

JAN  
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# THE WOLF CUB

VOLUME 1  
ISSUE 2

*Middle School Magazine*



## In this Issue

Science Fair  
Winter Performance  
End of School Trip  
Thanksgiving  
Christmas Party

BROUGHT TO YOU BY 8TH GRADE WRITING





# A Note from the Vice-Principal

Dear Middle Schoolers,

Congratulations on a great first semester! HAS, you've been awesome. From staying up all night at Lock-In to performing on stage in front of 100+ people, to doing back flips off giant trampolines, we created some unforgettable moments this quarter. The grade eights had an awesome time reliving all the memories as we put together the second issue of the Middle School Magazine. We hope you enjoy reading it as much as we liked creating it.

As we move into second semester, I encourage you to stick to our Middle School values. Remember to respect yourself, respect others and respect the environment. Be humble, generous, honest and kind. I am so excited for what second semester will bring for us. Aren't you?

*Ms. Chen*

*Your Future Begins Here*

## IN THIS ISSUE

- 03** Lock-In
- 04** Thanksgiving
- 05** Science Fair
- 06** Winter Performance
- 07** Christmas Party
- 08** End of Year Trip
- 09** Final Exams & Study Tips
- 10** Holiday Focus: CNY
- 13** Teacher and Student Q&A
- 15** Teacher Spotlight: Ms. Reep
- 16** Just for Fun: Crosswords, Did You Know? & Student Art Work

# HAS Lock In

Lock In was held on November 10-11, 2017. Lock-In is many students' favorite activity in the school year because they can play video games and stay up all night long! I like Lock-In because we got to play games with all of our teachers.

On November 10, at the end of the school day, many students went home to shower and change, getting ready for a night of fun. We came back to school at 5:00PM and the middle school students played lots of fun games like Hot Seat and Kahoot. We even got to play Musical Snake with the high school students! At 6:00PM, we all ate dinner, and had lots of yummy pizza and snacks. After dinner, we had choice rooms where we got to play video games, watch movies and just hang out with our friends. At 9:30PM, the entire school went outside to see the campfire and watch the fireworks.

My favorite activity was playing video games all night long, because we didn't have to sleep. During the night time, the 8th graders played Mario Kart, watched movies, and played card games with Ms.Chen. The 6th and 7th grade boys played computer games all night long. I'm so surprised because some people didn't sleep at all! In the morning, when we went to BI to eat breakfast, everyone was very exhausted and tired! We had such a great time at Lock-In this year!

by Kevin (8)





# Thanksgiving Potluck



On November 24, 2017 at Hsinchu American School, we hosted a large Thanksgiving feast. At the feast every grade needed to bring different types of food and each family brought a dish to share. The 5th and 6th graders were assigned to bring desserts and beverages. The 7th and 8th graders were assigned to bring side dishes. The high school was responsible for western main dishes and eastern main dishes.

Before we went to enjoy our Thanksgiving feast, in the morning, we had Student Success Workshops where we learned about some things that we normally don't learn at school.

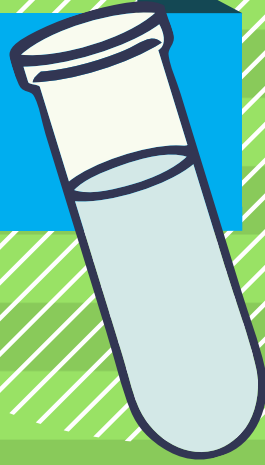
After those unique, but important lessons we finally went downstairs to enjoy our Thanksgiving feast. The parents and special guests went to get their food first. Then the 5th and 6th graders went then the 7 graders then the 8 grader and so on. There were lots of types of food in the feast like stir fried veggies, braised meat, soft drinks, desserts and of course lots of turkey! After everyone finished the brilliant feast, the middle school went to the third floor to play games like Pie Face and Chubby Bunny with the middle school teachers, and the high school went out to play Capture the Flag and American football. In conclusion, Thanksgiving went very well and we thank everyone who brought the food and made it. We would also like to thank the people who planned the Thanksgiving schedules for making this whole event possible.

by Andrew (8)





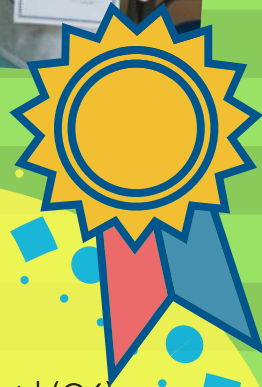
# SCIENCE FAR 2017



Every December, Hsinchu American School hosts its annual Science Fair. The Science Fair is a competition that both high school students and middle school students compete in. All students find a topic that they are interested in, and then complete experiments, and research more information about it. After few months of preparations, every student must present their experiments and findings to a group of three judges. Everybody participates in the judging and sometimes you even have to present to other students and parents. After the Science Fair, Mr. Maginn announced the winners during Monday assembly. All the winners received a medal and the PTA award for Most Improved received a 500NT gift certificate to Sogo!



By Tanya (8)



## 1st Place:

Chris (G7) and David (G6)

## 2nd Place

Brenda (G7) and Kiki (G5)

## 3rd Place

Brian (G8) and Ikuno (G6)

## Honorable Mention Award Winners

Tanya (G8) and Mina (G5).

## The PTA Award for Most Improved

Mina (G5).



# Winter Performance

Winter Performance is an annual show for Hsinchu American School which takes place in December each year. In this show, students can discover their new talents that haven't found yet. This show helps us to develop this talent and gives us the chance to show others. Every grade lead by their teachers, different clubs, and even a group of teachers performed this year! All parents were invited to come watch and the school provided snacks and dinner while the Parent Teacher Association provided hot drinks!

Winter Performance ran from 6PM-8PM but students were required to stay for rehearsal. To start the show, some clubs like Rock Band and Dance club performed some great songs and dances. The middle school performed after that. The fifth and sixth graders were awesome in their performance of the Lion King. The seventh grade performed a dance medley with lots of popular songs. Finally, the grade eights dressed up like a rainbow and they sang Count on me by Bruno Mars. After the middle school performed, the high school grades also put on great shows like singing, acting and hip hop dance. The teachers and Student Council ended off the night with dances of their own. Winter Performance was a great success this year. Thank you to all the performers and teachers as well as the parents for coming to watch!

by Andy (8)



# Christmas Party



On December 21, 2017, HAS students and teachers reunited together to celebrate Christmas. Christmas is a holiday celebrated in the Western world, commemorating the birth of Jesus Christ. It is a religious and cultural celebration all over the world.

To celebrate Christmas, the Middle School Student Council threw a party in the cafeteria. One of the most exciting and surprising part of the party was the Secret Santa gift exchange. Every student who joined the gift exchange was assigned a friend to bring a gift worth 300NT for. Some students got books, someone got a pair of headphones and one student even got a badminton racket. Everybody really enjoyed it!

After the gift exchange, students participated in an American Christmas tradition, building gingerbread houses! All the students split up into pairs and got graham crackers, M&Ms, Skittles, gummy candies and lots of icing to build their houses. Each house that built was creative, beautiful and special. Andy and Sean built a wall, Andrew Kim and Ethan built a White House replica and Andrew Kao and Kerdis built a small European-style house. Mr. Maguire and Ms. Phenix judged all the houses and chose a first place winner and Brenda and Tanya won a yummy prize!

Christmas party was an interesting activity for all of the students and teachers and everyone had a lot of fun.  
HAS wishes you a Merry Christmas!

by Brian (8)





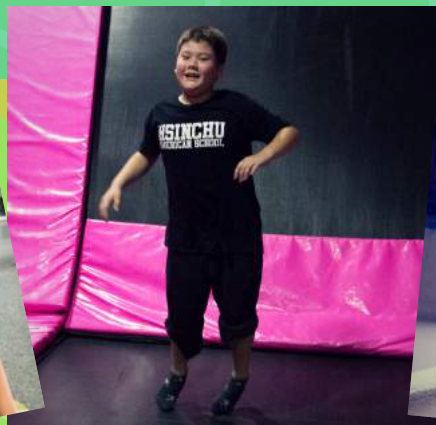
# End of Year School Trip



The end of year school year trip was held on December 22nd, 2017. The entire middle school along with the teachers went on the fun trip to Ninja Factory, a trampoline park. All of the people there had a lot of fun jumping off the walls and into foam pits. There was even a section where students could play basketball and dunk the ball in the hoop. I think the best part about the trampoline park is the ninja obstacle course, where students challenged themselves with monkey bars, rope swinging and balance beams. After the trampoline park, the middle school students went on the bus and ate a yummy Subway sandwich

All of the students finished their subs on the bus and then got dropped off at the National Museum of Science. At the museum, there were a lot of different activities, like the section of Chinese history and the history of the dinosaurs. Everyone had a lot of fun and when they were done, they went to the McDonald's in the museum to get a snack. After the trip, everyone went back to the school where they were picked up by their parents to go home on a wonderful Winter vacation.

by Ethan (8)

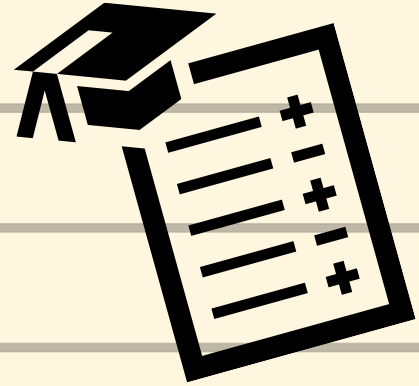




# FINAL EXAMS

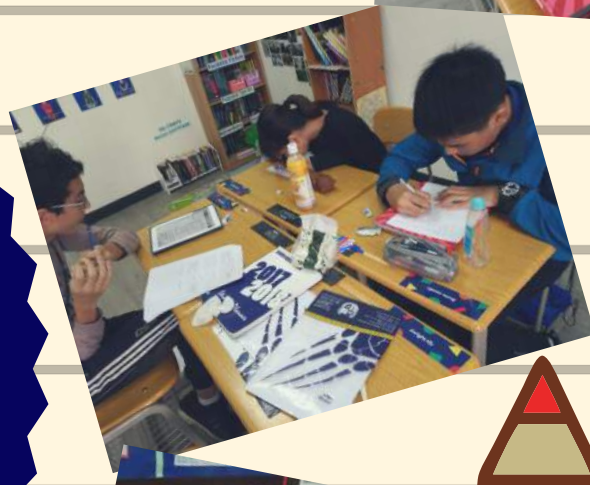
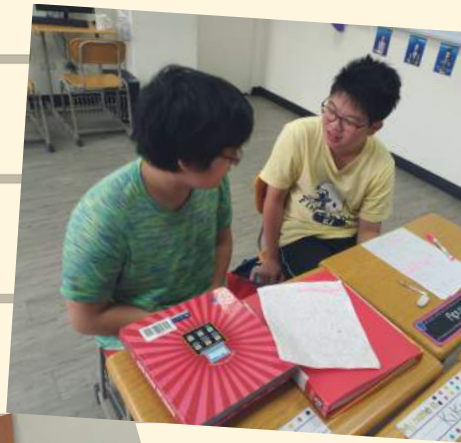
## & Study Tips

At the end of each semester, all students at HAS take final exams in their literature, writing, math, science and history classes. The exams test the student how well they know the material taught in that class. It is not an easy test and students have to study and review a lot in order to pass the tests. It is important to do well on the exams, because getting a bad grade on the exams can lower your grade while getting a good grade on them can improve your grade. For the classes that don't have exams, the teacher sometimes has a project or a presentation. Here are some study tips for reviewing for your final exams!



by Sean (8)

1. Read textbook sections
2. Review notes daily
3. Ask the teacher or your classmates if you have questions
4. Look up words that you don't know
5. Don't eat and study at the same time
6. Study in a well-lit, clean, quiet area



# Chinese New Year



Chinese New Year, is on February 16, 2018, the first day of the lunar calendar this year. It is the busiest and the happiest time of the year for many people of Asian descent. Every family will celebrate by eating reunion dinner together. Chinese New Year is a significant and interesting part of Chinese culture.



Chinese New Year festival is many centuries old and the origins come from several myths and customs. During Chinese New Year, people tell many myths and old stories. There are many legends that are part of the Chinese culture. One of these famous story is “Nián”

A long time ago, there had a monster called “Nián” who lived in the mountains. On the first day of every year, the creature would wake up to find something to eat. He would eat all the living things. And if there were any children stuck outside, they would also disappear. The villagers lived in fear. One year, right before this event was to occur, an old man visited the village. He turned to the villagers and tried to help them. He said “The Nián is easily scared. He does not like the color red. He fears loud noises. So tonight, spread red across the village. Hang red signs on every door. Make loud noises with drums, music, and fireworks. And to protect your children, give them face masks and lanterns to protect them.” Ever since then, every New Year, people follow that wise old man’s instructions, to set off firecrackers, and stick red signs outside the house.





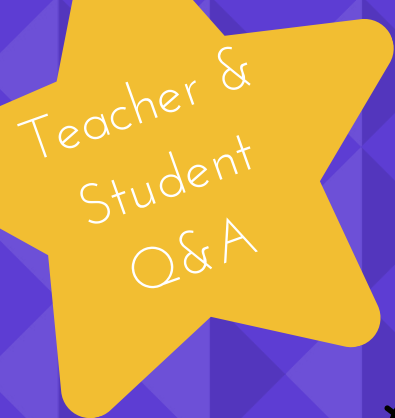
Chinese New Year is always the most exciting festival for children because they can get a lot of red envelopes from their elders. Red envelopes are filled with money! Chinese people love the color red and see red as the symbol of energy, happiness, and good luck. Sending red envelopes is a way to send good wishes and luck to other people. In fact, the significance of red envelopes is the red paper, not the money. Wrapping money in the red envelopes is a symbol that sends more happiness and blessings to the recipient. In Chinese culture, red envelope is called Ya Sui Qian (壓歲錢), which means 'suppressing ghosts money'. Those who get a red envelope are wished another safe and peaceful year.

The important part of Chinese New Year must be the food! During the Chinese New Year parties, there is more food that we can count. Traditionally, every food has a different meaning, which are very interesting. The most common Chinese New Year foods include dumplings, fish, spring rolls, and sticky rice cake (nian gao). Dumplings and spring rolls symbol wealth. Eating fish can increase prosperity and eating nian gao wishes that everybody can have a higher income or a higher position and that children will grow taller. You should try all of them!

From setting off firecrackers, sticking red paper signs, to New Year's reunion dinners, giving and receiving red envelopes, everything during Chinese New Year has their own symbolic meanings. These are all traditions passed down from our ancestors. Next time, if you have the opportunity, celebrate the New Year with a Chinese family. That will be an interesting experience for you!

by Brian and Kevin (8)





# QUESTION: WHAT IS YOUR NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION?



**Don't sweat the small stuff.**  
-Ms. Burden

**To jog and exercise more!**  
-Ms. Doris



**To improve my Chinese!**  
- Mr. Clark



**To become more organized and have fun every day!**  
-Ikuno (6)



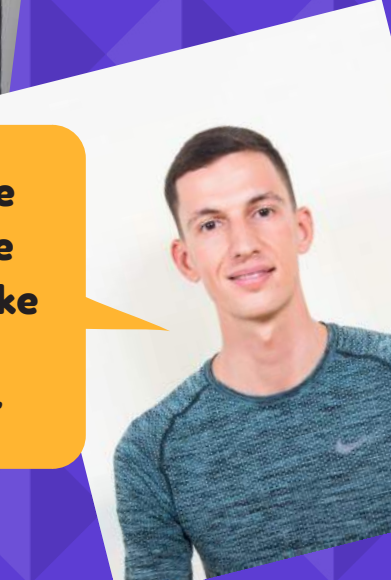
**To improve my volleyball skills**  
- Evelyn (7)



**Learn how to play guitar**  
-Erwyn (6)



**To improve my Chinese and win a bike race!**  
-Mr.Hilder







## Teacher Spotlight

INTRODUCING

# MS. REEP



On January 10, 2018, Andrew and Ethan interviewed Ms. Reep. Ms. Reep is the Humanities Department Chair and she teaches 6th Grade Literature and Writing as well as 7th Grade Literature and Writing. Let's see what they found out about Ms. Reep!

**Ethan:** Hi Ms. Reep! I am here to interview you for the Middle School Magazine. How are you doing?

**Ms.Reep:** I'm great. How are you?

**Ethan:** I'm doing just fine. So I am now going to ask you a series of questions and you can decide if you wanted to answer them or not.

**Andrew:** Number one, why did you become a teacher?

**Reep:** I became a teacher because I think education is important, and I think teaching students to read and write is a valuable life skill that I really care about.

**Ethan:** What grade is the most fun to teach?

**Ms.Reep:** My favorite grade to teach is actually eighth grade, which I have never taught at HAS, but I do enjoy eighth graders the most.

**Andrew:** Do you like sports?

**Ms.Reep:** I don't like to watch sports very much because I'm not interested in team sports but I like swimming and I like to do yoga.

**Ethan:** What are your favorite books?

**Ms.Reep:** One of my favorite book series is The Hunger Games. I think they are very exciting, and full of a lot of different genres and story lines and it's also great for students.

**Ethan:** How about movies?

**Ms.Reep:** I can't choose just one favorite movie but I prefer dramas. That's my favorite genre of movie.

**Andrew:** What is your favorite song?

**Ms.Reep:** I also don't have one favorite song but a song I like alot is "Sorry" by Justin Bieber.

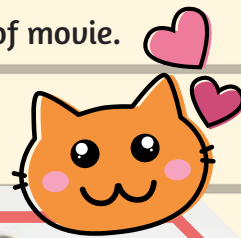
**Ethan:** If you could eat dinner with anyone, who would it be and why?

**Ms.Reep:** My family on my dad's side. My ancestors are 100% Icelandic so I think it would interesting to have dinner with my great great grandmother and ask her about our family's heritage.

**Andrew:** What advice would you give to people who are learning English for the first time?

**Ms.Reep:** Well, that is a good question. I think learning a new language is always very challenging. So don't give up, practice a little everyday, and I think watching movies or shows in English helps a lot. And trying your best even if you are afraid you might sound silly.

**Ethan:** Ok, thank you and bye!







# Student Artwork

Mandalas are used in many cultures and religions. The students in 7th and 8th grade visual arts were tasked with creating a national mandala. Each mandala will represent a country and all that the country has to offer. First, students researched their country of choice, found images that connect that nation's history and most popular events, places or food. Next, the students had to create a visual collage and fit their images on a tiny pie slice of the mandala. Last, 7th and 8th graders had to trace and retrace the images into a circular formation. Finally each student had a unique version of a travel brochure that teaches the other students about their country. Congratulations to the five students whose work is being shown in the Magazine, they went above and beyond to represent their country of choice!

Sean Bos



by Ms. Phenix

## 7th & 8th Grade Mandalas

Kalani Salas



Evelyn Lin



Brenda Hsiao

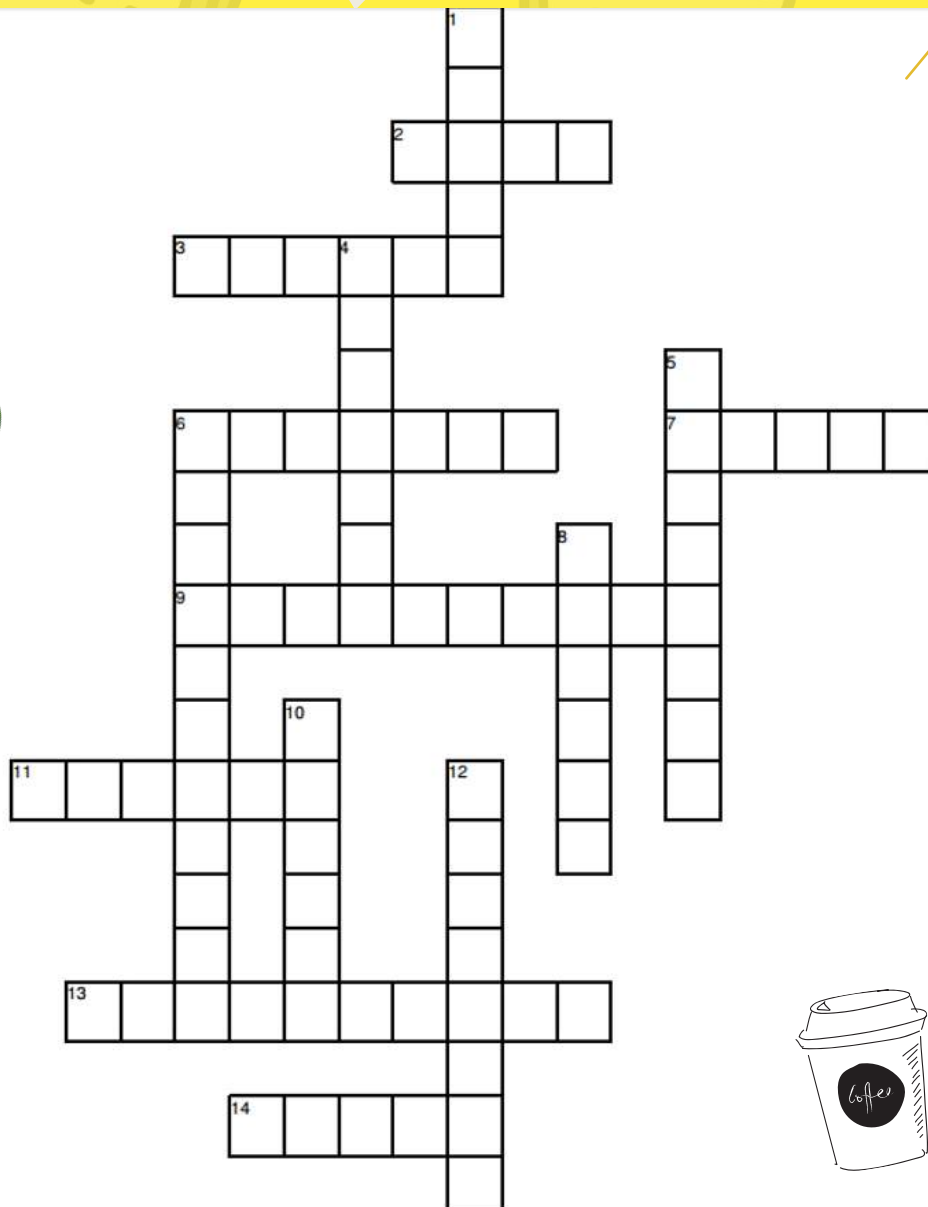


Tanya Hsiao





# JUST FOR FUN



## Across

2. HAS mascot
3. Mr. Donnelly's favorite drink
6. Country where Mr. Hilder comes from
7. Team sport that Ms. Burden played in university
9. Number of students in middle school
11. Number of brother & sister pairs/trios at HAS
13. City where Mr. Clark is from
14. Color of Mr. Staples's eyes

## Down

1. Fourth symbol on HAS logo (sports, book, music notes and....?)
4. Number of boys in middle school
5. Head of HAS
6. Mr. Maguire's middle name
8. Ms. Reep's cat's name
10. National animal of Mr. Staples and Ms. Chen's home country
12. Breed of Ms. Chen's dog



# Did You Know?

## WORD WISE

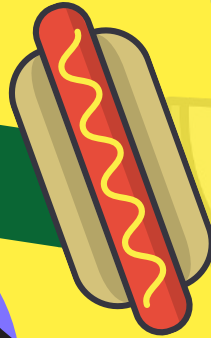
The little dots on dice and dominos are called pips



## Cool Science

### SALIVA

You need saliva to taste food!  
Your spit has to dissolve the food before your taste buds can get to work!



### MEOW!

Cats have 32 muscles in each ear!



OTTERLY  
AMAZING



Sea otters hold hands when they sleep so they don't drift away from each other.

## TECH SPACE

The "Like" button on Facebook was originally called the Awesome button



Like



40 BILLION

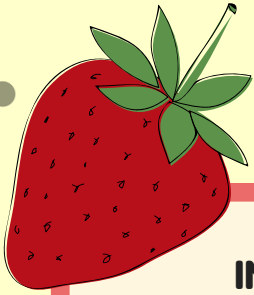
The number of connected Lego bricks it would take to reach the moon!



A PINEAPPLE ISN'T A SINGLE PIECE OF FRUIT - IT'S A GROUP OF BERRIES FUSED TOGETHER.

from the

# The Wolf Kitchen



## INGREDIENTS

**12 graham cracker squares**

**½ cup cream cheese**

**1 cup strawberries, sliced**

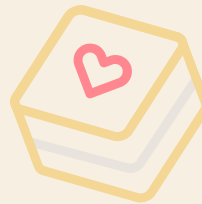
**Honey**



**Strawberry  
Cheesecake  
Bites**

## PREPARATION

- 1. Spread cream cheese onto each graham cracker.**
- 2. Top with strawberries.**
- 3. Drizzle with honey.**
- 4. Enjoy!**





# Looking Forward

*to quarter three!*

**In our next issue....**

**Chinese New Year  
Sports Day  
History Fair  
Spring Break  
Easter Party  
& Monthly Values**

