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March BCIC News

Barrington Chinese Immersion Council - March 2023

春天快乐! Happy Spring!

Hints of green leaves on trees, the birds are back on our feeders, and much milder temperatures! We are looking forward to this second semester of the school year, and there will be lots of CI activities planned!



Read below and save the dates for events that would interest you and your family. You can click on the hyperlinks to save events in your google calendars.

And - stay tuned for information on more activities to be announced in the coming weeks!

- [Mar 16](#) - Career Exploration Seminar (**tonight!**)
- [April 11](#) - CI Middle School Panel for Incoming 6th Graders
- [April 20](#) - BCIC booth at Countryside Art Fair
- [April 28](#) - BCIC booth at Rose Multicultural Night
- [May 3](#) - Character Bee (grades 1-5)
- [May 6](#) - BCIC booth at KidFest and Kite Fly

Join our next Career Exploration Seminar TONIGHT!



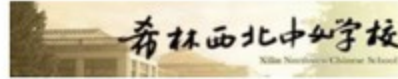
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AWAITS!
at our Chinese Career Exploration Webinar
Save the Date! Thursday, March 16 at 7 PM

Sponsored by:



**BARRINGTON
CHINESE
IMMERSION
COUNCIL**



We are excited to host three speakers for students to learn more about career opportunities that:

- utilize Mandarin language skills
- work with Chinese businesses and other organizations
- offer opportunities to live/work in China or other Mandarin-speaking countries

Saichang Xu

Practitioner of real estate law, business law, corporate law and import/export law

Xiaoyan Anderson

ESG Sustainability Specialist, Allstate, a seasoned communication professional with working experience in China, Germany and the United States

Chester Liu

Sales and Marketing Strategy/Data Analysis Manager for major

Students AND parents are welcome to join!

Event is FREE, but please register at:

<https://forms.gle/Yc9HodqpgNaUDSy58>

Contact Michelle Chase, BCIC Board Member with any questions
 bcic220@gmail.com

3rd and 4th Graders are Learning Weiqi!

Have you ever heard of the popular Chinese game 围棋 Wéiqí (English translation is "Go")?

It is an international game of the mind that originated more than four thousand years ago! It is believed that a person's strong Wéiqí skill is an indication of great wisdom.

And, thanks to some amazing teachers and parent advocates, third and fourth graders are being taught Wéiqí this year! In fact, their lessons have already begun!

Wéiqí is a game of complexity, requiring integration of analytic (left brain) and artistic (right brain) mental abilities simultaneously. Our students are incredibly lucky to work closely with Xinming Guo, an Illinois licensed math teacher and Wéiqí master who is the founder of Go and Math Academy. Mr. Guo believes that teaching Weiqi, a universal language of math and an integral part of Chinese culture, will help students not only gain intellectual advantages but also develop good study habits and positive attitudes toward life.

Thank you
hope to cor



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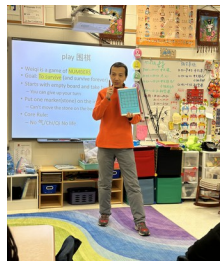
Weiqi playing in progress!



Master Guo offering his expert advice



Weiqi is a game of focus



Lunar New Year Celebration -- at Barrington's White House!

BCIC tried something we've never done before. We hosted a Lunar New Year event at Barrington's White House, located on Main Street in downtown Barrington. Students, their families, and CI teachers participated! It was such a beautiful, cozy and friendly place to celebrate!

- The attendees experienced various interactive activity stations throughout the historic mansion's first floor, including calligraphy, face painting, mosaic design, Mandarin story reading, and of course getting a photo op with our CI middle school teachers, The God of Wealth (Mr. Yu) and The Mother of the Queen (Mrs. Weerts)
- Attendees participated in a "red envelope" raffle and silent auction with gift baskets and other amazing items donated by CI families and local businesses
- A group of Dong Fang Chinese Performing Arts Association members provide us entertainment - they are graciously sponsored by Barrington 220 School District



Special thanks:

RYCO Landscaping/the Taheny Family, the Mann Family and the Lohmeyer Family
Also, thanks to the Barrington Area Community Foundation and Barrington 220.

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made this event so special and memorable:



Friendly middle school students at welcome table



Angie C. gives us a wonderful guzheng performance



Students try their hand picking up goldfish with chopsticks



Snacks and drinks in the kitchen



Face painting, courtesy of Xilin Northwest Chinese School



Practicing characters at the calligraphy table



High school students reading stories in Mandarin



Coloring rabbits and dragons



The "Red Envelope Raffle" was a big hit!



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performance

CI Story Time at Barrington Area Library!

We've held several CI Story Time events recently, and the themes keep getting better and more fun with each new story event!

In late January, our theme was "Lunar New Year". The library room was decorated for the holiday in red banners and garland! The selection of books also went with the new year theme. After the books were read, there were multiple activities set up for the kids - Chinese jump rope, a matching game where one rolls a block with various animals, and a craft where kids could make a paper dragon puppet!



In late February, we hosted story time with Friendship theme. Parent volunteers read stories and led learning games and crafts with the students. Our middle school and high school volunteered enjoyed helping with jump rope and crafts. BCIC also invited prospective kindergarteners and their families to story time to show them how much fun we have in CI and how BCIC provides support and enrichment.

We'd like to thank the following students for our Lunar New Year Story Time event:

- Vivian B, Aaron C, Kendall L , Alexandria N, Mariana N, Carolyn O, Flora S, Valeria V

And thanks to the volunteers at Friendship Story Time:

- Parents: Qi Teng, Yiming Wang, Lu Zhang, and Zheng You
- Students: Keira C, Carolyn O, Valeria V and Aaron Zhang



Carolyn O reading a beautiful LNY picture book



Listening to the words of a Peppa Pig book about LNY



Kids making a paper dragon puppet



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The Chinese jump rope activity was SO fun for ALL!



Playing really entertaining match game



We LOVE story time!



Sylvia (Qi) from Greencastle was one of the bookreaders!



Listening to a Mo Willem's book read by Yiming and her son Aaron



We Could Sure Use Your Help!

Year End Celebration

BCIC is in need of 1-2 volunteers to help chair our year-end celebration for all of the CI families K-12th grades (if you remember pre-covid, it was the potluck).

You won't be doing this solo - we have a team of volunteers ready to help you!

Character Bee

We will be holding our very first Character Bee event the evening of Wednesday, May 3. And we would love the assistance of native Mandarin speaking parents with preparations and judging of the contest! This will be fun!

Thanks for your consideration! If you are interested, simply message us or email bcic220@gmail.com.

谢谢! Thank you!

We Appreciate Your Contributions!

BCIC appreciate
and service
family contributions \$25.



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Donate

Funds are primarily used to:

- purchase books and supplies for the Chinese Immersion program not provided by the district
- host cultural and educational enrichment events throughout the year, such as Mandarin story time, Homecoming parade, Chinese New Year celebrations
- recognize student achievements, such as 5th and 8th grade recognition, high school graduation and Chinese honor society ceremonies
- recognize our wonderful teachers for their many contributions to the program.

If you'd like to contribute and haven't already donated when making your school registration payment, either click this link: [BCIC Donation](#), or use the QR code below to the far left. The Paypal QR code is below, too.

We appreciate your support!



**Donations to BCIC via the
D220 Web store/RevTrak**



Paypal Contributions to BCIC



About Us

Our mission is to advocate for and support the Chinese Immersion Program in District 220, Barrington, Illinois: its families, staff and teachers both in and outside of the classroom with advice, materials and experiences not covered by our tax dollars. We aim

to build a strong relationship and sense of community between BCIC, the school district, teachers, staff, participating families and the community at large.

Email: bcic220@gmail.org

Website: bcic220.org

Phone: (847) 381-6300

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/646209902098154/>

Twitter: [@chinese_council](https://twitter.com/chinese_council)



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