

WE ! OTC

OASIS TRAINING CENTER

A New Start

By Crystal Ge

Oasis Training Center (OTC) is a professional training center that focuses on preparing students with the English language and computer application skills.

OTC is an "English only" school, and all the subjects are taught by American teachers, except two subjects which are taught by Mr. Alex. The unique "English only" environment makes our school different from all other schools in Gansu.

September 10th, 2006, was a special day for all of us because it was the first day of school. There were a lot of new faces showed up that evening. We got new students, new interns and two new teachers. This year we have 65 students in total (40

Grade 1 students, and 25 Grade 2 students). This is the largest class in OTC history.

The students had a lot of things to do that evening. They were bustling in and out from the classrooms to get their new stuff: folders, notebooks, pens, erasers, locker keys, and take photos for their new name tags, etc. The students also got measured for their uniforms on Tuesday.

OTC not only cares about their students' study, but also their health. During the Summer Program, the students got their eyes checked. And OTC got glasses for those who have eye problems.

I hope all the students can adapt to this new environment quickly,

especially Grade 1 students. It will take a while for you to fit into this new environment, but if you believe in yourself, and never give up, you will become a good English learner in the future.

Special points of interest:

- **Unique English only environment**
- **September 11th, 2006 is the first day of school**
- **I hope all the students can adapt to the new environment quickly**



Grade 1 students getting measured for their uniforms.

Three New Staff

By Crystal Ge



There are three new teachers who joined OTC this year. Start from this issue, I will give you a brief introduction of each new teacher. The first one is our music teacher, Joshua.

Joshua began to study music when he was 11 years old. Glen Under-

hill, Mr. Clark and his father influenced him on his way of studying music. He learned to play different instruments, such as, guitar, piano, bass, saxophone, etc. He loves music a lot, and enjoyed giving music lessons to students.

"I love music because it is universal"

— Joshua

Baily's Wedding

By Crystal Ge

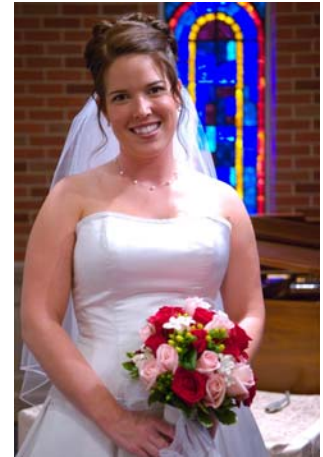


Mr. Nathan and Ms. Mackenzie got married on August 19th, 2006. They held their wedding in Oklahoma. They invited over 300 friends and relatives. And all the OTC teachers showed up on their wedding.

One of the customs is the same with Chinese weddings. The bridegroom can not see his bride on their wedding day until she walks down the aisle. "I am excited to see her in her dress", said

Mr. Nathan.

It was a pity that we could not participate in their wedding. Fortunately, we have some wedding pictures which can remind us of their unforgettable wedding.



My Summer Experience

By Angel Zhang

"One of my favorite activities was to learn the Electric Slide."
Angel

I took part in the Summer Program of OTC during this summer holiday. In the program, I learned some classroom commands, idioms, new vocabulary, songs, and games. The teachers taught us by describing pictures, telling stories, and playing games. I met a lot of new school-mates and made many new American friends. We also had a lot of fun in the Big

Apple. We sang songs, played games, and communicated with American teachers there. One of my favorite activities was to learn the Electric Slide. But I felt sorry for missing the photo taking because I overslept that day. I spent a wonderful time with my teachers and the new students who will study at OTC in the coming semester.

"I think I have improved my listening English in these past three weeks. But my oral English is still bad."

—Sandra Dong

"It is a right choice for me to come to OTC."

—Regina Peng

Joke



Tom had this problem of getting up late in the morning and was always late for work. His boss was mad at him and threatened to fire him if he didn't do something about it. So Tom went to his doctor who gave him a pill and told him to take it before he went to bed. Tom slept well, and in fact, beat the alarm in the morning. He

had a leisurely breakfast and drove cheerfully to work.

"Boss", he said, "The pill actually worked!"

"That's all fine" said the boss, "But where were you yesterday?"

From:
<http://www.lotsofjokes.com/>

"I think I am under pressure because the teachers speak English, and we're encouraged to speak English. It's good for us, but I can't adapt to it directly"

— Tina Tang

Ms. Barbara's Birthday

By Crystal Ge

September, 15th, 2006 was Ms. Barbara's 70th birthday. We held a party at Big Apple and celebrated it. In order to give her a surprise on this special day, all the teachers, interns and students wrote their wishes on a heart shaped card, and hung it on a flower so that when Ms. Barbara came we could give it to her as a birthday pre-

sent. Trying to Ms. Barbara, the teachers, interns and students did all the activities secretly. We also practiced how we would act when Ms. Barbara arrived. She was astonished by all the preparations that we did, and she had a wonderful birthday with all the teachers and students.



My Summer Experience

By Teresa Shi



I gained a lot in this summer holiday. I worked as a teacher in an English Education Training Center. I needed to listen to other teachers' teaching everyday before I start teaching a class. During this time, I must learn the teaching patterns and practice them. Day after day, I mastered all the skills about teaching, finally I got one class. I still could remember my teaching on

the first day. I taught my students seven letters: A to G, and also some simple communication dialogues. They mastered it very quickly. When I taught some new phrases to them, I asked them to do the actions which are related to the new phrases I taught, and they acted the phrases out exactly. I was happy that they could understand most of the content that I taught in

class. After each class, I had to prepare for the next class, so I got tired. But when I remembered the students, I was full of high spirit to finish it and enough courage to work hard.

My Summer Holiday

By Arleyen Xue

This summer holiday was the busiest holiday that I've ever had, and it was the most unforgettable one for me.

During summer holiday, I worked as a teacher in the daytime, therefore I had no free time to join the Summer Program during the daytime. But I participated in it every eve-

ning. The time that I took part in the Summer Program was very short, but I met many friends who are kind and friendly. By talking with them, I learned a lot from them. And I also had a lot of fun during the Summer Program.

The only thing that I feel sorry about is I did not stay with them for a long

time, but they left some nice memories with me after they left.

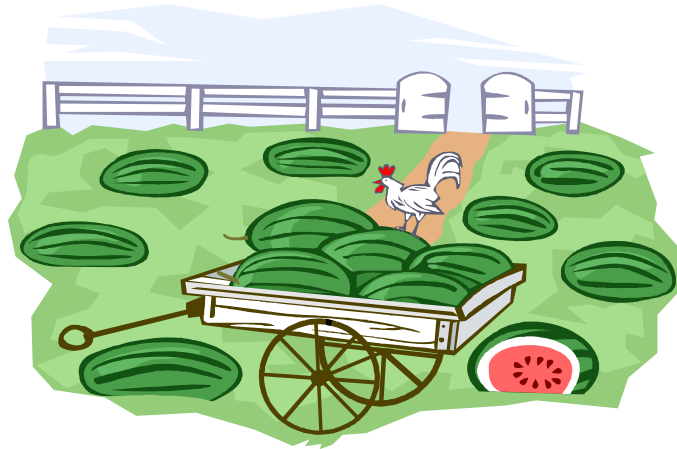


My Summer Experience

By Peter Fan

According to the government policy of Zhen Yuan county, every family should plant seasonal products for promoting the rural economy. My family had two acres of watermelons planted according to our maximum labor force. Therefore, taking care of watermelons was the number one job for me during this summer holiday.

I slept in an easy-built tent on the field during the nights in order to keep the watermelons from being stolen. Sometimes the rain hit the plastic tent hard, and the



inside of the tent became wet. It was not easy to bear the dampness. I could hardly tolerate the "mosquitoes' war" breaking out all over my body, and also the noise which was made by animals and worms. I slept in the tent for three weeks until the harvest time came.

Unfortunately, the watermelons were sold at a surprisingly low price, even though the fruit was labeled as first rate compared to the past few years.

Failure on selling didn't affect my parents' determination of planting because they believe the old saying "No pains, no gains".

Crystal's Corner

This is the first issue of the OTC newspaper. And it will be published once a month from now on. I hope, WE ! OTC can be a sincere friend to each one of you. Here, I would like to thank Ms. Barbara, Mr. Dennis, Ms. Heather and Ms. Michelle for offering the pictures, and also those who have helped and supported me.

By the way, our friends Martha and Sunny will leave OTC this week. I hope they can have a bright future. And always remember this old saying "Where there is a will, there is a way."

"Goodbye! Dear teachers, interns and students. We hope you enjoy your life in OTC and learn as much as you can. We will miss you!"

— Sunny & Martha

