

# WE ! OTC

Oasis  
Training Center

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## This Place We Call the Gym

By Josh Leutzinger

What are you doing on Saturday morning? I'll tell you what you are doing. You're hanging out with Mr. Josh and the other teachers who want to play sports in the morning. On Saturday morning from 9:30-11:30 A.M. we have rented gym time from the local power company. Inside this wonderful place we can play basketball, badminton and ping-pong. Also, there are plenty of places to sit and relax if you want to take a break and talk with your friends.

Please be sure to bring your own ping-pong paddles and badminton racquets if you have them. OTC can provide some things but we may not have enough for every student if many students come.

Also there are a couple of rules



Girls may not wear shoes with tall heels on them.

There is no smoking inside the gym

Be respectful of the property, if something is broken you will have to pay for it if you are not careful.

Only OTC and Pre-OTC students are welcome to come. If we all brought a friend then we would not have enough space to play.

HAVE FUN!!

There is no cost to the students to come play at this gym unless something is broken. Also, this is not a school assignment. If you want to come, you should know that you are invited, but if you want to sleep that is okay too.

The teachers at OTC hope that you will take advantage of this wonderful opportunity. This is a nice place that is inside to play sports this semester. If you are interested in going to this gym, Mr. Josh will meet you at the school gate at 9:15 A.M on Saturday morning to walk down to the gym together. See you on Saturday! -Mr. Josh

## New Staff Introduction

By Angel Zhang



Ms. Joy, who comes from Oregon in the United States, is teaching Grade 1 Keyboarding and Math. She worked as a forest officer for the Oregon Department of Forestry before she came here. When Mr. Dennis and Mrs. Heather visited Joy's parents in the spring of last year, she got some information about OTC from them. That interested her and now she is here. She enjoys reading, hanging out with the students, playing ping pong and badminton in her spare time in China. She loves her students so much and she expects the students to improve their English skills and to ask lots of questions.

This term Grade Two read the story "The Wright Brothers" in their literature class. Wilbur and Orville Wright --- the inventors of the first airplane --- build a printing press early on and decided to print a weekly newspaper for which they collected stories and advertisements from their fellow town's people. An assignment was given to Grade Two to write their own short stories or advertisements about things in their own life or things they imagine might be interesting for someone to read. Following are a few articles they come up with. Hope you enjoy reading them!

---By Michelle Kerns



## The Big Apple

By Shirley Lu

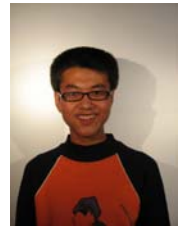
The Big Apple is a special place for activities. Almost all of the teachers and students go to the Big Apple every Friday night. Sometimes we watch movies that can help us to know about science. Sometimes we talk with others in English to practice our oral English. Sometimes we play some interesting games that can change our feelings, etc. The Big Apple is very useful for everyone at OTC. Please come to the Big Apple! Don't miss the chance!



## A Cup for Sale

By Regina Peng

A kind of functional, available and nice light blue cup with a soft handle will be sold within three days. It is more convenient to carry even hot water, tea or cold water in it. Your life will be filled with more joy and fun. With the tea water in it, you can enjoy your noble life in a special way wherever you are!



## Slimmer Machine

By Richard He

As the world of science advances, our daily life quality needs changing further. We have been working with many professors. After numerous surveys we find that most women like to be slim. As we know, all humans are keen on beauty. It's reasonable. We invented a machine that can fit those women who wants to be prettier. It can get our extra fat from our body without hesitation. The price is just 598 Yuan. You are welcome to buy our machine.

## OTC is the Best School in China

By Holly Li



OTC is different from other schools because all of the teachers are foreigners. They speak very good English and the students here are quite diligent. We study hard in order to get a good job after graduation. Our study is not only for getting a nice grade. The tuition is much lower than other English schools you just need to pay 1,700 RMB per semester. Therefore, there is no doubt OTC is the best school. Anyone who has much interest in English. Come here please! We all welcome you.

## Leisure Tea House

By Sandra Dong



Drinking tea is our tradition. A cup of tea can make you feel refreshed when you are tired. Why don't you try it? Tasting tea is an elegant art nowadays. Do you want to be an outstanding artist? Come on in and join us---Leisure Tea House.

## The Teachers' October Holiday



Heather, Angie, Melissa and I traveled 25 hours by sleeper train from Pingliang to Shanghai. There we visited with 10 OTC alumni and went to the Women's World Cup soccer finals. Then, Heather and I took a bus to Suzhou and had four hours with Carrie, Sharon and Betty before taking a train to Nanjing to visit with some old family friends there for two days. We then re-joined Melissa and Angie on the train back to Pingliang. It was a very enjoyable trip with lots of walking and talking and visiting and we even got some rest on the trains.

—Dennis and Heather Choate

During October Holiday, I had a great time in Shanghai with Mr. Dennis, Ms. Heather, and the intern, Melissa. We went to watch the Women's World Cup finals and to visit with the OTC graduates who are living there. I was able to spend a few days with Jane (class of 2006 ) and greatly appreciated her hospitality. It was wonderful to spend my holiday week with my American and Chinese friends.

—Angie Kelley

The highlight of my October holiday was hanging out with students at the music fountain in Xian. I also visited an orphanage with Christy and Joy. It was sweet to be able to hold the little babies and watch a group of children learning to walk. The most exhilarating part of my trip to Xian was running about 5 blocks to the train station and then still missing the train. But it was fun spending one more night with the students and taking the next train in the morning.

—Michelle Kerns

For most of the October Holiday, our family relaxed and stayed at home. We really enjoyed the time we were able to spend playing together as a family! We watched a lot of movies, caught up on grading and lesson plans, read novels, and slept late every day. We got to have a few meals with some other families in the neighborhood, played at Liu Hu Park, went swimming with Mr. Greg in the Hot Springs swimming pool in Jing Chuan, and connected with some of the students at the Big Apple on Friday. Most of all we enjoyed seeing each other all day everyday and getting to play with Jonah and Eliza so much. It definitely felt like a break and was very refreshing.

—Chris and Diane Wiebe

For my October holiday, I went to Xi'an with Miss Michelle, Miss Joy, and Sunny. We spent several days there which were filled with site seeing, shopping, eating, and relaxing. Sunny had suggested that we visit the Yellow "Waterfall." I thought it sounded interesting, so I decided to go with her, but Michelle and Joy stayed in Xi'an. Before the trip began, I was under the impression that it would be a 6 hour trip, but once we got on the train, I found out that it would be a total of 9 and a half hours. Once we finally arrived, I was shocked to learn that it was not a waterfall, but in fact, it was rapids. After seeing the "waterfall," we then hitched a ride to the nearest town with a man that neither of us knew, which was scary to me. Then, we waited 2 and a half hours for the next bus back to Xi'an. While we were on the bus, there was a wreck on the highway, so our bus ride took 9 hours instead of 3. It was all crazy! However, it does leave me with a great story to tell, which I'm always looking for good ones to share with my friends and family back in the states.



—Christy Taylor

### Josh and Angel's Recommendation



**“Properly, we should read for power. Man reading should be man intensely alive. The book should be a ball of light in one's hand”  
— Ezra Poun**



Book Title	Author	Location	Date	China Daily Newspaper Article Title and Page#
The Girl in the Window	Yeo	II C-2		
Hope Rising	Meeder	IV B-1	10,01,07	Germany holds on to World Cup glory pg .12
Great Expectations	Dickens	VI 3		
Marley & Me	Grogan	VI 5	10,02,07	Stitching Dreams Pg. 12
Sea Star	Henry	II C-1	10,03,07	Garnett to face the Timberwolves on the NBA Europe live tour Pg .11
Grimm's Fairy Tales	Grimm	II C-1		
Hans Brinker	Dodge	II B-1	10,09,07	Special Olympics proves safe, healthy Pg .6
A Glory of Unicorns	Coville	II B-1	10,10,07	Lost in the haze Pg . 18
Island of the Blue Dolphins	O' Dell	II A-2		
Little House on the Prairie	Williams	II C-2	10,13,07	CPC ready for national congress Pg .1
Charlotte's Web	White	II C-2	10,13,07	Bryant no longer untouchable Pg . 3

### Angel's Angle

By Angel Zhang

Have you ever wondered how American parents discipline their children? Do you want to know how their life is? If the answer is yes, I would like to share my experience with you. Maybe each of you know I am responsible for baby-sitting Jonah and Eliza on each Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoon. I have learned a lot from my job everyday and I am also impressed by how they treat each other. I can feel love, politeness, and fairness in their house. I admire their attitude about life, especially the way Mr. Chris and Ms. Diane discipline Jonah and Eliza. In general, Chinese parents would hit the children or criticize them as a punishment when they made mistakes, but I have never seen Mr. Chris and Ms. Diane hit or criticize their children. That does not mean they spoil their children. They would talk with the children and tell them why they did wrong and how to behave right and sometimes they will take their toys away for a certain period. They are always patient to answer Jonah and Eliza's questions, even some questions that are silly. When Mr. Chris and Ms. Diane go to work, they will give the children kisses and hugs. In my mind, this is a wonderful and touching moment. They let their children think freely although they are still so young. They do everything that they promise to their children. I like the way they educate the children and I hope they will live happily and healthy in their whole life. Let's give our best wishes to them.

