



# The ASU Leader

## Elementary Edition

Volume 3, Issue 7

April 2016

**Upcoming Events:**  
**May 11: Last day of ASAs**  
**May 12: Spring Concert**  
**May 25: PTG Meeting**  
**May 31: Spirit Day and Science Fair**

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**Check out our website at [asu.edu.mn](http://asu.edu.mn) to see more photos from ASU events.**

## Students Perform in "ASU's Got Talent" Show

On April 1st, 2016 the talented primary students at ASU competed in "ASU's Got Talent!" About 40 students from Grades 1-5 auditioned to be a part of the show, and 14 were chosen for the competition, while an additional six students from Grades 1 and 2



Winners, L to R: Choe (First), Anundari (Second), and Ivel (Third)

were chosen to be a part of the show as special performances.

There were a variety of talents showcased during the show, ranging from singing and dancing to playing musical instruments. There was Sophie (3C), Buji (3C), Mash (4B) and the Peace Girls (Amingoo, Anun-

goo, Uyakhan, Bilguunzaya) who performed dance numbers, Anungoo (3C), Tugstumur (3B), Indra (4A), Enguun (4A), Ivy (5A), Choe (5A), and Anudari (5A) played musical instruments, and singers Nomundari and Goodali (4B), Mandy (5B), and Amina (5B) all competed for the coveted prize!

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### Principal's Message

## Art—in all it's mediums—Shines Strongly This Spring

This month's newsletter really highlights the diversity of talents among our students, as well as the approach we take to educating the whole child. While we continually assess our approach to core academic subjects in order to improve our teaching practice, we also realize the importance of the arts in child development. As former US Secretary of Education William Bennett said, "The arts are an essential element of education, just like reading, writing, and arithmetic...music, dance,

painting, and theater are all keys that unlock profound human understanding and accomplishment." We are proud of our students' accomplishments, both in core subjects and in special subjects, including the arts. You will have a chance to see more examples of our students' abilities at our Open House on April 30, where student artwork will be displayed, and at our Spring Concert on May 12. We hope to see you at both events.

# Art Class builds Creative and Self Confident Students

By Art Teacher Ms. Ziimaa

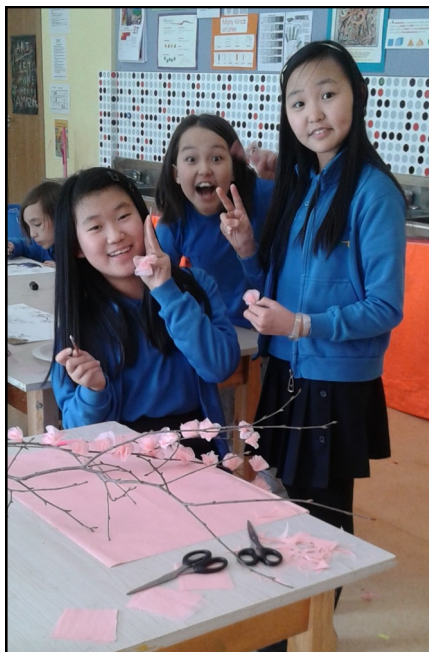
While the end of the school year is just around the corner, ASU elementary students are really excited about their upcoming art projects that have been keeping their hands busy.

As you know, school curriculums in many countries have shifted their attention toward common core subjects, such as reading and math, to the detriment of the arts. I'm proud to say that our program does not neglect visual art education. ASU enhances creativity and is encouraging students to be life-long learners.

In elementary school, students are introduced to the elements and principles of art, to famous artists, and have opportunity to complete a variety of art projects. I think our program of art education and exposure promotes self-directed learning, improves school attendance, and sharpens critical and creative skills. I cannot offer objective studies to back up my thinking



Left and above: Grade 2 students are creating secondary and complementary colors from the primary colors: blue, red, and yellow.



Grade 5 students are attaching sakura flowers, made with tissue paper, to real tree branches.

on this; however, anecdotally I think our program may help them perform better in their other classes.

Visual arts education is learning based upon only the kind of art that one can see—drawing, painting, sculpture, and design in jewelry, pottery, weaving, and fabrics. These can also

be applied to more practical fields such as commercial graphics (graphic design) and home furnishings. Learning to create and appreciate visual aesthetics may be more important than ever to the development of the next generation of children as they grow up. According to Mary Ann F. Kohl, author of *Primary Art: It's the Process, Not the Product*, creating art may boost a young child's ability to analyze and problem-solve in a myriad of ways. And perhaps most important, the act of "creating" makes children feel good which can boost their self-confidence.



Grade 3 students are working with construction and tissue papers to make flowers.



Kindergarten students are cutting out colored paper to create images.

## Students Learn to Use their Bodies and Move with Partners

By Dance Teacher Ms. Zaya  
Participating in dance class allows students to learn and understand various movements. "Free dance" teaches them about space awareness, about how to identify different dance songs and their rhythms. Students learn and then practice how to face towards different sides, to turn, to pause, to greet their audience, and to move together with their classmates. Also they have been exercising patience and self-confidence.



their knowledge. For example, the Salsa dance style teaches them about body awareness and how to use their energy in different ways. Dancing with a partner teaches



students how to "feel one another"—which means using body language to understand your partner's strengths and support any weaknesses—as well as how to respect your

Understanding unique characteristics of a variety of dance forms and styles helps our students to expand

partner, all the while working together as a team to share the meaning and beauty of the dance.

## Music Students put Skills to Use for Upcoming Spring Concert

By Music Teacher Ms. Enkhee

This year in Music students in grades one through five have enjoyed learning about the lives and works of great composers: Bach, Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert, Chopin, Mendelssohn, Tchaikovsky, and Rachmaninoff to name a few.

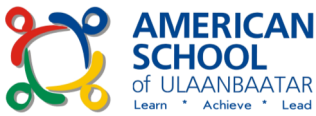
Grade one students have learned to read and clap a basic rhythmic pattern and to sing songs. Students in grades two through five are learning



to read notes and to play the recorder.

It has been a great, productive year so far, and everyone is working hard to be ready for our

Spring Concert that is coming up on May 12, 2016. This musical event is titled "Let's Pass It On" as all of the songs are reinforcing and encouraging children to be respectful, responsible, and safe, as well as kind and nice to one another. Students from our Drama ASA have been busy writing original scripts for the musical skit.



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**We're on the web!**  
[www.asu.edu.mn](http://www.asu.edu.mn)

**Expected School-wide Student Outcomes**

ASU students will be...

Academic Achievers

Critical Thinkers

Involved Citizens

Effective Communicators

Self-Directed Lifelong Learners

*Home of Future Leaders*

**ASU's Got Talent, *continued***

After the competitors performed, the first and second graders, Chingis (1A), Enkhgerel (1A), Enguun (1B), Eun Chan (1C), Altannum



Above: Anungoo (3C); Right: Enkhgerel (1A)



(2A), and Nomuka (2C) showcased their talents as the judges deliberated.

In the end, Choe's "Do Re Mi" performance on piano received first place, Anu-dari's performance with the harp got second, and Ivy's rendition of "Fur



Above: Eun Chan (1C); Right: Mandy(5B); Below: "The Peace Girls"- Amingoo, Bilguunzaya, Anungoo, and Uyakhhan



Elise," also performed on piano, won third.

Well done everyone who participated in this spectacular event! There's no doubt that ASU's got talent!

