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IN THE SPOTLIGHT:

Beths Grammar School

In this video clip, Oluwanifemi Ajibola from Beth Grammar School shares his experience of learning Mandarin Chinese and how he finds Mandarin useful and fun. Well done Oluwanifemi!



20th IOE CI Annual Chinese Teaching Conference



On Saturday 14th October 2023 the **20th IOE CI Annual Chinese Teaching Conference** took place at the IOE, UCL's Faculty of Education and Society.

We would like to thank all delegates for attending this year's conference themed "Developing Through Sharing" – a key ethos throughout the 20 years of our conference series. It was a wonderful day and a great opportunity to see so many of the Mandarin teaching community in person sharing ideas, knowledge and best practice.

The conference was attended by over 300 people, including delegates, speakers, student performers and workshop presenters. There were 15 workshops for delegates to choose from, 3 student performances and 3 plenary sessions featuring academics and Chinese education experts from around the world.

The conference opened with the wonderful student performance ‘找碴’ by Miroslava Lindsay who studies at Bohunt School Liphook.

The opening plenary featured speeches by Professor Li Wei, Director and Dean of the IOE, UCL’s Faculty of Education and Society, Minister-Counsellor Zhang Jin, Education Section, Chinese Embassy and Katharine Carruthers OBE, Director IOE Confucius Institute for Schools. The Rt Hon Nick Gibb MP, former Minister of State at the Department for Education and Professor Zhao Yang, Dean of the School of Chinese as a Second Language, Peking University sent video messages reflecting on the theme and acknowledging the impressive effort of all teachers over the past year.



After the speeches, another amazing student performance followed, ‘追梦中文’ by Thomas Sharma from Queen Mary’s Grammar School, Walsall.

Returning from very inspiring [workshops](#) and lunch, delegates had the chance to enjoy the student performance ‘中文辩论赛’ by Honour Odusanwo, Mia Rosolin, Tallulah Barker, Poppy Ernst and Nicoleta Rotari from the Hurlingham Academy, Lambeth.

The afternoon plenary was introduced by Sue Williamson who spoke about “20 Years on – the Long View”. Sue is the Chief Executive at SSAT (The Schools Network) who at the time of the inception of SSAT CI (before it moved to IOE) was a Specialist Schools and Academies Schools Director. Katharine Carruthers then led a discussion with the former SSAT coordinators who were also involved at the very start; Lisa Wang, Michelle Tate, Linying Liu and Xiaoming Zhu.



Delegates then had one more the opportunity to choose and attend two further [workshops](#) from a wide range of topics.

The IOE CI 2023 Excellence Awards Presentation followed up recognising and celebrating colleagues for their efforts and talent. Congratulations to all the Excellence Award winners: Hannah Latimer, Taylor Zhang, Rebecca Jiayu Lin, Alex Ferraby and Shan Li.

The programme for the day closed with the plenary “International Chinese Language Education – Towards a New Understanding” by Professor George Zhang, Richmond American University. During the plenary, George discussed two different understandings of international Chinese education and how it compares to Chinese Learning and Teaching in the UK.

After a very productive day, delegates moved on to a drinks reception for the final opportunity to catch up with colleagues and the IOE team to celebrate and reflect on a great day.

We look forward to seeing you at next year’s conference!

Alexandra Park School’s visit to the Chinese partner school by Shunji Mcfarlane

Alexandra Park School had the opportunity to pay a visit to our partner school -Beijing No. 57 Secondary school in October. The trip was a chance for MEP students to visit China. We were so impressed by the many state of art pieces of equipment, which allowed the students to work on high level projects, which does not compare to schools in the UK. Alongside the academic focus, we could see there was a real focus on the personal development of students, and a warmth between the staff and the students. Most of all we were overwhelmed by the love and genuine interest for us from the students and the staff. Every ASP student was a celebrity for the day!

The opportunity for cultural exchange and learning was invaluable, and our students have gained first hand experience to apply Chinese language skills and to be immersed in the culture. It was one of the most memorable days of our the trip.



Global Secondary Chinese Competition Win for a Queen Mary's Grammar School student

On October 20th 2023, Thomas Sharma, a year 13 student from Queen Mary's Grammar School joined the 16th "Chinese Bridge" Global Secondary Student Chinese Competition in Dali, Yunnan Province on behalf of the UK Schools.

There was a total number of 110 contestants from across 93 countries at the finals of the competition. Thomas won the third prize in this competition and top six in Europe! A fantastic achievement. Many congratulations to Thomas!



Thomas and his teacher Ms. Wang who has taught and supported him through this time at QMSG and the competition.



Practising for the competition in Dali



Making new friends

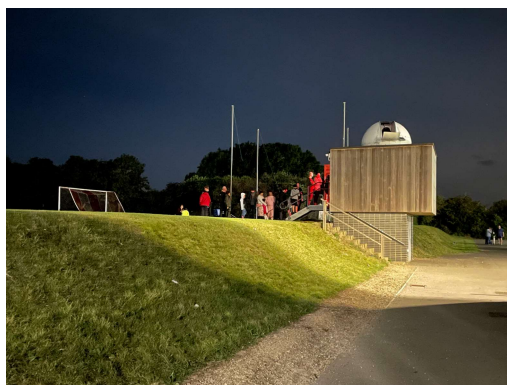
Mid-Autumn Festival - Simon Langton Boys School

by Charlotte Jarrett

To celebrate the Mid-Autumn Festival, a series of activities were offered to our students at the Langton, these included:

- A Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival greeting card competition for KS3, KS4 and staff
- Winners were announced in the KS3 Assembly on Friday 29th September
- A moon cake workshop to Year 7 and Year 8 students on Thursday 28th September
- Free spring rolls and prawn crackers were served to students at lunch time on Thursday 28th September
- A Kungfu workshop delivered by Kudos Combat to Y7 students and two local primary school students. Students had a better understanding of different types of Kungfu and the theory of how to carry out this ancient martial art.
- A Key Stage 3 Assembly joint with two local primary school students. In the assembly, students were excited by the wonderful Kungfu performance delivered by Kudos Combat. There was also a Taichi fan dance performance delivered by our Y9, Y12 and Y13 students.
- Moon Gazing on Friday 29th September. With the support of the Science Department and Kent Astronomy, students and parents were thrilled to watch the bright full moon under the telescope in the Observatory. It was also a bonus for the participants to see Saturn.

Overall, the whole community have enjoyed all the inspirational activities that have been offered at the Langton.



Mid-Autumn Festival - Uppingham School



To celebrate the Mid-Autumn Festival, Uppingham School students made their own jade rabbits with paper, and wrote "中秋节快乐!" on them.



To celebrate the Chinese New Year, Uppingham School students and staff tried paper-cutting and other activities at the workshop run by the Mandarin department.



Uppingham School students writing their names in Chinese using Chinese brush pens.

We wish you all a relaxing winter break!



**DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE IN THE
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chinesenetworks@ucl.ac.uk

IOE Confucius Institute for Schools
UCL Institute of Education
University College London
20 Bedford Way, London
WC1H 0AL
UK

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