirts, sweat shirts, or sweaters may not be worn covering the uniform polo. Students must <u>wear solid colored, without print or</u> <u>designs,</u> khaki, dark navy blue or black skirts, dresses, shorts or pants for the bottom. Students may wear the <u>solid colored without print or designs</u>khaki, dark navy blue or black jeans without tears or holes. Students who forget to wear their uniform will have to purchase it from the finance office the same day, no exceptions. This rule is strictly enforced. Please help us prevent problems by making the necessary purchases in advance. **Uniforms are available for purchase now through Room 109 and will be sold at our**

uniform booth August 14th and 15th in the first floor Multi Purpose Room.

Students enrolled in PE, dance or gymnastic courses must purchase the PE uniform consisting of a gray t-shirt and black athletic shorts, black or gray hoodie and sweat bottoms. They should also wear the appropriate foot wear in order to prevent injuries. Street shoes may not be worn for dance classes. Students will lose points in their class if they do not change into the appropriate clothes. The cost of the PE uniform is 200 RMB, the cost of the sweat pants is 150 RMB and the cost of the hoodie is 300 RMB. All uniform pieces may be purchased at the Finance Office. **The PE uniform and hoodie may not be substituted for the polo**. The PE uniforms are available for purchase now through Room 109 and will be sold at our uniform booth August 14th and 15thin the first floor multipurpose room.

5. Update on VAT tax

We will not charge the VAT tax on Tuition, Lunch, and Bus fees for this coming school year. VAT tax will be added to all other charges such as uniforms and afterschool fees. If you need a fapio please notify our Admissions team. Please contact Mr. Carlton Lamb in Admissions with questions

6. School hours and schedule

Instruction will start at **8:20 AM**. Students are to go directly to their locker and then their first class each day. Our **end time is 3:45 PM**. We have increased the transition time to 10 minutes so students have enough time to go to their locker between classes and use the restrooms if necessary. We do expect students to arrive on time to their classes or they will be marked tardy.

7. SLAS use of Wechat

We have found the class Wechat to be very effective in communicating with parents and students. All Early Years and Primary Years homerooms will have class Wechat. It will be required for all parents to sign up and monitor for announcements and reminders from the teacher. The class Wechat is only to be used for school related business not for promoting personal beliefs. All Secondary Wildcat Homeroom classes will have Wechat accounts for the teacher to communicate with the students. It will be required for all students in grades 6-12 to sign up for the Wildcat Wechat.

8.Early Release

We will have professional development for all instructional staff on the following dates: September 27th, October 25th, November 29th, March 28th, April 25th and May 30^h. Students will be dismissed at **2:20 PM**. The objective of the "Early Release" day is to provide teacher teams a common meeting time to facilitate the development of a professional learning community at SLAS. The common meeting time will facilitate improved and focused instruction in the classroom thereby enhancing student learning. Specifically, the common meeting time will allow teachers to:

- Engage in professional dialogue.
- Collaborate in the development of instructional strategies.
- Analyze assessment data to guide instruction.
- Collaborate on differentiating instruction for students.

9. Update on Learning Resources/Practices

Throughout the year, we have added to both libraries. Based on requests from teachers and PTA, our Library Team has ordered more books expected to arrive from the United States this summer. Each year, we evaluate the condition of our textbooks replacing any that are damaged. This year, we did add purchased a new textbook for Algebra 2. Based on feedback from parents and students, we will change how we use Khan Academy and ALEKs, our math online programs. ALEKs will be used as an option for students who prefer submitting homework online. Khan Academy will be used to provide enrichment and reinforcement for students. Students taking the Chinese courses in both primary and secondary will need to purchase their class workbook. The cost of the workbook will be provided to the student on the first day of class. The workbook and class book is an incolor edition and consumable book that will forever belong to the student.

To continue to support our advanced placement classes, we have added new resources for students and teachers to include textbooks and technology resources. We have purchased many new hands on resources for the Early Year classes. We will continue to administer the Measurement of Academic Practice (MAP) to all students in grades K-12. This assessment will be administered by computer to measure the learning progress in English and Math. The test results will be available to teachers within 72 hours of the submission of the test by students. These results will be shared with students and families and used by teachers to plan instruction. The assessment will provide information on whether or not the students are making progress on the curriculum being taught by the teachers and is directly aligned to Common Core and WASC. We will continue to offer the PSAT to grade 9-11 students and SAT to grade 12 students. All grade 12 students are required to take the October SAT.

10. Update from WASC

In March 2016, we were visited by our accreditation commission Western Association for Schools and Colleges. The Visiting Team members were impressed with the progress our school has made in all areas. They reported to the accreditation commission in California that we had made significant growth on all areas recommended in their last two visits. *Based on their recommendation, SLAS was granted another full six years of accreditation. A new team will visit in three years to check our progress on our school action plan. This year, we have worked as a school to study how we meet our learners needs, using data to measure our student progress and help us reflect on how to improve our class room instruction.* Going forward, we will continue to examine how students learn, provide staff with professional development opportunities, work with SLAS community members to ensure that our school core values are evident in all our daily interactions with students, parents and staff members.

One of our recognized focus areas for the coming school year is improving our students' vocabulary. Based on recommendations from WASC, we will implement the use of the **Sadlier Oxford Vocabulary Workshop work book for all students in grades 6-12.** All students in secondary have received a vocabulary workbook from their English / ESL teacher that will be used throughout the school year. Teachers will integrate the study of the individual units throughout their weekly lessons. Please review the parent letter sent home Thursday June 15th for more information the rational of the new vocabulary workbook and how it will be used in the secondary classes.

11.House System

All new students are assigned a House as they enroll at SLAS. The purpose of the House system is to increase school spirit, have weekly meetings to discuss upcoming school

events, and promote discussions on the SLAS CORE values. Teachers are assigned as House Sponsors and will act as mentor throughout the year as needed if a student is having academic or behavior difficulty in their classes. Students are divided into the four existing houses: Red Lynx, Snow Leopards, Black Lions and White Tigers. Each House represents a different wildcat. New House images have been designed by the students and will be used to create new shirts for each House. New and returning students will be given a House shirt at the start of the school. *The cost for the new shirt will be 80 RMB*. The invoices for the fall semester included this fee. Please send a note to Alex Brown, our SLAS House coordinator. Students may only wear the **new shirt** on Friday's and for special events. This is a school wide initiative.

12. Primary and Secondary Years Fine Arts Program

Students in Grades 1-2 will learn various instruments to reinforce the concepts of rhythm, beats and percussion. Students in Grades 3 will learn the 8 key recorder. Students in Grade 4 will learn the ukulele. Students will learn how to read music and tune their instrument to develop their oral abilities and prepare them for instruments in 5th Grade. The recorder and ukulele may be purchased from school if assistance is needed. Students in Grade 5 will choose to take lessons in strings, percussion or wind / brass instruments. Our music teachers will work with grade 5 students twice a week. We do require students to also sign up for private lessons to further develop their skill. Students may sign up for extra tutoring with their music instrument teacher in our after school program. In grades 6-8, students will take music as a yearlong course. All middle school students will take music for a full year. They will learn general music as well as an instrument. In grade 6 and 7, students will continue with their selection from grade 5. Students in grades 3 and 4 will continue to take drama in place of dance. We are adding drama to our Fine Arts program in the primary program to help students develop their confidence and public speaking skills which are key components of our school core values.

13. Parent and SLAS ID badges

All parents and special designated family members and care givers were required to wear their SLAS ID badge with their photo. We request that all SLAS community members wear their badge when on campus. If you forget your badge, you may take a temporary card from the guard office at the front and back of the school. You do require you to sign in if you need to borrow the temporary badge so that we may keep track of our visitors. The first ID will be given to parents. Extended family members and care givers must pay 25 RMB per card. Replacement cards will cost 25 RMB.

14. Student Orientation

To start the 2017-18 school year off with success, we will offer **new and returning parents** a chance to attend a **SLAS Families Orientation** on Monday, August 14th. Our orientation will focus on:

- The Mission of SLAS.
- The 4 Core Values which are the focus for our evaluation of our students' progress.
- The academic courses taught at each level
- After school academic programs and activities open to students in elementary and secondary level.
- Information on how students should dress and academic expectations will be reviewed.
- How to sign in to Gradelink to check on my student's grades and attendance

In the morning, we will meet with middle and high school families from10:00-11:00 AM. The afternoon session for Early Years and Primary parents will be from 1:00-2:00PM. Afterwards, you may visit your child's class to meet the teacher. **Please do not send student's by themselves**. We will provide translators to assist.

15. Go Green Initiative

During the 2014 -15 school year, SLAS began a school wide recycling program. Each classroom was set up with a station for students and staff to separate their garbage. Large cans were placed in the hallway for collection. In the 2017-18 school year, SLAS is continuing our efforts to reduce our waste and be kinder to the environment. We will only provide disposable cups for use in the cafeteria. All students should bring their own water bottle to school each day. Our early years and primary classrooms will have class plants that they will be responsible for maintaining. This will be to learn about nature and work on increasing the plants in our environment that are responsible for cleaning toxins from the everyday air. At the start of the year, each classroom teacher in early years and primary years will send home details to parents in their welcome packet. Students and staff will work on integrating conservation and reducing their waste in other areas at school as well.

16. Secondary Student Schedules

On Monday, August 14th, secondary students should come to the school guidance office (Room 311) and pick up their class schedules between the hours of 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

As our student population grows, we are offering more Advanced Placement courses each year. We will continue to offer AP courses with a SLAS teacher and online depending on total enrollment for the course. In the event we do not have enough students sign up for the in house AP course, we will still offer the online class. Students who take on line AP classes will use the computer lab and be assigned a study hall in their schedule. A SLAS staff member will monitor the class providing technology support to students. The on line courses are taught by a certified teacher. There is no additional charge for online courses.

I would also like to remind you that if you have any issues or concerns regarding your child's education to make contact with us immediately. We always do our very best to resolve any issues.

17. Summer Reading

Students entering Kindergarten through Grade 12 are assigned a summer reading project. The assignment has been carefully considered by the teacher in preparation for the next school year. All students should complete the assigned projects and submit to the classroom teacher. The assignment will be graded and added to the Quarter 1 and Trimester 1 final average. Students who enroll after August 1st will arrange the due date with their English teacher. Students who enroll after September 1st are not required to complete the summer reading project.

18. School Supplies

Students will be provided classroom supplies for the beginning of the school year. Secondary teachers may have special requests which must be purchased by the individual students and will be listed on course syllabus. After the first set of supplies is consumed, **ALL** students will have to replace those items as specified by their classroom teachers.

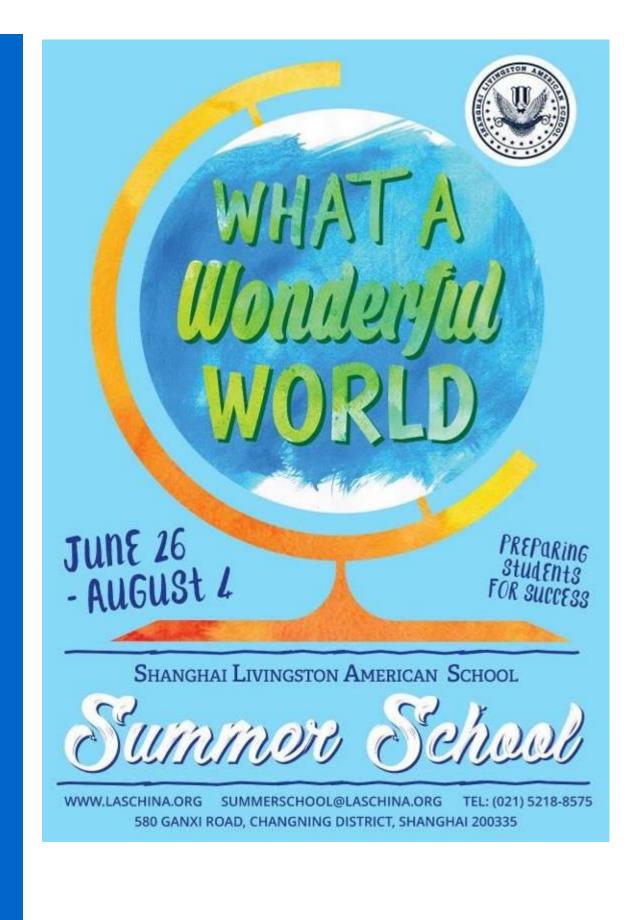
19. End of the Year Surveys

We are constantly reflecting back and evaluating our academic and support programs at SLAS. We ask your assistance in providing feedback on this survey to help us understand different aspects of the parent/school relationship. Our students and teachers have already completed their surveys. Please take the time to answer our survey questions as we value your input. The survey link are:

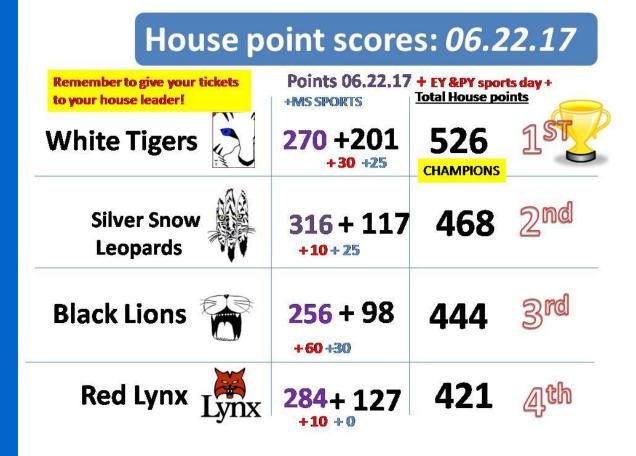
English - https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7VZC6GN Chinese - https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/79FDSXP Korean - https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7WWRC9Q Japanese - https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7CWBGTT

Thank you,

Faustina Martinez M.A..Ed Head of Schools Shanghai Livingston American School



Updates



PLEASE JOIN our SLAS WeChat



SLAS Administration