



Bo Ai Summer Newsletter 2013

Middle School Opening September 2013

By Christine Chan

27/8/2013

The 2013-2014 school year will start in a few more days. It will be a memorable day as our Middle School students enter into a new school that you all strived to work for in the last few years. Last night, we turned on the outside lights at the Middle School campus. What a beautiful sight! The moment the lights came on, it reminded me of the brighter future of a middle school education that we promised to our elementary school graduates!

Three days ago, three truckloads came all the way from Hebei to Feng Village to deliver the school and dormitory furnishings. Thanks to Juliana's friend, Mr. Fan, of a Beijing International Transportation Company, who sent three trucks to haul the furnishings at no cost. The villagers, the upper grade students, some of the teachers (some are away from the school attending seminars) hauled the furnishings up the stairs to the respective locations on that hot day! We owe them a debt of gratitude for the hard sweaty labor! The Furniture Company boss and his wife and his helpers came separately to visit our school when the furnishings were delivered. He donated extra furniture to our school. The 21st Century International School donated 30 used but still very serviceable computers to our school when we visited them in Beijing. (the international school will be using new computer cum monitor setups) Our Great God is really watching over our school!

The last three days were spent assembling the furnishings and it is still not all finished yet. Our granddaughters who are visiting us from Germany for two and half weeks, spent hours putting in wooden pegs and nuts for the library bookshelves. We also hauled in the beds and mattresses and chairs etc. that New World Hotel donated to us several years ago that were put in storage at a rented village house. Much work still need to be done before our middle school is fully functional. The chalk boards are not up, the projectors, the internet connections, the beddings etc etc etc still not up to make the middle school classroom or dorm room really usable. Please pray for a smooth transition so our teachers can teach in the new environment!

Thanks to Touching Lives Overseas, the first floor of the elementary school is being remodeled so the kindergarten will be located there. The conference room, the school teachers office, the elementary school office, the adults restrooms and the children's restrooms and the kindergarten classrooms will have the remodeling finished in the next couple of days. The remodeling of medical-dental clinic, the new railings are pretty much finished. Thanks to TLO for financing the remodeling.

In the last three days, village chief, county secretary, some other government people came with their children in toe with requests to have their children or relatives to attend our school. Many because the children do not live in our areas where we have taken the obligation to take them in regardless, had taken the entrance exams two months ago and did not do well in the tests and I have given them another opportunity to review and study harder in the summer months and retake the exams. They did just as poorly or maybe even worse. I had to refuse to take them in and may have offended them in the process.

Please pray for their understanding!

I shall be going this afternoon to Changzhi to welcome a young lady from San Diego who will be coming to visit Bo Ai! God has been good and is good to Bo Ai! Thanks all for your labor on behalf of BoAi.

(Mrs Christine Chan is the founder of Bo Ai School)





博愛中學落成了，
九月二日正式上課・學生和家長
們都懷著興奮的
心情踏進簇新的
校舍

小學生，中學生，上學去！



請瀏覽博愛中學資料

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2rID0kYUhLc>

懷大愛心... 做小事情...

德蘭修女



We would appreciate your help in sounding out and donating to the needs for furnishings for our Middle School
Enquiry: Benjamin Chang (ben@winstonchu.com)

Bo Ai School creating a baby boom

by Benjamin Chang

During the Easter Mission Trip to the Bo Ai School in March 2013, other than the contingent of about 60 volunteers from Hong Kong, there were about 8 volunteers from Beijing led by Juliana Wang, one of the directors of Bo Ai Foundation (“BAF”) based in Beijing. While all the volunteers were busy helping out in the dental or medical clinic, cooking and teaching, some of those from Beijing were seldom seen or heard. Among them were Kenneth Ku and Richard Tin.

It was not until our last night at the School that I got to meet Kenneth and Richard. It turned out that Kenneth and Richard had been secretly interviewing students, parents, staff and the villagers to find out how the Bo Ai School had affected the community there.

Kenneth and Richard had heard a lot of wonder stories about the Bo Ai School and the good work of Christine Chan from Juliana but they had their doubts. This year they decided to come and investigate to find out for themselves what Bo Ai School was all about.

Kenneth and Richard presented their findings to the directors of BAF. It is fair to say that the findings were astounding. This is a summary of their findings :-

1. There were more people getting married in the nearby villages – Apparently this was because they felt that the area was served by an excellent elementary school, the Bo Ai School. The phenomenon is similar to many developed countries where parents tend to move into school areas which have the best schools. The people had such high regard for the Bo Ai School that they wanted to get married and have a child so that the child could receive a good education from the Bo Ai School.

2. The students have learnt to take care of themselves. They acquired good habits and civil behaviour and passed what they learnt to their families. They learnt how to be thankful for what they have and to spread love to others. Some of the villagers said that they could easily tell that a child is a Bo Ai student from the way they behaved. When a Bo Ai student bought snacks sold on a stick in the street, they would not throw the stick on the street after finishing the snacks but would keep it and discard it in a rubbish bin. They also exhibited much better manners.

3. What is the type of book that Bo Ai students like to

read? Surprisingly, it was not comic books as one would think. The books favoured by the students were of the philosophical genres. The students interviewed enjoyed discussing with Kenneth and Richard topics such as what life was about..

4. Young teachers who came to the School as young graduates found that they had learnt a lot and improved themselves after starting work at the School. They enjoyed their work in the School and said that working at Bo Ai had ignited their passion for teaching. While they came to Bo Ai for a job, now they find themselves greatly attached to it.



5. Parents learnt about the virtue of honesty. There was an incident where a parent picked up a wallet on the street containing about 3,000 Yuan, which is a lot of money in this part of China. When the parent took the wallet home, his child told his par-



ent that he must bring it to the authorities as it was not right to take things that did not belong to them. They brought the wallet back to the School and the wallet was returned to the rightful owner.

6. Parents also said that their homes had become cleaner and they stopped swearing at home. They were very happy with the way that the School was being managed.

7. The teachers and staff of the School place a lot of emphasis on team spirit in their work. They maintain close contact with the students' parents and families. In managing the students' performance, an approach of encouragement is used rather than punishment.

8. The villagers around the School said that the villages had become cleaner. Libraries were set up and the spirit of learning became stronger. Feng Cun 馮村 (the village right next to the School) had become more prosperous. They said these were all brought about by the School. Other schools were looking to Bo Ai School as their model.



9. We all know that the open exam results of Bo Ai students have consistently placed Bo Ai School among the top schools in Shanxi Province. The advancement in academic achievement can be easily measured. The average score of the School's students at the start of its operation was in the 30's. At the end of the academic year, the average score shot to over 90 and this has been maintained throughout the past years. However, Bo Ai School is not just about academic excellence. Its aim is to spread love among the community and provide a holistic education to the students without regard to their means or social background so that they will become model citizens in the modern world, citizens who respect and love others and citizens who are alert to their duties as responsible members of society.

Before the study of Kenneth and Richard, we did not know whether and how Bo Ai had achieved its aims other than academic excellence. Now, we have the answer through their efforts. The study shows that not only have the students been learning well on how to be model citizens, they have also spread what they learnt from the School to

their families and friends. The Bo Ai School has affected the community around it in a significant way. The change brought about by the School in the people's approach to learning, their values and behaviour and even culture within the nearby communities is most remarkable. The motto of the School is "Never Ending Love 愛是永不止息". This love is thriving in this small School in Shanxi and has spilled over to the community around it.

The directors of BAF had always known that the School was doing a great job but even they did not realize how much the School has contributed to the overall improvement to the civil standards of the surrounding communities. The study is the first of its kind and stands testimony to the achievements of the School. We

are grateful to Kenneth for doing this study. Kenneth and Richard were skeptics before the study but now they are converts.

(Kenneth Ku is the China Program Unit Learning and Accountability Officer of Oxfam in Beijing. Richard is a retired architect based in Beijing.)



博愛 的 故 事 陳達年醫生

在山西省沁源縣馮鄉的山區，四月初還是寒風凜冽，大地乾涸，四週都是一片褐色黃土，散佈著古舊的窯洞與磚屋，這裡時間像靜止一般，眼前景象仿佛回到了中古時代。田地還是閒著，渺無人跡，樹木長著枯枝，但令人最詫異這裡的杏樹在三月時已長出白色的細小花朵，均勻散佈著枝頭，這是大自然送給窮鄉的初春禮物。杏花像白色的冠冕，表徵著一份優美、歷久常新的愛，應許著將臨的夏日會帶來綠茵和生機，眼前景物便煥然一新。

博愛學校的前身是位在馮鄉的一間破舊、缺水、缺電、缺師資的鄉村小學，Christine Chan 陳海珠女士建立這校已有八年歷史，成為區內一間優質教育學校。她是一位家庭主婦、一位美國華僑、也是學校的校監，每年在這裡居住九個月，確保學校的運作按照理念發展。經多年的努力她凝聚了一股愛的力量，以真誠去實踐抱負，為山區兒童謀福祉。

今年三月 Christine 的丈夫 Dr. Patrick Chan 一位眼科醫生，決定退休，結束在美國 Oregon State Portland City 的診所業務，搬來山區為了陪伴太太和支持她的工作。學童們有視力問題的為數不少，相信 Dr. Chan 的經驗和專業在校內定能貢獻良多。學童的身心靈得到照顧，在良好環境中學習，是值得讚賞和感恩。

每年有三數義工隊從香港或海外來探訪，香港的隊伍選擇復活節來，領隊是劉惠心牙科醫生，她是香港博愛基金會的主席。過去有不少港福的會友和小朋友參予，其中 DRS. Matthew Lau, Patrick Lam, Peter Lau 弟兄和家人持續支援，港福少年區的團友也經濟上支持兩位同學的學費和食宿費。



今年從香港出發的義工隊有四十二人，港福會友包括 Cherry and Peter Lau，他邀請了兩位診所同事、兩位牙科學院的學生加入，還有 Rita Ying 和家人，Patrick Lam 和太太 Peggy、女兒 Chareese 和 Alfred Chan 等。

義工隊除了醫療人員有固定服務崗位，其他人士可按照興趣選擇，作登記或助工，或投入英語、音樂唱遊，也可在廚房工作，為學生提供新口味的食物，如粵式、西式膳食和甜品，頗受同學們的歡迎。

義工隊不分年齡、崗位熱心投入，發揮主內一家互助互愛的精神。五天工作體驗轉瞬便過去，能夠服務這群堅強、清心受教和活潑的孩子，令我們感恩和謙卑，施與受都是蒙福的人。

跟著要開辦中學，在教育和培訓上讓愛延續，已建成了中學校舍，但各樣設施和配套還未能投入，需要數百萬的款項才能達標，使中小學能順利接軌。

義工能提供的幫助都是象徵的，真實的幫助需要投入更多金錢、技術和精力，需把我們從平日安舒生活中抽出來，並明白前往博愛的旅程已是心寬路平了。你是否願意加入這隊伍？你是否願意捐助一些項目？以愛心作小事，讓神成就大事。

投入點點滴滴凝聚成美善，一同經歷神的恩典，與陳海珠女士、劉惠心醫生一同寫下博愛的傳奇故事。詳情請參閱 www.boai.org.hk

博愛不止息

每一年不同的組合
每一晚真摯的分享
每一刻的包容體諒
每一次突發的障礙
所有不經意的每天
相信著博愛的理念

每一早強勁的鼓聲
每一隊整齊的樂操
每一週肅立的旗禮
每一句親切的問好
每一天努力的學習
堅定地邁步向前
相信著博愛的未來

每一次體檢的準備
每一輪忙碌的分工
每一宗困難的手術
每一滴忍耐的眼淚
每一度青春的漩渦
相信著博愛的力量

夜雨沖洗了塵埃
晨霧展示了生機
撫育成長 愛的意義
青春在世何廣闊
心內湧出一股活泉
從此水清難老 水滴成果
相信著博愛的不息



政府註冊慈善團體

Room 607, Tower 1, Admiralty Centre, 18 Harcourt Road, Admiralty, Hong Kong SAR

香港金鐘夏愨道 18 號海富中心一期 607 室

Tel: (852) 2368 9139 Fax: (852) 2721 8839 E-mail: info@boai.org.hk Web: www.boai.org.hk

Upcoming Events 活動預告



**名牌二手衣飾
慈善義賣**
2013年10月19-20日
上午11時至下午7時
港島香格里拉酒店
5樓泰山廳

歡迎各界愛心捐贈名牌手袋、衣服、
首飾等物品作慈善義賣

捐贈衣飾收集站(9月1-30日):
九龍新蒲崗五芳街26號榮盛工業大廈11樓4室
查詢: 9803 0339 Rita / 3188 8000 Vivian

所有義賣收益將不扣除開支全數撥捐山西博愛學校作擴建中學



We need your support!

請支持我們!

***Donation of items for sale**

***Sales purchase on 19-20 Oct**

***Sales volunteers for the event**

Bo Ai Thanksgiving Dinner 2013

date: 29 NOVEMBER 2013 (Friday)
venue: World Trade Centre Club Hong Kong

Please mark your calendar

Cost: \$500 per person

Dress Code: Smart Casual

Enquiry: Carole Tsang
(hygcarole@yahoo.com.hk)

