



Eclipse

When the Sun and the Moon come together

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Editor's Note

Dear readers,

I bet you are wondering what in the world *Eclipse* has to do with this newsletter. Well, an eclipse is when the images of the sun and the moon appear together, showing that people from two different worlds can influence each other. This newsletter is for you, the students and teachers from The No. 1 High School in Dujiangyan.

I know that I have no idea about what goes on in your world, just like you probably don't know what I do in mine, so I hope this newsletter will serve as a bridge between us so that we will be able to find out more about each other and our lives.

Hope you enjoy the first issue of *Eclipse*!

—Grace Li

Questions from Dujiangyan

1. 您觉得中美教育最大的区别是什么？
2. 你平时是怎么教育您的孩子的？您的孩子听话吗？
3. 您喜欢体育运动吗？住在休斯顿，可以看到科比打比赛吗？您能帮我们拿到签名吗？还有好多问题，真的，您能满足他们的好奇心吗？在不打扰您的前提下。

—李凌霄, English Teacher,
No. 1 High School In Dujiangyan

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Education in America

—Sharon Li

I think America's education is not just mathematics, but focuses more around every subject. Starting from third grade we have the TAKS, Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills, this really long boring test lasts the whole day (7 hours). Each year, there is Mathematics and Reading, and on other years there is Science, Reading, and Social Studies.

Trust me, not fun, not fun at ALL! A normal day for an average 6th grader is really well...normal. First is homeroom, which is Math for me (2 hours), then we switch to Science, another hour, next is lunch and electives, and right after, we go to Reading/Language Arts. Finally, we reach the end of the day, Social Studies, and on Fridays, if we haven't gotten any

conduct marks, what we get when we misbehave, we can go outside for twenty minutes. Of course everyone has different classes at different times, but this is for the Jazz Kings, the team name for our hallway. At our school, every hallway is a team, and each team has three classes; we make a team name. That's what is regular for my American school at Rogers Middle School.

System vs. System

-Grace Li

(Information below about high school in China is based solely on my parents' high school experience.)

I started laughing, and then abruptly sobered up as I realized my mom wasn't joking. "What?!" I couldn't believe it. How could people even think to put the words *high school* and *easy* in the same sentence without a *not* in between?

Okay, maybe American high school was less...rigid than those in China in terms of academics but we more than made up for it in extracurricular activities.

In China, high school was all about school grades—or am I being biased just like other people are to American high schools?

Nevertheless, I think that Chinese schools focus less on things like sports and clubs, just like we have lower expectations for academic subjects.

In America, you're not only expected to maintain perfect grades in every one of your classes, you have to be involved in sports and extra-curricular activities to even have a chance at a big-shot college like Harvard. 'Well-rounded,'

the admissions office calls it. 'Exhausting,' is what we say.

In China, I don't doubt that you have to work much harder than we do in class, but outside of class all you have is schoolwork.

We do less in school, but the instant the bell rings, we have a whirlwind of other things that leave us just as tired as you are by the end of the day.

So I guess that our system isn't worse than yours, and yours isn't worse than ours...they're just different.

A Day In My School

-Eric Li

We get to school at 8:00 AM. First we read books. After that I go to GT (gifted and talented program). After GT I go to stations. There are 12 stations. Each day, we do three stations. In the station, we have small groups (2 or 3 students) working together.

Then we go to Physical Education (P.E.). In P.E., we run, exercise, play noodle tag, soccer, wall ball (get a ball, bounce it to the wall), and basketball. Noodle tag is a game where we use a foam thing that looks like a noodle, but much

bigger, and we try to use the noodle to hit the ball into the other team's goal.

We don't play with balls every day, only on Fridays, which are our choice days—each student gets to choose what they want to play. Actually, on choice day we can do whatever we want to do except for violent things.

After P.E., we read again, and then we eat lunch at 11:25 AM. We do math paper work. Then we go to recess. Recess is just like choice

day. Then we read again. Finally we go home at 3:15 PM. I go to daycare for the rest of the afternoon until my Dad, or Mom picks me up between 5:00 to 6:30 PM.



1. What is an eleven letter word that 99% of college graduates spell incorrectly?

2. What is an ancient invention that allows you to see through walls?

Riddles and Jokes...

3. Forward I am heavy, backward I am not? What am I?



你平时是怎么教育您的孩子的？你的孩子听话吗？

Q: How do you educate your children? Do they listen to you?

A: I try to encourage them. My husband lets them know that working hard is very important. I would like them to have a positive attitude towards life. I always say “please look at the bright side”.

My children listen to me and my husband 90-95% of the time. They work very hard on their school work and homework, and they know that working hard is the key to success.

Q

&

A

We have conflicts some times, such as when they can watch TV or play computer games, when they can go to their friends' houses, what time and how long they should play piano, etc.

I found parenting job is more challenging than all the jobs I had. I know I am a very devoted mother, and I love my children very much. I would like them to continue to grow up as happy and caring individuals.

—Huang Shixia

您喜欢体育运动吗？住在休斯顿，可以看到科比打比赛吗？

您能帮我们拿到签名吗？ —Answered by Grace Li

Q: Do you like sports?

A: Of course! We play basketball in our driveway, and sometimes the three of us play soccer too. We usually jog around the neighborhood and go swimming in the pool too. My sister and I also dance, Eric plays chess, and all of us love ping-pong and tennis.

Q

&

A

Q: Living in Houston, do you watch Kobe's game? Will you be able to obtain an autograph for us?

A: We've seen the Houston Rockets play twice in person, and we normally watch them on T.V., although we usually do not watch Kobe Bryant's Los Angeles Lakers compete. We don't know if we'll be able to get his autograph, but we can try when the Lakers come to Houston.

Questions from Pearland, Texas —Sharon Li

Q1: What is your favorite food?

Q2: What is your favorite color and why?

Q

&

Q

Q3: What is your favorite subject at school and why?

Q4: What do you want to be when you grow up?

About Us

Grace Li, 李丹婷

Hey...I'm Grace, obviously.

If you were to ask about me, I'd probably be described as quiet, shy, etc., but if you asked my friends, they'd say I'm friendly, slightly bossy, and a total perfectionist.

So who's right? Well, both groups. I'm reserved with strangers and acquaintances, but I'm outgoing with people I'm close to.

I enjoy playing ping-pong, dancing, drawing, reading, writing and much, much more.

And, well, I'm out of space now, so...see you next issue!

=^.^=



Sharon Li, 李雅兰

Hey! I'm Sharon Li, and going to the 7th grade. I have a little brother, Eric, and an older sister, Grace. My birthday is June 2 and I just turned 12 years old. For my birthday party I'm hoping to go to Schlitterban, this really awesome water park with all types of slides and games.

I love to shop, read, write, and swim, but those are just some of my many hobbies. Also, I collect all types of little things that are special and unique, always wear these bracelets on my arms because one of my friends made them for me. This is just a little bit about me, I hope it has interested you.



Eric Li, 李浩明



Hi! My name is Eric Li, and I'm eight years old and in the third grade. I love to eat macaroni and cheese—it's my favorite

food in the world! My birthday is



December 11th, and I can't wait! I hope to get a Nintendo DS, which is a

type of video game. My mom said if I write 200 stories, she will buy the game for me. I already wrote about 80 stories.

I also hope to get a lot of books, including some of the Magic Tree house series. I also want some Pokémon trading cards.

Huang Shixia

I am the mom of Grace, Sharon, and Eric. I often wonder how they become such great kids and just realized that it was my hard work and my husband's that paved the roads for them.

I enjoy playing ping-pong, playing with kids, and reading.

When I was a child, in a small vil-

lage in Wangchen, Hunan, my goal was to study hard and get into a college.

I believe that if you have a dream and work hard for it, most likely, your dream will come true.

Good luck, everyone! For your dream to come true.



This is a picture of Latias and Latios, two legendary Pokémon.