

# The Westside Breeze

## 西風

西區中文學校

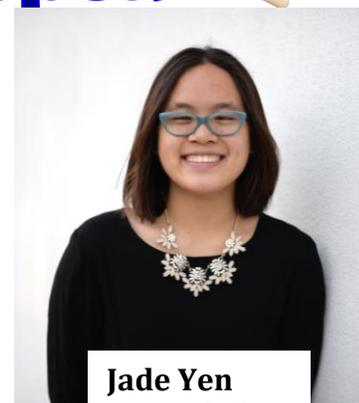


## Senior Snippets



大家好，我是閻玠璋。四歲就開始上西區中文學校，曾參加過各種比賽。除了學會聽、說、寫，也還學過民族舞蹈、中國歷史及中國畫。我還在學校教手工藝課。

明年我會去 UC Berkeley 上大學。我會繼續學中文和中國文化。也希望能用中文交新朋友及吃遍北加州的中國菜。最後，我要謝謝每一位西區中文學校的師長，有你們的教誨，才会有今日的我。



**Jade Yen**  
UC Berkeley

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From the age of 4 I started going to Westside Chinese School, and have thus participated in many different Chinese contests and events. In addition to learning how to understand, speak, and write in Chinese, I also learned Chinese cultural dances, Chinese history, and Chinese books. I also teach a handicrafts class there. When I was younger, I asked my parents why I had to wake up at 8 AM every Saturday morning to go to Chinese School. They always said, "You are Chinese, you need to know a little about the Chinese culture and language." I didn't understand their point at the time. Other kids could go to birthday parties or soccer practice, while I had to go to Chinese School. I wondered why I had to learn two languages while other kids only had to know one. Growing up in West Los Angeles, there weren't many Chinese kids. I always thought learning Chinese made me different from the other kids, but over time I saw how useful Chinese was. I could order food in Chinese places, make a new set of friends, and speak to my Chinese friends and family. I realized my parents' meaning as well as my own: learning Chinese didn't make me weird, it made me cool.

I will be attending UC Berkeley in the fall. There, I will continue learning Chinese and Chinese culture. Also, I hope to use my knowledge of Chinese to make new friends and order all of the Chinese food the Bay Area has to offer.

Lastly, I would like to thank every teacher at Westside Chinese School. I have become the person I am under their instruction.



**Rosalind Niu**  
Mount Saint Mary's University  
Nursing B.S.

在經過十二年的歲月之後，離別的時候到了。最後兩年我由學生成為了助教。我很榮幸有這個機會幫助像我一樣的年輕學子學習中文。在西區中文學校不只學到了中文這個語言，還增加了許多中國文化的知識，認識了許多好朋友和老師，實在獲益良多。謝謝大家陪著我一起成長。

After a long but worthwhile 12 years with Westside Chinese School, it pains me to finally be leaving. Having been a student for ten years and a teacher's assistant for two years, I was grateful for the chance to help teach kids that are in the exact same place I once was. During my time here, I have learned so much about not only the Chinese language but the culture as well. The friends, teachers, and mentors I had the privilege of meeting are ones that I will never forget.



**Helen Lu**  
**Northwestern University**  
**Anthropology**

我从五岁就开始上中文学校了。那时候，我最喜欢和中文学校的朋友在外面玩耍。老师让我们在教室里大声的读书，练习写字，和对话。可是我在中文学校不只是学到了中国的文字和语言，更重要是学到了很多中国的传统文化和历史知识。这些年来我学会了怎么样写毛笔字，跳舞，和打武术，特别是我参加中国历史课。我还记得每星期天早上在魏老师家复习中国历史，准备考中国历史文化常识比赛。我想谢谢我的老师，父母，和朋友这么多年来给我的付出和帮助。

I've been attending Chinese school since I was five years old. My early years were filled with laughter, from running around the playground with my friends to learning how to speak, read, and write Chinese in class. But Chinese school taught me a lot more than just Chinese characters and culture, it taught me to be proud of my Chinese heritage.

Throughout the years, I attended Chinese calligraphy, dance, and WuShu classes along with the Westside Breeze and Chinese History Bee classes. What I'll remember about Chinese school more than anything is preparing for the Chinese History Bee at Teacher Wei's home. I can still remember the awe I felt in learning all the stories detailing China's thousands of years of history. I would like to thank all the teachers and students here at Chinese school that contributed to my growth as a person. Thank you for being a part in shaping my identity as a Chinese-American.



**Eric Huang**  
**University of Southern California**  
**Viterbi School of Engineering**

西區中文學校對我來說是一個改變生活的體驗。通過它，我遇到了很多人，他們在我的生活中扮演重要的角色。中文學校教會我的不僅僅是一門語言，也讓我了解到我的文化，而且是通過有趣的活動，如中國新年的園遊會和表演、以及春季音樂會。我最喜歡的一個回憶是在一場結業典禮時，決定上台加入一首歌曲的演出。另一個重要的記憶是我在小班時遇到的同學們，因為他們大多成了我的好朋友。西區中文學校幫助我成為今天的我;事實上，它可能是我童年最大的影響之一。我當課外活動的老師教小朋友繪畫和向 Mr. Arthur Hsu 學習動態網頁編程的經驗是我通過中文學校才得到的，我深表感謝。我認為這是一個獨特且有價值的成長機會，我希望它繼續傳播下去。我想感謝老師們和自願投入他們的時間給學校的家長們，才讓我們有現在這樣好的中文學校。

Attending Westside Chinese School for me was a life changing experience. Through it, I met many people who played important roles in my life and taught me more than just a language. I learned about my culture through fun activities like the Chinese New Year festivals and performances and the Spring Concerts. One of my favorite memories was deciding to join in on a song during the end of the year performance. Another important memory is the first time I met my classmates in kindergarten, as most of them became close friends. Westside Chinese School helped me become who I am today; in fact it is probably one of the biggest influences on my childhood. The experience of being an EC teacher to teach little kids art and learning dynamic webpage coding from Mr. Arthur Hsu are things that I got through Chinese school and am deeply appreciative of. I think that it is a unique and worthwhile opportunity for growth and I hope that it continues to spread. I'd like to thank the teachers and the parents who have volunteered their time to the school and made it what it is today.

**SCHUYLER HA, M.A., LMFT**  
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## 學校發展概況

我們學校的名稱是南加州中文學校，又稱西區中文學校。由孫增堯、王積青夫婦、喻念祖、魏青毅夫婦等 6 個在 UCLA 研究所就讀的臺灣留學生家庭，為下一代的中文教育，於 1967 年在西洛杉磯創立，是南加州新僑創辦的第一所中文學校。創校之初，學生輪流在 6 個家庭上課。後來因為人數增加，遂改向 Redeemer Baptist Church 租借教室上課。學校草創之際，凡事都由每月第一個星期六的家長會議決定，並未設立校長一職，何時建立校長制度已無從考察。早期全校只開一班，由學生家長陶天放任教。第一節課 9:10 至 10:10，全體學生上會話課；第二節課，年長學生在室內讀寫中文，年幼學生在室外玩遊戲或做勞作；第三節課 11:20 到 12:00，年長學生與年幼學生互換。採用耶魯大學出版社發行的中文課本。1969 年因學生人數增至 20 人，轉至 Mar Vista Recreation Center 的球場上課。1977 年楊文澤正式為學校定名為南加州中文學校。1981 年 10 月趙蜀剛博士代表學校向加州政府申請登記，1982 年成為被政府認可的非營利學校，同年並完成學校的最高法典。1983 年施超及陳景虹教授夫婦與洛杉磯學區簽約，進駐 Palms Middle School。2008 年因翻修校舍而遷校至 Mar Vista Elementary School。2014 年 9 月因停車問題再度遷校至 Grandview Boulevard Elementary School。

## 學校校徽

圖一



圖二



圖三



最初校徽如圖一，因家長們覺得一隻海鷗太嫌孤單，1993 年黃授良校長將校徽加以改變，成為圖二，兩隻海鷗一大一小，不再孤單，也有傳承的意味。另外，校徽中的 6 個波浪也象徵 6 個創校的家庭。2011 年閻興校長依照校徽設計競賽優勝圖案，修飾成新的校徽見圖三。

## 學校的代表色

學校代表色為藍色及黃色。因創校者都是 UCLA 的研究生，故沿用 UCLA 的校色。

## 學校圖書館

80 年代起，學校每年都撥款購買中文書籍和影片，經過十來年的經營，藏書已初具規模，於 1990 年設立圖書館，供學生及家長借閱。家長需預繳 \$20 押金，每本書租費 \$1。押金與租費在 2000 年代初期取消。

## 家庭編號

最初學生名單是手寫的。每年更新時將離校學生除名，未保留畢業或離校學生資料。名單以姓氏的英文字母排列，與入校時間無關。1993 年黃授良校長將學生名單電腦化，並賦予家庭編號，作為追蹤學生及家庭動態的依據。為維持舊學生的編號不變，前 170 多號仍依學生姓氏排列，新生家庭編號則改由入校時間排列。

## 學校校歌

2007 年王永權任校長時，學校已頗具規模，獨缺校歌，由教務副校長呂旻原以羅大佑的「童年」為旋律，創作「西區中文學校的一日。。。」作為校歌。

## 華人運動會

南加州中文學校聯合會協辦華人運動會已達 26 年之久。參賽人數曾高達兩三千人。西區中文學校是唯一每年參與的學校。2015 年，學校派出的運動選手不多，卻勇奪運動會的總冠軍，這是十多年來的第一次，因而 2016 年的運動會上，閻玠璋及那大衛得以代表全體運動員持聖火繞場一周。

This year, more than a dozen Chinese schools from Southern California competed against each other in the track and field events. At the start of the meet, there was a grand opening ceremony with each school parading with their school banners. All the student athletes were dressed in various school t-shirts representing their respective schools. These students were signed-up to compete in three events of their choice: 50 meters, 100 meters, 200 meters, 400 meters, high jump, running board jump, standing board jump, shot put throw, and softball throw. In addition, there were group relays: 400 meters and 800 meters. The top three winners of each event received a medal. The race of a 100 meters was the only race that rewarded the athletes with money. The first place winner for each age division of the 100 meters received \$100 in prize money. If that winner also happened to break the 100-meter-track record, that athlete would also win an additional \$1,000 prize money.

Our school, Chinese Language School of Southern California (C.L.S.S.C.), had 35 students and 9 parents participate this year at Walnut High School. Our students won over 70 medals and the parents won 11 medals. Each medal was awarded service points; a gold medal would earn 3 service points, a silver would earn 2 service points, and a bronze would earn 1 service point. In total, the athletic medals helped the girls win first place for overall track and third place for overall field. Way to go girls!

Besides medals and service points, the students and their parents had fun socializing and eating delicious Chinese lunches provided for by our school. We hope more families will participate next year.

## 南加州海華運動會

今年,有超過一打的南加州的華文學校在田徑場上互相比賽。運動會一開始舉行了盛大的開幕儀式,各校撐起了各自的名牌,各校運動員學生穿著各色校服代表著他們敬愛的學校。這些學生登記了三種層次的選擇:項目有 50 公尺, 100 公尺, 200 公尺, 400 公尺徑賽, 跳高, 跳遠, 立定跳遠, 鉛球, 壘球等田賽。還有接力賽跑: 400 公尺, 800 公尺等。每一項目比賽的頭三名都會頒發給獎牌。唯有 100 公尺賽跑項目的得獎運動員會領到現金獎賞。100 公尺賽跑項目中的每一年齡組的第一名都會領到 100 美元獎金。如果這一位小朋友運動員還打破了大會紀錄,那麼他還會贏得額外的 100 美元獎金。

我們學校,南加州洛杉磯西區中文學校(西區中文)今年有 35 名學生 9 名家參加了在沃納高中舉行的賽會, 我校同學贏得 70 面獎牌, 家長參與的比賽項目贏得 11 面獎牌。 我校為鼓勵參與, 每一獎牌都計算給西區中文家長服務點數: 金牌三點, 銀牌兩點, 銅牌一點, 總計: 本次比賽我校女生得到獎牌總數贏得大會徑賽第一名, 同時在所有田賽項目中得到第三名。女生加油!

除了滿抱的獎牌大把的點數, 同學和他們的家長們享受了社交的樂趣, 還有我們學校提供的豐富的午餐。大家都希望明年有更多的家庭參與。

西風雜誌小記者: 張婉玲



4



# GOLD MEDAL WINNERS

\* = Parent

## 50 Meters

Ryan Hong  
Lavinia Walkins

## 100 Meters

Nathan Chu  
Ryan Hong  
Owen Huang  
Stella Paz  
Ethen Walker  
Lavinia Walkins  
Jennifer Zhang

## 200 Meters

Summer Chang  
Albert Huang\*  
Lydia Qin

## 400 Meters

Huang Owen  
Lydia Qin  
Sierra Durkee  
Jade Yen

## Running Board Jump

Charles Yang  
Jade Yen

## Standing Board Jump

Vincent Li

## Shot Put

Xiaoyu Liu\*  
John Zhang\*

## Soft Ball Throw

Sierra Durkee

## 400 Meters Relay

Summer Chang  
Jade Yen  
Jennifer Zhang  
Maggie Wang

## 800 Meters Relay

Grace Chang  
Summer Chang  
Sadie Kaufman  
Stella Paz

Lydia Qin  
Julie Wang  
Maggie Wang  
Emily Zhang

## 400 Meters Relay

Daniel Naryshev  
David Naryshev  
Victor Qin  
Charles Yang

Michael Niu  
Lucas Wang



# Top 3 Tourist Attractions in China You May Not Have Heard About

## 三個最美的中國旅遊聖地, 你應該去觀光

By Sebastian Lee

### 1. The Terraces of Longji 龍脊梯田



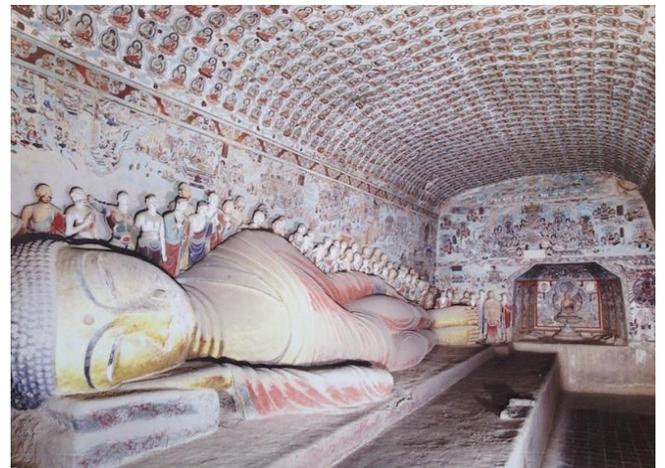
The terraces of Longji, built during the Ming Dynasty by the Chinese, were used for rice agriculture. In English, its name means Dragon's Backbone, which is what the shape of the terraces looks like. From a distance, you can see the beauty of the terraces. Visitors can meander through the fields and villages.

龍脊梯田是在明朝時由中國農夫修建的, 用來種植水稻的田地. 把山坡用人力脩成一台階, 一台階的農田, 方便引水流下, 遠看像龍的脊背. 觀光客可到田裡玩. 龍脊梯田在广西龙胜各族自治县。

### 2. Mogao Caves 莫高窟

The Mogao Caves, located along the Silk Road, is known for its early Buddhist cave art. These Mogao Grottoes feature murals painted on cave walls and some sculptures, dating back, at most, to the 4<sup>th</sup> century. It is also listed as one of UNESCO's world heritage sites.

莫高窟, 俗称千佛洞, 坐落在河西走廊西端的敦煌。它始建于十六国的前秦时期, 历经十六国、北朝、隋、唐、五代、西夏、元等历代的兴建, 形成巨大的规模, 有洞窟 735 个, 壁画 4.5 万個, 被联合国教育科学文化组织 列為世界文化遺產。



### 3. Zhangjiajie National Forest Park 張家界國家公園



Zhangjiajie National Forest Park is the first Chinese national forest park and was established in 1982. It contains clear streams, with the most notable being the Golden Whip Stream, wildlife, lush vegetation, and strange rock formations, reminiscent of those seen in the show Avatar: The Last Airbender.

張家界國家公園是中國第一個國家公園, 建立于 1982 年, 張家界國家森林公園位于湖南省, 內有清澈的河流, 鳳凰夜景, 臨江的吊腳樓, 珍花異草, 奇岩怪石, 獨特的地貌, 舉世無雙, 就像你在電影阿凡達看到的那樣。

# China's Regional Foods

By Catherine Li



## Northern China

Food is salty, with a large amount of meat and few vegetables. Unlike other regions of China, which uses rice as a staple, wheat is the staple food. Using wheat, the Northern Chinese make noodles, dumplings and steamed buns. Beijing, as the capital of China, harbors a range of foods as diverse as its influences. Inner Mongolian food, mostly barbequed, consists largely of lamb meat and dairy. Shandong cuisine is noted for its delicious seafood.



**Beijing's Peking Duck**

## Eastern China

Food is light and sweet in flavor and features seafood. Commonly cooked via stir-frying, braising, and simmering, Eastern Chinese foods are often seasoned with vinegar, sugar, and soy sauce. Cantonese food is famous for its dim sum, translated as “snacks” or “little eats”. Fujian and Taiwanese foods are slightly sweet and sour. Taiwan is known for its “Shao Bing You Tiao” street breakfast, composed of a baked pocket of dough and fried cruller.



**Cantonese Dim Sum**

## Western China

Western Chinese food is heavily influenced by various cultures. Because Xinjiang is a multi-ethnic area with a large population of Muslims, most food is Halal certified. With land great for pasturing but poor for agriculture, Xinjiang people use few vegetables but much meat, such as lamb, camel, and horse meat in their cooking. In contrast, Tibetan food consists of pork, but due to religious and cultural reasons, does not contain horse or fish meat. Tsampa is a uniquely Tibetan staple made of barley that is often mixed with tea or prepared as porridge.



**Tibetan Sha Phaley  
(Fried Meat/Veggie Pie)**

## Central and Southern China

Central and Southern China foods are hot and spicy with strong flavors. Sichuan food is known for its numbing taste. Hunan food is notably the spiciest in China. Regions of southern China such as Yunan, Guizhou, and Guangxi feature many preserved foods such as preserved meat and pickled vegetables. In the South, rice is considered a staple as opposed to wheat in Northern China.



**Steamed Fish with Red Peppers**



## 5A 吳謙昀

我最喜歡做的事是讀書。我喜歡讀書因為每一本書都不一樣。每一本書有自己的故事。我讀書的時候可以想像我就在那個故事裡面，好像我就是那個主角一樣。比如說，我讀奇幻小說的時候，我喜歡故事裡面的魔法。我喜歡讀冒險的故事書因為讀起來很刺激，而且我會很想知道接下來會發生什麼事。讀書還可以學東西，比如說，我學到 1492 那年 Christopher Columbus 找到美國，我覺得歷史書很有趣，因為不同的時候不同的事件發生了，可以知道很多以前發生過的事。

每次我看到奶奶時，他都會送書給我。我們家有很多書，可是我們還會從圖書館借書。因為這樣可以看更多的書。小的時候爸爸讀英文書給我聽，媽媽讀中文書給我聽。現在我讀中文書和英文書給弟弟聽。弟弟很喜歡聽我讀書給他聽。

在我的學校每一年有一個比賽叫 Read-a-thon。每一年級有四個班級，每一班都要參加。讀最多書的那個班級可以得到披薩派對。五年級的時候，我們班得到披薩派對，我很高興，吃了八片披薩。另外每個班裡面讀最多書的人也有獎品。在三年級的時候我有得到個人獎品。我上去領獎的時候很開心。我的獎品是一條項鍊和一個橡皮擦，橡皮擦上面寫著“繼續讀書”。

每次我讀書媽媽都會說「很好！」我有空的時候最喜歡讀書。每次我上完鋼琴課爸爸都會帶我去圖書館借書，這是我最快樂的時候。每次我讀書給弟弟聽的時候，他會覺得我是最好玩的姊姊。我最喜歡讀書因為大家可以聽我說故事。

## 我最喜歡的事情

## 5A 周逸凡

在我的空闲时间，我最喜好做的事就是玩儿游戏。最喜欢玩的游戏是一个美国发明的游戏叫 " SUPER SMASH BROS "。我喜欢它的原因是：可以给许多人玩，还可以自己玩，然后又好有竞争力。" SUPER SMASH BROS " 可以在 3DS 和 Wii U 上玩。我用的是 Wii U。用 Wii U 就可以连到电视上玩儿。每个星期，我邀请朋友来我家玩一下，然后做作业。

我好开心可以不时有朋友来我的家一起玩我的游戏。玩的时候，每个人要选一个人物代表自己，然后大家一起比赛。这些人物都是从有名的游戏里来的。

我的哥哥也很喜欢跟我玩这个游戏。每次大多都是我赢的。可是好奇怪，因为我刚买到这个游戏，我哥哥在他的朋友家已经玩过了，但是我还是赢了！SUPER SMASH BROS 就是很喜欢我，我也很喜欢它！





## 我喜欢的做的事

5A 金雅琳

我喜歡做勞作因為很好玩。我喜歡跟好朋友一起做。現在，我最喜歡的勞作材料是紙膠帶。紙膠帶有各種各樣的顏色。我用紙膠帶作卡片和貼紙。

我做好的時候我覺得我做得很好，所以我喜歡跟我的家人分享。我家人會給建議讓我做得更好。我很享受我做勞作的時光。

做勞作的時候，我學到很多新的技巧。我的媽媽喜歡我做的東西，所以他會買很多材料給我做。

## 我喜欢的运动

5A 黄瀚文

我喜欢的运动是游泳，因为它即可让我学会一些求生的技能，还可以锻炼身体，又可以为我带来快乐。我最喜欢和我的朋友一起游泳。当气温合适时，我们会相约到小区的游泳池游泳。游泳让我和我的朋友一起忘记烦恼。我们在一起练习和玩水，非常开心自在。

想擅长游泳是一个长期的过程，我们在遇到困难时一定要坚持，不可以放弃。

我的父母很支持我学习游泳，因为他们觉得游泳即是一种求生本领，又是一项快乐的运动。

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# Entertainment



By Amelia Chief 漆曉曦 (3A)

## Favorite Music

Name: Angelina Chow  
Age: 7  
Class: 3A  
Favorite singer: Taylor Swift  
Favorite Song: Bad Blood

## Favorite T.V. Shows

First name: William  
Last name: Ortiz  
Age: 14  
Class: Pre-teen Intermediate  
Favorite T.V. Show: Baskets

First name: Sebastian  
Last name: Lee  
Age: 14  
Class: 6A  
Response: The Walking Dead

First name: Jonathan  
Class: 6A  
Favorite T.V. Show:  
Once Upon a Time



Name: Amelia Chief  
Age: 9  
Class: 3A  
Favorite singer: Adele  
Song: Hello

First name: Angelina  
Last name: Chow  
Age: 7  
Class: 3A  
Response: Paw Patrol

First name: Amelia  
Last name: Chief  
Age: 9  
Class: 3A  
Response: Annedroids



Name: Sebastian Lee  
Age: 14  
Class: 6A  
Favorite singer: Cash  
Cash  
Song: Surrender



## Book Reviews

*Shiloh* by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor  
In this beautiful and touching novel, Marty Preston, the protagonist, comes across an abused beagle, which belongs to his family's cruel neighbor Judd Travers. As he tries to protect the beagle, which he names Shiloh, Marty overcomes a number of obstacles in order to meet the demands of Travers.



*Where the Red Fern Grows* by Wilson Rawls

This book is about a country boy named Billy. He has wanted two coonhounds for a long time, and finally he gets them! Read this beautiful novel to find out about their adventures!

*Pie* by Sarah Weeks  
This delicious story starts baking when eleven year old Alice's Aunt Polly passes away. Polly is a famous pie baker whose piecrust recipe everyone wants to know. So naturally everyone is surprised when Polly leaves the recipe to her cat Lardo. Read this book to find out what happens, and, to try some pie recipes. 😊



*The Rescue Team* by Billi Tiner  
When her owners Jane and Tim leave her at the animal shelter, Ellie, a one year old border collie, feels neglected and sad. Two weeks later, a kind woman named Anne adopts her. The two form a search and rescue team with Brent, a firefighter, and Toby, a stray cat which Anne adopts. Everything this tight-knit team does is full of fun!

# Penguin Friends

By Amelia Chief 漆曉曦 (3A)

The penguin friends were all very smart, but none of them knew how to speak Chinese. Peggy's mom said, "You and your friends should learn how to speak Chinese. So Peggy's mom told that to all the other penguin friends' moms. Every single mom agreed.

Peggy was very excited, but Ana and Rita were not. They liked playing soccer, doing karate, and running. Ana complained, "Ugh, Chinese school is so annoying!" Rita asked, "Whenever I take a test, I get an A+. Why should I waste my time attending Chinese school?" Flora replied, "Because it helps you get into a good college." "I want to go to Harvard!" Meg shouted. "I want to go to UCLA!" Lily hollered.

So on Saturday morning, the penguin friends took the bus to Penguins' Chinese School of Antarctica. Sarah remarked, "Wow, I'm so excited!" Rita was now angry. She wanted to play! "Hello, everyone," announced the teacher. "Today we will learn Chinese. Rita! Stop speaking English! This is Chinese school!"

"Don't care! Don't care!" Rita smirked.

So Rita went to the principal's office. Everyone else was very good. When class was over, everybody decided that Chinese school was extremely fun.

## 企鵝朋友

企鵝朋友都很聰明，可是他們都不會講中文。有一天，牌曦的媽媽說：“你跟你的朋友應該要學中文。”牌曦的媽媽就跟別的企鵝朋友的媽媽說那句話。每個媽媽都同意。

牌曦非常高興，可是安娜和莉她很不滿意。他們喜歡踢足球、空手道、和跑步。

安娜說，“啊，學中文真麻煩啊！”

莉她說，“我考試都是A加，為什麼要浪費時間學中文？”

芬樂說，“因為這樣子才會考到好的大學啊。”

“我想去哈佛大學！”美記大叫。

“我要去UCLA！”莉莉說。



所以星期六早上，企鵝朋友坐公車去南極企鵝中文學校。

莎莉說，“啊，我好高興！”

莉她生氣了。她想要玩！

“大家好！”老師說。“我們今天要學中文。莉她！不要再說英文！這裡是中文學校！”

“Don't care! Don't care!”莉她說。

所以莉她去校長室。別人都是很乖。上完課的時候，大家都決定中文學校很好玩。

# Traditional Games Played in China during Children's Day

By William Ortiz

June 1<sup>st</sup> is China's Children's Day. Established in 1949 by China's State Council, China's Children's Day is celebrated as part of the June 1<sup>st</sup> International Children's Day. On this day, parents and children under 13 are allowed a day off from work or school to spend time together. The government opens cinemas, amusement parks, and museums for free admission to kids and organizes fun activities, such as carnivals. Additionally, The Ministry of Civil Affairs hosts a gathering in Beijing where children representatives from each of China's 56 nationalities associate for the purpose of fostering communication and establishing ties. Besides providing love for children, Children's Day also serves to remind everyone of the injustices faced by child laborers and children in poverty. Still, China's children's day is a joyous holiday, exclusively a day to value children. For celebration, children play amazing traditional games. Here are a few of the games the children play.



**1: Shuttlecock-** Shuttlecock is a very well known game to many people. The object of the game is to keep a weighted mini sack from touching the ground by using your feet to kick it up. This game was played as far back as 5<sup>th</sup> century B.C. Shuttlecock evolved from a game called cuju, which is similar to football and was used for military training. The first national tournament for shuttlecock dates back to 1933, and in 1936 the game spread to European countries after a demonstration at the Berlin Olympics. The European audience was so impressed that they decided to adopt the game of shuttlecock. For good examples, see Jan Weber on YouTube.

**2: Chinese Yoyo-** The Chinese yoyo is estimated to have been invented in the Ming Dynasty. Historically, it was played by acrobats and entertainers at circuses and on the streets. To this day, the Chinese yoyo hasn't greatly changed in its form; it was originally made of wood or bamboo but is now made of plastic. It includes an hourglass shaped object, called the Diablo, and a pair of sticks connected by a piece of string. The game requires one to hook the string around the Diablo and move the sticks in an up and down fashion to spin the Diablo. Much like a sideways top, the Chinese Yoyo allows for an endless variety of tricks. Why should you play the Chinese yoyo? Well, playing with the Chinese yoyo is one of the best ways to develop gross motor skills, focus, as well as spiritual and physical discipline. Look up Chinese yoyo tricks on YouTube.



**3: Chinese Jump Rope-** Chinese jump rope just requires a piece of elastic band to play. Two participants stretch the band out with their legs while a player jumps in the middle. The player makes a variety of jumps, forming a series of patterns with her feet. If the movements are executed correctly, the player passes to the next level. Once a player messes up, a player holding the rope rotates in. Although originated from China, Chinese jump rope has been adapted by Americans and Europeans. Children in American elementary schools often play Chinese jump rope.

**4: The Eagle Catches the Chick-** In this game, one person pretends to be an eagle, another person pretends to be a hen, and the rest pretend to be chicks. The point of the game is for the hen to protect the chicks from the eagle, who tries to grab a chick. The chicks are lined up behind the hen, and when one chick is taken, the game is done. The chick that was caught will be the next eagle in the next round.



## Sources

advantour.com, Shuttlecock-world.org, kidmintools.com