



The ASU Leader

Elementary Edition

Volume 1, Issue 9

May 2014

Upcoming Events:

- June 10: All School Sports Day
- June 2, 9, 16: Entrance Testing Dates
- June 13: Last Day of School for Students

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School Visitors Arrive Early for Annual Open House Event

Despite the constant rain that fell Saturday morning and afternoon, visitors arrived early and stayed late for our recent Open House. The annual event began with fifth-grade students giving tours of the elementary school, followed by a presentation on the school's history, current programs and plans for the near future. At noon the games began, and the registration tables stayed busy throughout the event. While many current students, their families and



As parents register their children for the new school year or summer camp, signs advertise other activities happening at the Open House.



friends attended the event and enjoyed all the activities offered, it is designed as an opportunity for the general public to see the school facilities and gain information about our programs in anticipation of the next school year.

See more Open House pictures on page 4.

Principal's Message

Thank You for Your Contributions to a Successful Year

As the school year comes to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to thank staff, students and parents for working so well together to make our school great. We have learned a lot from each other this year – through conferences,

PTA meetings and casual conversations during special events or just daily interaction. I believe we have made great strides this year, and, equally important, we have a vision for continued improvement, thanks to the invaluable input from so many

people. We have met our challenges with honesty, mutual respect and dedication.

As we all look forward to some quality time with family and friends, we can be proud of what we accomplished this year. Have a great summer!

Third Graders Finish School Year Exploring Communities, Environment

In **Grade 3A** we just recently finished our Communities unit with a big final presentation. Students were tasked with coming up with and creating their own cities and countries. The project was the culmination of many different units in Social Studies and Language Arts. The students spent a long time creating all aspects of their project, including: 2D and 3D maps, pictures showing off different parts of their cities, short stories, letters, and city brochures.



Students displayed their projects in the multipurpose room in early May. 3A did their best to try to sell their cities to the students and parents that came to look at the displays. Other students and parents enjoyed collecting city brochures and looking at all the wonderful posters.

- Mr. Zwingelberg & Ms. Orkhon

In **Grade 3B** we have been enjoying our unit of study on Soil in Science. The students have had the chance to observe and describe the various components within a soil sample. They also learned how soil is formed, and observed different soil samples, comparing color, smell, texture and com-

position. We planted the same seeds in three different types of soil and compared the rate of growth, and recorded observations, findings and measurements. Looking for the different crea-



tures that live in soil is what we enjoyed the most. Using mud and clay that we collected from the area, the students made some useful objects. As a culmination to this unit, we took a field trip in the countryside to explore the different types of soil in our environment – we went to the sand dunes and farmlands near Khustai National Park. It was such a fun day!

We learned so much this year in Grade 3B. I'm proud of all my students' hard work and tremendous effort that they put in their learning. They also grew not only physically, but academically and socially as well. Making "responsible choices" and "hanging on to good character" are what we strive to do all year through. Learning is indeed growing.

- Ms. Glenda and Ms. Degi



Spring Concert Features Themes about Spring Weather and Good Health



Parents and friends gathered in the auditorium on May 16 to watch the elementary school's Spring Concert. Grades Kindergarten to 2 performed a musical called "Glow," in which the students all had a chance to wear their favorite insect and flower costumes, while singing about Spring weather. The musical

was written by Linda Worsley and directed and adapted by Elizabeth Collins. Grades 3 to 5 performed a musical called "Make It Healthy: A Musical Revue About Good Choices," which promoted the message of making good choices when exercising, resting and eating.



Student Preparation Pays Off for ASU's First Spelling Bee Competition

ASU Elementary held a Spelling Bee in May, and it offered an intense competition pitting students from grades 2 through 5 against each other. This was the first time the event was held at ASU, and in the weeks leading up to the competition, students could be seen walking the halls with dictionaries under their arms or scanning over spelling lists in preparation. The students first competed against their classmates, then the top five from each class competed at the grade level, and the top 5 from each grade advanced to the semi-finals. The top 10 finishers, which as it turned

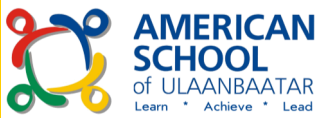


The top three finalists remain calm and composed under pressure.



Finalists—including students from second, third, fourth and fifth grades—pose with the judges.

out included students from each grade, competed in the finals during the last week of May. In the end, difficulties with the words *histrionics* and *meringue* eventually resulted in students placing third and second, respectively, but everyone who participated showed professionalism and composure as they stepped up to the microphone.



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We're on the web!
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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

Parents Join Staff and Students for Final Awards Assembly of Year



Every month ASU elementary holds an awards assembly to coincide with the Spirit Day, but the end-of-the-year awards ceremony is special in several ways. During the ceremony, each homeroom teacher acknowledges three students: The most improved, the top academic achiever, and the ASU Leader – the student who most consistently demonstrates the Expected School-wide Student Outcomes. Following the presentations from homeroom teachers, Specials teachers also had the chance to recognize their top students. As is tradition, the assembly ended by recognizing the contributions of teachers who will be transferring at the end of the year. The ceremony highlighted many accomplishments, looking back on not only a productive month, but also a dynamic year.

Students Celebrate Culture, Education for Mongolian Language Day

On May 28, ASU second and third graders celebrated their “Mongolian Language Learning Ceremony”. It was an amazing performance of both Mongolian and Foreign students to show to their parents, teachers and friends their talent and Mongolian Language Reading and Writing skills. It was a cause for celebration in both culture and education, demonstrating the skills both Mongolian and foreign students gained with their ability to read and write in the Mongolian language.



Around the School...



Pre-K awardees at the year-end assembly.



(Above left) Wheel of Fortune with a spelling challenge and



(above right) miniature golf during the Open House.