

Dear Parents,

The 2017/2018 Academic year has finally started, and in this first newsletter we wish to share with you some interesting and useful info regarding the first month back at school and upcoming events!

## Welcome back to School!

Establishing a close-knit community with a clearly defined identity which the students can feel part of is a key goal that we set ourselves as a school during the first weeks back from the summer holidays.

Receiving families and children during this initial period of the school year means establishing new, positive routines and relationships with their peers and teachers.

Every child finds his or her own way of overcoming the difficulties of seeing off mum and dad in the morning: Some dress up and play pretend, some use binoculars out the window to observe their parents leaving, while others are keen on showing mum or dad around their new school, exploring new rooms and new spaces together.



## Co-Responsibility in Education. Parents – Teacher Meeting

Co-responsibility in education is a “pact” made by parents, children and the school, aimed at establishing goals and values shared in the students’ educational journey in order for all the parts to work on a common goal, thus allowing for a continuity in the children’s development both at home and at school.

The School, as well as being a place for the enrichment of experiences and skills, plays a fundamental role in allowing parents to participate in the personal, relational and civil development of their children. Last week’s parent-teacher evening was held primarily for this reason and we would like to thank everyone for coming.

This educational co-responsibility is based on sharing values and ideas, which the child can ultimately benefit from. It is important that both School and Family agree on the fundamental concept of the child: a child that has rights and is the master of his or her knowledge and understanding.

Parent-Teacher evenings are therefore opportunities for a privileged dialogue, understanding and knowledge amongst adults.



## A Diffused school

“Our School is made up of many houses now!”

“The Italian School is made of many rooms, and we can use all of them”

“I can see my friends in the Pre-School, even though I'm in Year 1”

These are some phrases that the children used to describe the idea of a “diffused school”. Diffusion is evident in the layout of our classrooms and spaces, like a constellation within the DRC.

This concept of dotted and shared spaces is the result of a project that has seen a valuable team of experts work on it, and embodies a deep and definite idea of pedagogy and didactics. The idea is to empower the children’s existing knowledge and their continuous research through a certain fluidity from one space to the other within the school spaces. The layout of classrooms and ateliers is also aimed at encouraging an exchange amongst children of different ages, who “actively experience” the different spaces and their peculiarities in research with their teachers.



## The “Tell me something about yourself” Initiative

This year we have chosen involve parents and grandparents in the didactics by allowing some to share their professional knowledge with the children here at school.

The “Parlami di Te” (Tell me something about yourself) initiative is yet another opportunity for school and families to come together, share and establish a continuity and co-responsibility in the educational path we share with the children.

Parents, Grandparents and Family become the protagonists of didactical projects for students and teachers, and share with us their knowledge and professionalism in their fields of work.

Matilde’s Grandmother, Teresa Contessi, is the Director and Teacher of a Pre-School and is author of the book “Il filo magico” (The Magic Line). Mrs. Contessi visited us all the way from Italy to talk to our Primary students about the adventures of a very special little spider. A story which she used to talk to the children about the topic of disabilities.

With the help of Teacher Benedetta kids then took what they had learned in the story and expressed their thoughts and ideas in artistic form, creating a beautiful spiderweb with recyclable materials.

Mrs. Contessi will return to Beijing in April, and will share the special little’s spiders story with the rest of the school. It’s good to make the most of such valuable resources!



## Events and initiatives

### September 23rd

Parents representative’s election. Apt. 3.1.11, Sala Caffetteria, 10-11 am.

Please note we received only one candidate. If we will not receive others, the representative who will be elected will be in charge for both Primary and Preschool

### September 25th

Extra curricular activity will start from Monday Sept. 25th.

Please note it is possible to enroll kids until September 22nd

### September 26th

Atelier del gusto “Mooncake”, Apt. 3.1.11, Sala Caffetteria, 5.30-7.30 pm in collaboration with restaurant Meizhou Dongpo

### September 28th

Italian Open Day della Kids Design Week, China World Mall (Guo Mao)

### October 1st

Art workshop by Giorgia Cestaro. China World Mall (Guo Mao)  
h. 2:00-2:45 & 4:00-4:45p.m

### October 5th

Cooking Workshop by Roberta Bari. China World Mall (Guo Mao)  
2:00-2:45 & 4:00-4:45p.m

<http://www.bjdw.org/en/bjdws/Active/AT20160171.html>

