We’ve already raced through the first “semester” of our program, and before we know it we’ll be headed for the final stretch. After a busy weekend of activities, hopefully everyone is focused on the real prize...raising language proficiency to his or her ultimate highest level!

The China Night Production is scheduled for SATURDAY evening, August 5th, just a couple weeks away! This is an annual talent show designed to display the linguistic and artistic abilities of students and faculty alike. The feature presentations are the skits produced by each grade level. We will also include a few Individual and small group performances of song, instrumental music, dance, martial arts, poetry recitation, anything that is related to Chinese language-learning and culture. If you plan to participate, please see your level’s China Night liaison teacher to audition as soon as possible. All selected performances should have some connection to Chinese language and culture and will be limited to 3-4 minutes each.
As you all know, our 白老師 will retire after twenty-four years of distinguished service to the Chinese School, fifteen as the longest-serving director in Language Schools’ 102 year history. This weekend, there will be a number of special events taking place to celebrate his tenure and honor his service.

**Bai Laoshi’s Retirement Concert**

**Saturday, July 29th, 7:30 PM**
**Center for the Arts**

*Please join us at the CFA for a special evening of singing by his colleagues, students, and friends!*
*Please note: Because of this concert, there will be NO MOVIE ON SATURDAY!*
**Movies**

**Finding Mr. Right**

**北京遇上西雅圖**

Friday, July 28th
7:30 PM
SDL Dana

In this 2013 comedy that grossed over $85 million US, this film is a Chinese “Sleepless in Seattle.” A woman from Beijing, pregnant with the child of her rich married boyfriend flies to Seattle in order to deliver the baby. There she meets another Chinese immigrant man working as a driver, even as she finds her life beginning to change.

**Poetry Reading**

**A Reading by Two Contemporary Poets & Their Translators**

July 31st, Monday
1:00-2:00 PM
MBH 216

The contemporary Chinese poets Xiao Kaiyu and Jiang Tao, currently Luce Foundation writers-in-residence at the Vermont Studio Center, will read from their work accompanied by Christopher Lupke and Josh Stenberg, their respective translators.

Xiao Kaiyu 萧开愚 is one of the preeminent poets writing in China today. Fluent in German, Xiao’s poetry contains notes of English modernism and German expressionism. He is Professor of Chinese at Henan University in Kaifeng.

A professor of Chinese at Peking University, where he also was educated, Jiang Tao has been writing serious poetry for almost 20 years. He also is a renowned scholar in China, with one of his articles winning the annual national prize in China for the best academic article of the year.

Throughout his career, he has translated, and ten years ago he came upon Xiao Kaiyu’s poetry. Since then, he has read and translated Xiao’s poetry with every spare minute he has had. He is Professor and Chair of East Asian Studies at the University of Alberta.

A Canadian by birth, Josh Stenberg is Assistant Professor of Chinese at the University of Sydney in Australia. He specializes in (戏曲: contemporary Chinese opera. He also writes fiction and poetry himself and has been published in The Dalhousie Review among other venues.

**Hike**

**Abbey Pond**

Saturday, July 29th
9:30 AM - @12:30 PM

This should be a pleasant morning of hiking with the temperatures expected to be back in the low 80’s. We should be back in time for lunch.
Great effort by our soccer folks against a tough German team last Saturday. We are working on matches against the Russian School and the Spanish School... Stay tuned!

Congratulations to our UNDEFEATED Volleyball team!

Volleyball is also up in the air right now. Please stay tuned in to announcements and the BLOG for updates!

We have a badminton court (in the Nelson Rec Center) reserved on Fridays from 3:30-5:00. We are working with the other schools on organizing a tournament!

We have Nelson Court 1 (indoor) reserved every Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, from 3:00 to 5:00, so grab a partner and join in! Tennis rackets are available in the Hepburn office 113!

1. OFFICE HOURS CHANGE!

SUNDAY, JULY 30th: 3:00-4:30!!
DUE TO A RETIREMENT EVENT FOR BAI LAOSHI SUNDAY EVENING, ALL LEVELS WILL HOLD SUNDAY OFFICE HOURS IN THE AFTERNOON!

2. Shared spaces
If you use dishes in Forest or Hepburn’s kitchens, it is YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO WASH THEM! DO NOT LEAVE THEM IN THE SINK FOR OUR CUSTODIANS & BILINGUALS TO CLEAN UP AFTER YOU 😞! The FOREST WEST KITCHEN has received the most complaints from custodial staff!
Also, if you have taken dishes from the dining hall, you MUST return them...do not leave them in the kitchens or in your rooms!
2. **REMINDER Quiet Hours.**

Remember that this is a communal environment, and it takes the consideration and cooperation of ALL to live, study, and rest together in peace! Although Forest tends to get especially loud, we are hearing from unhappy people in Hepburn as well. Even if it’s not “official quiet hours,” be mindful of those around you!

3. **The COLLEGE POOL FINALLY** reopens Monday, July 31st!

   ![Open Pool](http://athletics.middlebury.edu/facilities/facilities_hours)

   See below for hours!

4. **End-of-Session Transportation:**

   **Plan your Campus Departure Early!**

   Students can leave after the last class on Friday, August 18th. All students must vacate their dorms by Saturday, August 19th at 10:00 AM. Early departures are granted with prior permission from the Director, only.

   **Reserve Airport Transportation**

   Middlebury College is offering bus transportation from campus to Burlington International Airport on Friday, Aug. 18 and Saturday, Aug. 19. The cost is $18 per person. Several departure times from Adirondack Circle are available, but be sure to purchase your ticket early. Please call the box office with any questions at 802.443.3168 (8:30 am to 5 pm, M-F).

   **LINK** to reserve a seat to the departure shuttle to the airport:


   Other transportation options are available online here:

   [http://www.middlebury.edu/sustainability/transporation](http://www.middlebury.edu/sustainability/transporation)

3. **Our 2017 Chinese School photo is posted on the blog!!!**