

## Mandarin Messenger ~ November/December

Parents, this has been a very busy 1st trimester! As you know, we are implementing a brand new ELA program, which is extremely complex, and teachers are continuing PD in learning how to use the many facets of the program in a way that best meet our students' needs.

In addition, our upper grade teachers are all learning how to implement Mathematician Missions, which is a format to teach our Envision Math using small group rotations. This will allow them to differentiate learning to both struggling and high achieving/GATE students.

As our teachers plan to meet the needs of their students, they are finding it beneficial to departmentalize, so that one teaches ELA and the other Math. This allows them to plan more in depth, group students accordingly, and helps alleviate the extra planning required by our MIP teachers. Thank you for your flexibility as you see this exciting change happen in our 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grades.

During the Mandarin half of the day students are diving into Mandarin Language Arts, Math, Science and Social Studies. As you may know, our upper grade students had the opportunity to participate in the OCDE GLAD Conference as a demonstration classroom, followed by a performance at the luncheon for conference attendees. Our students did a fantastic job and represented our school well!

In early November, we had a visit by representatives of the Confucius Institute. They walked through classrooms and discussed the continuing partnership with Fletcher's MIP. You will receive information about another exciting opportunity for a trip to China, this time in the summer!

Thank you for your involvement in the Mandarin Immersion Program (MIP) at Fletcher School!