WAB Parent Link

2019-2020

















What is Parent Link?

- Parent Link provides a link between the parents and the school.
- We aim to build a stronger community for the benefit of everyone: our children, families, and the school.
- We also support others who are less fortunate than ourselves through fundraising and charitable work.

Parent Link Mission

To make a difference by connecting, supporting, and enriching the WAB community in a spirit of shared enthusiasm and positive action.

Parent Link Vision

To be a strong link within the WAB community, with the values of being inclusive, respectful, and China-focused, connecting for the common good.

How can I join Parent Link?

- All WAB parents/guardians are automatically members of Parent Link.
- But to really get the most out of Parent Link we recommend you participate at all possible opportunities.
- Check out the range of activities (parents.wab.edu/parent-link) that we coordinate. There's something for everyone.
- For general questions, please email parentlink@wab.edu.

Key Dates	Event	Opportunities to Participate
Mon, August 26	Korean Link Welcome Coffee	Introduction for Korean Parents
Wed, August 28	Parent Link Welcome Coffee	Kickstarting the community
Sat, August 31	WAB Community Picnic	Meet old friends and make new ones
Fri, September 6	Chinese Link Welcome Coffee	Introduction for Chinese Parents
Wed, September 18	Parent Link Open Meeting	Hear what's planned; have your say
Wed, October 16	Parent Link Open Meeting	Planning underway for the upcoming Charity Bazaar
Thurs-Sun, October 24-27	JPAC Volleyball	Cheer on our athletes; help out on the Tiger Spirit Snack Shack
Wed, November 13	Parent Link Open Meeting	Including more planning for the Charity Bazaar
Sat, November 23	Charity Bazaar	Lend a hand, buy up a storm, support charity
Wed, December 4	Parent Link Open Meeting	Hear what's planned; have your say
Wed, January 15	Parent Link Open Meeting	Hear what's planned; have your say
Fri, January 17	Friends of the Library Pyjama Party	Celebrate our ES children's love of reading
Wed-Sun, February 5-9	APAC Basketbal	Come support our athletes; help out on the Tiger Spirit Snack Shack
Mon, February 10	Career Fair	Provide students with insights into your industry
Wed, February 12	Parent Link Welcome Coffee	Come along to welcome the newest WAB families
Wed, February 19	Parent Link Open Meeting	Hear what's planned; have your say
Wed-Sun, February 19-23	APAC Band	Support our performers; help out on the Tiger Spirit Snack Shack
Fri-Sun, March 6-8	Tri-Cities Soccer & Badminton	Cheer on our athletes; help out on the Tiger Spirit Snack Shack
Wed, March 18	Parent Link Election	Vote for next year's Executive Team
Thur, March 26	Staff Appreciation Day	Cook up a storm to feed the amazing WAB staff
Wed-Sun, April 15-19	APAC Softball	Cheer on our athletes; help out on the Tiger Spirit Snack Shack
Wed, April 15	Parent Link Handover	Find out how you can help out next year
Wed, May 20	Parent Link Open Meeting	Planning for the upcoming Fun Fair
Fri & Sat, May 22-23	Jazz in the Park/Film Festival/Fun Fair/Rock in the Park	Lend a hand, enjoy the day (and evening)
Fri, June 5	Parent Link Open Meeting	Saying goodbye until next school year

Dear new and returning families:

As the Chair of Parent Link, I am honored and delighted to welcome you to the 2019-2020 school year.

Parent Link provides a link between parents and the school and aims to build a stronger community for the benefit of everyone: our children, families and the school. We also support others who are less fortunate than ourselves through fundraising and charitable work.

If you want to meet with other WAB parents, Parent Link is the place to start. Parent Link works as a hub, providing families at WAB a wide range of opportunities to share and celebrate our many different backgrounds and experiences.

Through your involvement with Parent Link, you'll get insights and understanding into what is going on in the school. There are various opportunities throughout the year to participate in activities that directly help the school.

On a more personal note, it feels good to give, whether it's your time, your expertise or a financial donation to one of our carefully selected and very worthy charities. Our children learn as much from our actions as they do from our words: being involved with Parent Link demonstrates to our children the value that we place upon volunteering.

We guarantee, whatever you put in, you'll get back way more in return.

Throughout the year, Parent Link offers numerous ways to get involved, on a one-off or regular basis. Detailed information is provided on the Activities pages of this booklet and is highlighted in the Parent Link School Calendar that your child (the youngest one, if you have more than one at the school) should be bringing home, as well as on our pages on the Parent Portal website.

There are so many ways in which Parent Link contributes to the lifeblood of the school:

- * Charity Link leads our fundraising, raising hundreds of thousands of RMB every year. In 2018-19, the Small Change for Big Changes Appeal provided funds to Educating Rural Girls of China, enabling them to send 20 girls to high school for a year. The Annual WAB Charity Bazaar, also organized by Charity Link, benefited numerous charities, many of them nominated by students.
- * Funds raised through the 100% parent-driven Tiger Den shop and Tiger Spirit stall go towards initiatives and school activities including online educational subscriptions, a High School scholarship award, staff and parent appreciation events and visits by distinguished auest speakers.
- * Community Link has arranged activities such as behind-the-scenes school tours, cooking classes and the international lunches to mark the Celebration of Diversity and the Global Issues Conference.
- * We supported the Parents as Learners series of talks and have helped support the FLoW21 parent ambassador training program.
- * And let's not forget the countless smiles and fun our Parent Link Fun Fair brought our children and families.

This year, we hope to continue improving and we are always open to input and new ideas.

Parents' participation is vital to the success of Parent Link. We welcome you to attend Parent Link meetings and events and take part in our activities. You'll make new friends, learn new ideas, and set examples to your children about the value of contributing...

Sincerely,

Heidi NordgrenParent Link Chair

One hour a year. That's all we ask from you.

Parent Link is a volunteer organization.

It's entirely dependent upon people giving their time. In order to be able to run the range of activities, we need you, the school parents, to help out.

If everyone gave just one hour a year, we would have enough helpers to be able to run all our activities.

The good news is it's not one-sided. People who participate in Parent Link say they get a lot more back than they put in.

What's in it for me?

The more you are involved, the more you will get out of Parent Link.

- Meet other parents
- Enjoy and help build the diverse WAB community
- Understand more about what happens at school
- Help the school
- · Contribute to charity
- Demonstrate to your children the value of volunteering

What's in it for everyone else?

When parents are involved in school, children do better.

Research shows that when parents are involved in their children's education, the children are more likely to:

- · Earn better grades
- · Score higher on tests
- Pass their classes
- Attend school regularly
- Have better social skills
- Show improved behavior
- Be more positive in their attitude toward school
- Complete homework assignments
- Graduate and continue their education

Schools with involved parents enjoy:

- Better morale among teachers
- Higher ratings of teachers by parents
- · More support from families
- A better reputation in the community

Experts agree that parent involvement in their children's education is one of the biggest predictors of student success.

WAB's Parent Link organizes a wide range of activities and facilitates numerous groups, with many of them listed below. For further information, including ideas about how you can get involved and the benefits of participation, visit the Parent Link page on the Parent Portal website.

Room Parents and Grade Reps

At the heart of WAB's Parent Link activities are the volunteers that serve as Elementary School Room Parents and Middle and High School Grade Reps. ES Room Parents typically organize activities including class parties and social events for parents to meet, while MS/HS Grade Reps help facilitate communication between the parents and school and also organize social events.

Your Room Parent/Grade Rep passes on information, most likely through WeChat. All Rooms/ Grades should have a WeChat group, where vital information, upcoming dates and Parent Link-related information is shared. We strongly recommend you join the group.

To volunteer or for more information about Room Parents and Grade Reps, go to the Parent Link page on the Parent Portal website or contact the representative for your respective school section, who will be able to link you with your Room Parent/Grade Rep.

Early Years/Elementary School: parentlink_esrep@wab.edu

Middle School: parentlink_msrep@wab.edu **High School**: parentlink_hsrep@wab.edu

Career Fair Committee

Career Fair is a half-day event for Grades 10 and 11 students organized by Parent Link in collaboration with the High School counselors. Typically held in late January or early February, it aims to broaden students' horizons and give them insights into a wide variety of professions. Parent Link helps to organize the professionals, many of them parents at the school, who attend on the day.

Contact: careerfairlink@wab.edu

Charity Link

Charity Link coordinates a wide range of programs aimed at assisting the vast population of impoverished people living in China, including raising money to sponsor education of rural children and other groups in need.

Contact: charitylink@wab.edu

Charity Bazaar

The Annual Parent Link Charity Bazaar is a highlight of the WAB calendar. One of the biggest – and many would argue the best – of Beijing's winter fairs, the Charity Bazaar sees the Elementary School filled to the brim with festive fare and happy shoppers. A massive range of goods are offered for sale, and there are some legendary food stalls, including Parent Link's very own bake sale and the ever popular Finnish table.

The Charity Bazaar is scheduled to take place every year at the end of November or start of December.

Contact: charitylink@wab.edu

Community Link

Community Link aims to bring together the WAB community. It welcomes and assists new WAB parents during Orientation Day and Welcome Coffees, so newcomers can connect with each other, and arranges cultural outings providing an opportunity for parents to meet and discover more of Beijing and different cultures.

Contact: communitylink@wab.edu

Friends of the Library

Friends of the Library aims to promote reading among students, for example by organizing book swaps, book fairs and online book orders, running the annual PJ party for the youngest students and sponsoring residencies by authors and illustrators.

Contact: librarylink@wab.edu

Fun Fair Link

Every May, Parent Link sponsors a carnival-like day of fun for the WAB community, organizing games, sports challenges, entertainment and good food. It's one of the highlights of the school calendar.

Contact: funfairlink@wab.edu

Celebration of Diversity/Global Issues Conference Lunch

Another one (actually two) of the must-attend events on the WAB calendar, Celebration of Diversity in the Elementary School and the Global Issues Conference in the Middle/High Schools offer the opportunity to share the culinary delights of our own countries.

Every family is asked to bring in a plate of food from their home country to share with the rest of the school. It's a massive event that fills the school gyms and sees students proudly celebrating their home country (or countries, for many of them).

Contact: Room Parents/Grade Reps

For further information, see the Parent Link page on the Parent Portal website.

Parent Link Shop

Parent Link operates the Tiger's Den in the ES. The shop sell WAB merchandise, PE uniforms, WABX items and much more. Entirely run by parent volunteers, profits are used to support many activities throughout the school and beyond.

Contact: parentlinkshops@wab.edu

Further information, including shop times, is available on the Parent Link page on the Parent Portal website.

Social Events

Each year, Parent Link organizes several social events to help bring parents together and build the WAB community. Previous examples have included cooking classes, ice skating, and trips to interesting locations. Some events combine children and parents. Others – such as the Quiz Night – are for adults only. New suggestions are always welcome.

Contact: communitylink@wab.edu

Staff Appreciation Day

WAB families get to show their appreciation for the marvelous work done by the entire WAB staff. Usually held in March, parents cook up a storm and provide a veritable feast.

Contact: Information will be provided through Room Parents and Grade Reps.

Tiger Spirit Link

Tiger Spirit Link aims to promote school spirit, providing support for WABX Activities (including sports, arts and other activities) and running the Snack Shacks during WABX events.

Contact: tigerspiritlink@wab.edu.

Chinese Link

Chinese Link aims to provide an important communication bridge between the school and Chinese parents, by understanding Chinese parents needs, listening to their concerns, conveying accurate school information and organizing the participation of Chinese parents in school and Parent Link events. Chinese Link usually meets once a month.

Contact: chineselink@wab.edu

Korean Link

Korean Link aims to facilitate smooth and clear communication between the school and Korean parents, fostering a close-knit sense of community and a spirit of teamwork and volunteerism and promoting the unique culture and food delicacies of the country.

Contact: koreanlink@wab.edu

ASEAN Link (Association of Southeast Asian Nations)

ASEAN Link is the group for parents from ASEAN countries, or those with a link or interest to those areas. Primarily a social group, ASEAN link members go on cultural visits, picnics and potluck dinners.

Contact: aseanlink@wab.edu

WAB Dads

WAB Dads provides a comfortable environment for communication among fathers of WAB students. We aim to generate diverse thoughts and ideas to benefit the entire WAB community.

Contact: dadslink@wab.edu

FloW21

Parent Link works very closely on the FloW21 initiatives. We help to find parents to participate in many of the FloW21 committees and events and we provide input into the parent ambassador program.

Contact: parentlink_flow21@wab.edu

WAB Telephone Numbers and email addresses

Elementary Reception (including ECC)

Phone: 5986 5588 ext. 1000 email: esreception@wab.edu

Middle School Reception

Phone: 5986 5588 ext. 1002 email: msreception@wab.edu

High School Reception

Phone: 5986 5588 ext. 1004 email: hsreception@wab.edu

How do I inform school if my child is sick?

Send a message through the school website <u>parents.wab.edu/lateabsent-2</u> or the school's WeChat account.

Where do I go to find out what is happening in school?

WAB Weekly is the best place to find out what is coming up. It is published every Friday at 11am on the Parent Portal *(parents.wab.edu/wab-weekly)* and WAB's WeChat website. We send you an email every week to remind you.

Further Information

The Communications and Advancement Office has produced an invaluable guide to all WAB's online resources. If you don't have a copy, drop them a line at wabinfo@wab.edu and they can send it to you via email.

Key Website addresses

WAB: www.wab.edu

WAB Parent Portal: parents.wab.edu

WAB Photos: parents.wab.edu/wab-photos
WAB News: www.wab.edu/connect/wabnews

WABX: wabx.wab.edu
PowerSchool: ps.wab.edu
Blogs: blogs.wab.edu

SchoolsBuddy: wabx.schoolsbuddy.net

**NAVIGATING **



ES EXIT GATE 小学出车口

BIG RED GATE

ES ENTRANCE/EXIT (Buses, Cars, Bicycles, Pedestrians) 小学大红门

Elementary School (ES) 小学部

- 2. Sabina Brady Library 图书馆 3. The Atrium 学生用餐区 4. Founders' Theatre 创始人大剧场

- 5. ES Gym 小学体院馆 6. Lofus Lounge 荷花坊 7. Chinese Garden 中国花园 8. Secret Garden and Maze 秘密花园和迷宫
- 9. Swimming Pool 游泳馆

NAB 京西校园图



The HUB - Sports, Music, Arts & Technology Center (MS/HS)

初,高中文体与科技中心

- 1. Out of the Box Theater (OOB) 黑匣子戏剧排练室
- 2. LINK Bistro & Cafe 餐厅和咖啡廊
- 3. Blu Theater 蓝剧场
- 4. Tiger L'Air 虎穴
- 5. Adrengline Fitness Center 健身中心
- 6. HUB Gym 体育馆
- 7. Peace Park 平心园

High School (HS) 高中部

- |. Administration Offices 行政办公区
- 2. HS Gym 高中体育的
- 3. Koi Garden/Bamboo Court 錦鯉園 / 竹房
- 4. Wild Ginger Cafe 观光咖啡廊

Services 服务部

- HR 人車5
- School Affairs 校务部
- Properties 校产部
- Security 安保部





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www.wab.edu | parents.wab.edu











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