

S P R I N G 2 0 1 7

the

ISP News

International Student Program
Grand Rapids Christian Schools



Congratulations Graduating Class of 2017!

Isaac Chaves:

College in Costa Rica

Chen Zijie:

Indiana University
Bloomington

Lau Chun ho (William):

Gap year in China

Lau Yuiki:

Cornerstone University

Liu Fan (Jackie):

University of
Washington

Hanh Mai (Hannah):

Calvin College

Joan Nakakande:

Calvin College

Xie Xiaoxue (Jessica):

University of
Washington

Zhou Yangshuying (Kate):

University of Michigan

Farewell & Senior Celebration Dinner

May 15, 2017 @ 6pm

High School Town Square

Please join us for an end of year farewell dinner
and a celebration of our graduating seniors!

Save the Date!

Senior Farewell
Dinner
May 15

Graduation
Class of 2017
May 16

Summer Break
May 26
- August 16



Winterim 2017

Internships & Classes

Joan Nakakande Kampala Community Church, Uganda

“This internship has helped acquire skills of how to work hard regardless of the location of the job. It has also greatly increased my communication skills with different people after working with different age groups ranging from 4 to adults. I can apply my communication skills at my school community to talk to different students and encourage them to work hard and to be thankful for each and every blessing that Grand Rapids Christian High has.”

Ashley Zhou Terzes Photography, Grand Rapids

“I learned a lot about communicating with new people, helping with little stuff, taking pictures and modeling. I helped with a commercial shooting as a log keeper, I also helped with setup lights for that commercial shooting.”

Chen Zijie The Weight Room, Beijing

“It helped me learn how to do the right forms in different workouts, like hang clean, back squat, and bench press, and it also helped me learn how to train people and make sure to let their form is correct. What I learned from this internship can help me work with the coach in our school. When the pain come, I kept pushing through and never gave up.”

Jessica Xie Prince Conference Center, Grand Rapids

“My internship place showed me a great example of team works, and always care for others. Although you have responsibility for your own job, but always keep your eyes on your group mates and group works....Give a chance to your teammates, also is give a chance to your future mistakes.”





Spring Festival

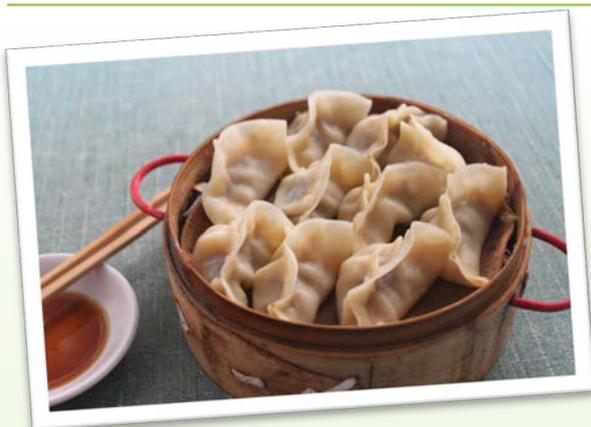
Host Family Meeting, January 26

On Thursday, January 26, we celebrated Spring Festival and the Lunar New Year with a special Chinese dinner for our host families and international students. After the food and fellowship, host parents and students split off into separate groups for a time of training and mentoring. The Third Chair led discussion with the host parents on communication and relationship building. The students split off into mentoring groups for the young women and for the young men. Overall, it was a great time of discussion and building community.

Pi Day

Host Family Meeting, March 14

On Tuesday, March 14, we gathered for our final host parent training evening. Host families and international students joined together for desserts and a lecture from Dr. David Smith, professor and director of Graduate Studies in Education at Calvin College. Dr. Smith is a recent co-author of the book "Christians and Cultural Difference." He led a wonderful time of discussion and encouragement for students and host parents as they face cultural differences on a daily basis.



Chinese Dumplings (Jiaozi)

Chinese Dumplings are eaten year-round, but are particularly important during the Lunar New Year.

1 lb. ground pork
 3 cloves garlic, minced
 1 egg, beaten
 2 Tbsp Chinese chives, finely chopped
 2 Tbsp soy sauce
 1 ½ Tbsp sesame oil
 1 Tbsp fresh ginger, minced
 50 dumpling wrappers

1. Mix ingredients in a large bowl. Place a dumpling wrapper on a lightly floured work surface and spoon about 1 tablespoon of filling in the middle. Wet the edge with a little water and crimp together forming small pleats to seal the dumpling. Repeat.
 2. Cook in pot of water about 6-9 minutes. Heat vegetable oil in large skillet and cook dumplings until browned.

Clubs & Activities

Eagles Forensics Team

<http://bkarsten3.wixsite.com/grchsforensics>

FIRST PLACE trophy at the Menchinger Invitational Tournament in Portage, MI! Special congratulations to the following international students for their individual honors:

Storytelling: Cathy Xue (semi-finalist)

Prose: Victoria Ding (semi-finalist)

Poetry: Ada Yuan (fifth place)

Informative: Cece Liu (semi-finalist)



Coding Club

Alice Jiang recently started a computer-coding club. After attending the “Girls Who Code” program at Calvin College, Alice was inspired to do something similar at Grand Rapids Christian. She hoped to encourage American students, especially girls, who may be interested in the computer science field.

After her proposal passed a few weeks ago, she has started meeting with a few students to discuss coding. The goal is to not only get people interested in computer science, but also to make friends and help each other go further in their work.

“Everyone can do coding,” Alice stated. “The reason I like coding is you can add your own ideas, whether it’s creating games, music, or something else, coding can do many things.”

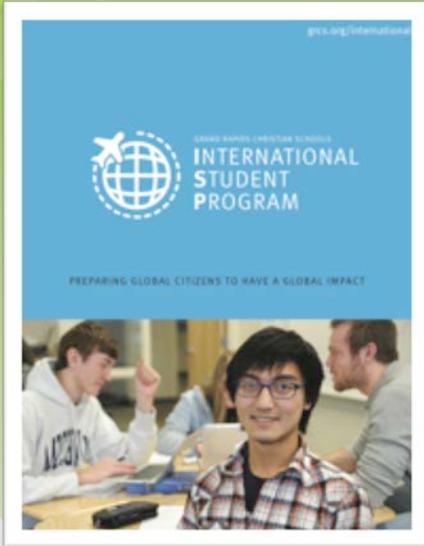
She also noted that the club is open for everyone, not just girls. Most people who join are beginners, just like Alice. “I’m a beginner,” she said, “we can learn together.”



Spring Break Retreat

This year our annual Spring Break Trip was spent in Holland, Michigan. We stayed in one huge house between Holland and Saugatuck, only a short distance from Lake Michigan. Some of the activities we enjoyed together were bike riding, Frisbee golf, shopping in downtown Saugatuck and Holland, a day at the dunes and beach of Lake Michigan, and a Hope College visit. Our time at the house was filled with ping-pong, billiards, foosball, card games, basketball, and of course cooking and eating lots of food!





Apply to GRCHS!

We are looking for students who:

- are eager to fully participate in school, extra curricular and family activities.
- demonstrate academic English proficiency.
- demonstrate character qualities of integrity, self-discipline, and motivation, consistent effort, obedient spirit, positive attitude and respectful behavior.

Visit our website for more information on the application
www.grcs.org/international



The International Student Program Leadership Team



Rachel Mulder
 Co-Director of International Student Program
rhmulder@grcs.org
 (616) 574-5621
 WeChat ID: englishbluebells



Joelle Williams
 Co-Director of International Student Program
jwilliams@grcs.org
 (616) 574-5652
 WeChat ID: JAWilliams



Lisa Rozema
 International Student Academic Coordinator
lrozema@grcs.org
 WeChat ID: LR6165168431



GRAND RAPIDS CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS
INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROGRAM