

MCF'S SEMESTERLY NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2021



JOURNEYS

INSPIRE AND BE INSPIRED



FOUNDER'S MESSAGE

INSPIRE AND BE INSPIRED

The time of year has come where we look back on the first half of the year and consider what MCF has achieved and the activities that have kept us busy.

With regard to our core commitment, every Friday and Saturday morning some 200 children have been receiving fun filled cultural activities from our team. Since January, 221 children have received a medical check-up. Eye tests resulted in 46 children being provided with glasses. New to our normal health checks is dental inspection along with educating the children about proper dental care.

The Foundation continues meeting the school fees for 5 children. For those who have followed the ongoing story of Fan Fan, the young boy with cerebral palsy, his parents provide him with physical exercises including swimming pool activities. Unfortunately, because of the corona virus complications, the exercises he had been provided with while in Beijing are shelved at present.

A new venture with The Central Academy of Fine Arts has allowed a class of schoolchildren to learn Chinese painting and Calligraphy under the tutelage of the Asst. Director of the Centre.

MCF continues to work in unison with a number of international schools and organisations. BCIS, BSB Sanlitun, Canadian International School, BWYA., WAB, and Dulwich College readily come to mind when referring to support received over the past 6 months. Halliburton continues to associate their CSR program with MCF, which reflects a certain deference from them for the work carried out by the Foundation.

There is ongoing involvement with events sponsored by The British Chamber such as the Highland Games. The list goes on. Suffice to say, it has been a busy first half of 2021. One event that is quintessentially MCF is our signature Murder Mystery Evening and this year was our best one yet.

All this has been achieved by the unrelenting application of diverse skills, experience and knowledge from an amazing team of people better known as 'Friends of MCF'. These 'Friends' have one goal in common and that is to provide vocational and cultural experiences to disadvantaged children. The only reward they receive for their efforts is to know that their time has been spent helping 'to make a difference'. Though this may not be unique, it is rare to see such people commit themselves enthusiastically week after week. I personally feel privileged to be part of such a group.

HELEN BOYLE OBE.



MCF VOICES

DEBBIE

Debbie is an expat from USA who arrived in Beijing in August 2019. Her husband was offered an incredible opportunity to relocate to Beijing and they didn't hesitate. They left four months after he accepted and made their kids the empty nesters. She is a believer that everything has a purpose and appreciates the journey. Her involvement with MCF began in August of 2020 when she was asked to oversee a game for the children's summer event. That led for her to lead the MCF team. It is something she cherishes and hopes to continue to be of assistance when she inevitably returns to Florida.



EMMANUEL



Emmanuel is an International Student from Nigeria, and has been in China since September 2016. He was drawn to MCF through a brief post on a Wechat group sent by Debbie. His first event was at a Christmas event at Riviera Country Club:

"I felt at home and comfortable around the MCF family. The best part about it is that it is a two-way street where you get something in return, whether it is through expanding your network, or promoting your business. Just like the MCF logo reads, 'Inspire and be Inspired.' At the end of the day, seeing the impact you have on kid's lives just assures you that all the work put in is all for a good cause." Ever since the Christmas event at Riviera, he has joined the events team and has been a great addition to the organisation.

MCF OVERVIEW

JANUARY - JUNE 2021

JANUARY

Secret Santa
Whiskey Tasting

FEBRUARY

Online Bookclub
Virtual Emporium

MARCH

MCF's first concert "On the Rocks"

APRIL

Easter Emporium
Start of Friday & Saturday School
Bag of Hope Drive
Murder Mystery
Cooperation at AllIB

MAY

Golf Tournament
Shang's Patio Emporium
110 Health Check Ups
Children's Dental Check

JUNE/JULY

Virtual Emporium
CSR program with Halliburton
Field trip to Central Academy of Fine Arts
Highland Games
146 Health Check Ups
45 Children's Eye Check Ups

FRIDAY SCHOOL

APRIL

April at the Friday school was a busy month, with nine MCF's volunteers taking it in turns to work with about 150 children in four classes. The children, range from 3 to 6 years old, had great fun singing, colouring and crafting. They learned the English names of shapes and looked for real examples in the classroom, they found out how to say "happy" and drew some smiles on faces, and they counted to 10 with great ease. Singing "heads, shoulders, knees and toes" was a fun way to learn the names of body parts, and the speed version of the song made kids squeal with laughter. A huge thank you to everyone for your time and commitment!



MAY

MCF had a fun-filled May at the nursery with the kids, learning about animals, family and action words such as clapping (hands) and stamping (feet). We introduced Bingo for our review class, and the children soon got the hang of the game, listening carefully for each word and colouring in the right picture. Pen control was the focus of one worksheet as the children carefully traced dotted words. Most of all, the kids loved singing Baby Shark, a great way to learn the names for family members. It was wonderful to see everyone (including us!) on their feet performing all the sharky moves!



SATURDAY SCHOOL

APRIL

In April this year we had a new school added to our activities with kids ranging from 6 to 11 years. Since then, we have been visiting the kids on Saturdays for a morning full of games and laughter while learning about days of the week, weather, clothes, different kinds of foods and making sentences using this vocabulary. Kids have been divided in three levels to focus better on their particular needs. There has been lots of board games, matching games and creative ideas to make the learning more enjoyable for the kids. It has been a great experience to see the kids getting more and more excited to meet us on Saturdays, willing to learn and have fun with us.



JUNE

June has been a memorable month at the Saturday school. Kids have got familiar with all the volunteers by now and feel more confident to talk and learn with us. As always we have focused on making the learning experience fun and enjoyable. During this month volunteers have been singing with an ukelele and imitating all kinds of animals for kids to guess and shout out their names in English.

Different kind of games involving recognizing drawings in flashcards and making sentences with vocabulary regarding weather and clothing have been used making the kids even not wanting to stop the classes when they came to an end.

HEALTH CHECK UPS

Health Check Ups

MCF works with disadvantaged schools in and around Beijing to offer healthcare to their students.



The health-check program has covered over 6200 children, and check-ups are followed up later with the children's parents meeting the doctor to discuss the medical results.



Eye Check Ups

Early and regular eye exams are crucial to ensure a child's eyes are healthy and that there are no vision problems that could later interfere with school



performance or potentially affect the child's safety.

MCF's Eye Examination Program provides disadvantaged children, who would not normally be able to afford an eye examination, with regular check-ups to help rule out any vision problems that can lead to poor academic performance, eye strain and, in the most extreme cases, vision loss.

To date over 900 students received an eye check up and 221 glasses were provided.



HEALTH CHECK UPS

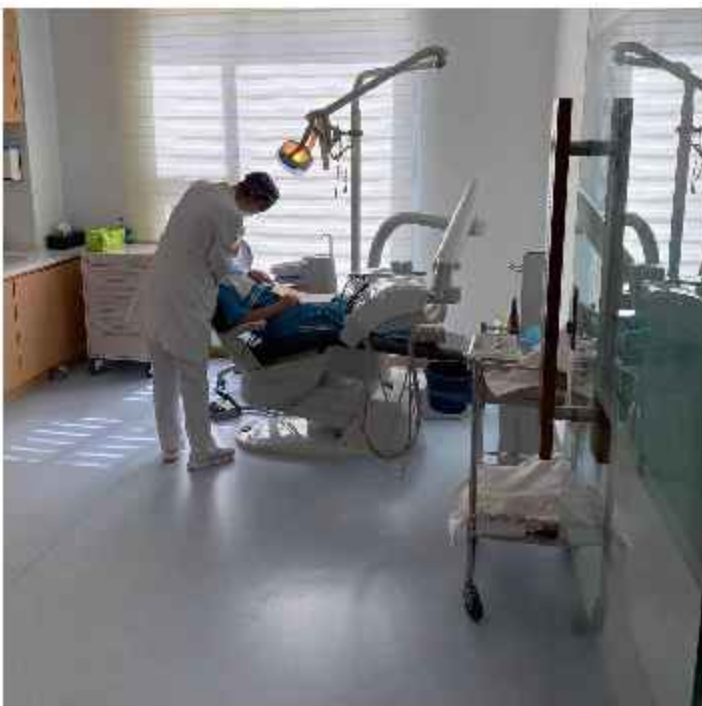
Dental Check Ups

MCF has recently started a new project to care for the teeth of the kindergarten kids our volunteers visit every Friday. Some of those children, who are aged 4 to 6 years, have teeth in a poor condition, and MCF is determined to help out.

The goal is to encourage good habits so that the kids brush their teeth properly now and throughout their lives.

On May 31st, MCF volunteers accompanied 20 children to Oasis International Hospital for a dental check-up. After a quick bite to eat, dentists checked the children's teeth, giving some kids a fluoride treatment for longer-lasting protection. Finally, each child dressed up as a mini-dentist, made plasticine teeth and then inspected, brushed and drilled them!

Many thanks Oasis International Hospital for a great afternoon and for supporting the children's dental health!



TEETH TIME

Our first dental-care lesson took place on June 25th, weaving toothy themes into the usual Friday fun. The children learnt how important it is to brush twice a day, once in the morning and once before bedtime.



They giggled as the volunteers demonstrated how to squeeze out toothpaste and brush every tooth. They were delighted to receive a toothbrush and toothpaste each, plus a colourful picture-filled information sheet that they can look at at home with their parents.



MCF is also in the process of establishing cooperation with other hospitals, who are interested in offering their expertise by supporting MCF's program for children in need.

This cooperation will allow MCF to continue to educate children the importance of taking care of their body and stay healthy.



SECRET SANTA

Such a wonderful day of smiley faces, joyous laughs and warm hugs. MCF was able to present more than 200 toys and books to a group of very excited children! The gifts were generously donated as part of MCF's Secret Santa Program by following the organisations: OASIS International Hospital, Bank of China, The Beijinger, Beijing Kids, JSS, Side Street, Eton Kids, Zarah, Little Oasis, Yoga Yard, HM Taekwondo, Green Garden, Wild China, 乐融早教, 爱嘟咪.

A fabulous gingerbread house was donated by the British Embassy.



It's inspiring to see such a large group of local businesses and organisations responding in such a generous manner to give a little and 'make a difference'. We would like to thank all our sponsors for donating the toys and Oasis Hospital for providing the central point for receiving them.

MCF HOMEWORK CLUB

The MCF Homework Club finished its second semester of one-on-one homework help before the Dragon Boat Festival. Like the first semester, students and tutors met on a weekly basis over the weekend virtually for a 90-minute session to work on homework, review materials learned earlier in the week, or used this time to gain extra practice to solidify academic content in Maths, English, and Chinese Literature.



To wrap up the semester, students handmade beautiful thank you cards for their tutors and expressed their gratitude. Tutors not only played the role of teacher, but also a mentor and role model.

MCF would like to thank Tony, Harbor, Alex, Sam, Eugene, Tiffany, Cassandra, Kevin, Coco, Selina, Zelda, Eve, and Marina for volunteering their time this past year and working as tutors for the migrant children we serve. Also, a big thank you to Jane and Diana for coordinating the Homework Club Activities.



MCF (ONLINE) BOOK CLUB

The MCF Bookclub encouraged reading during the school/pandemic break, hence the MCF Online Book Club was launched. Our volunteers did short readings to ten kids. They learnt about animals as well as the weather!

It was a great interactive session and the kids were very excited!



CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES TRAINING

MCF has been very busy these last few months with classroom activities training sessions. We have trained many volunteers at our MCF office, and we also had the privilege to help train the many volunteers from Halliburton.



Volunteers have learned about classroom management, learning strategies, and they have been able to view sample lesson plans to help prepare them for their first day classroom activities



ON THE ROCKS CONCERT

MCF's very first rock concert was a great success. In Bei Zhaolong Hotel, over 100 people enjoyed a fun night with the Change Order Band accompanied by free flow food and drinks.



The very positive and lively atmosphere led to some rock'n'roll dancing. We are confident that this won't be our last concert. This event supported MCF activities such as education and healthcare.



WHISKEY TASTING

MCF's combining the Taste of Whiskey with a Touch of Art Event was held on January 30th at George's Restaurant in the Éclat Hotel. It was an intimate four-course dinner paired with Appenzeller Whiskies.

Our guests started the evening with an exclusive tour of original art pieces throughout the Éclat Hotel, including a large collection of Salvador Dali pieces, as well as a going through one of the penthouse suites.



Afterwards, we gathered at George's Restaurant where we were to reflect on our inner child and become inspired by the simplistic things that make us feel connected. Helen, the founder of MCF, shared beautiful stories of the organisation 'making a difference' to the disadvantaged children's lives because of the support received from individuals and corporations who are willing to be a part of the solution.

Our evening ended with art and whiskey appreciation, prizes given, an auction won and new friends to MCF who want to 'make a difference'.

MURDER MYSTERY

Our recent annual Murder Mystery evening took place in the Beijing Hilton Hotel's banqueting room, which has hosted a number of Murder Mysteries in the last few years. This year was no exception other than the fact that the production was directed and performed by a team of experienced and dedicated professionals. This did give the proceedings a certain polish, and the outcome was a first-class presentation for those who came to be dined and entertained.



To round off the evening's enjoyment, the Change Order Band gave a first class performance for everyone to enjoy and dance to. All in all, it was another MCF Murder Mystery night to remember. Special thanks to BSB Sanlitun, Bluestar AMG, Hulu and Cheers for their generous sponsorship.



GOLF TOURNAMENT

A fun and friendly tournament took place at the Golf Riviera Country Club with a personal caddy, followed by a well-deserved dinner, including free flowing wine and beer. Over 50 people joined the tournament, whereas over 90 people joined us for dinner.



We were very lucky that the weather held which was the perfect topping for a well organised event where people really enjoy themselves.

Special thanks to Bluestar AMG, Hulu and Cheers for their generous sponsorship.



VIRTUAL EMPORIUM

MCF's Virtual Emporium Online Sales was testimony to how a community can come together and make a difference. It was an amazing experience to witness the enthusiasm of everyone, whether they be vendors, buyers or those who purchased raffle tickets.

MCF was so touched and truly grateful for everyone's generosity and support. The amount of work and effort that has gone into organising this event is enormous and this can only happen when there is a dedicated team involved.



This was another new venture that MCF was involved in, and it's down to people wanting to help MCF continue the valuable work they provide for disadvantaged children that has made it a success.

A FIELD TRIP TO CENTRAL ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS

On June 19th, a group of 19 migrant children from an MCF partner school had the opportunity to practice Chinese calligraphy and painting the Vice-Director of the Central Academy of Fine Arts. The field trip was made possible thanks to 中小微几页管理服务, a company that serves small and medium businesses.

The students travelled Saturday morning to the art studio and had prepared ahead of time for the event. They had ideas of what words they wanted to practice and what items to paint.

The memorable experience finished off with a pizza lunch and a thoughtful calligraphy gift set for each student from the sponsoring party.

We are grateful to the Central Academy of Fine Arts and our volunteer Diana for organising the cultural activity day.



EASTER EGG EMPORIUM

The Easter Egg Emporium was a great family day for everybody who participated in the Riviera Easter Egg Hunt. Our MCF team were out in full force to ensure that the children involved were not disappointed. Lots of children including migrant kids had great fun not only looking for hidden Easter Eggs but also enjoying the other entertainment laid on for them. Bouncy castle, Fun with Science, face painting and many other attractions were found around the Riviera complex. For the adults, a market was set up which helped give the event something for everyone. All this was made possible because of the enthusiasm and efforts of a number of groups.



Two Dulwich school teachers along with nine highly motivated young pupils from the school, Prof. David Evans with his team of budding young scientists and MCF's very own corps of volunteers not only ensured everything went smoothly, but also manned the tables to highlight what MCF is about. These volunteers give their time, energy and expertise constantly and selflessly, at times week in week out. It is only fair for me to mention them individually- Debbie and

her team for organising the event from the start, the Riviera Resort for providing the venue, and it's Club House manager David and his staff for ensuring the day met all expectations, and last but not least the vendors who turned up to display some magnificent and colourful items for the shopaholics and browsers amongst us. All in all, it was a great day and a big thanks to the Beijing Riviera Club House Manager and his staff for their continued support.

BAG OF HOPE DRIVE

In collaboration with BCIS's project Bag of Hope Drive, MCF delivered 100 bags filled with a variety of bottles and art materials to the children of one of the schools MCF supports. This was nothing short of a magnificent gesture of great generosity from children who appreciate that their actions can 'make a difference'.

We would like to thank Anna the BCIS teacher and her team of students from the elementary and secondary school student council (G1-G12) who promoted and supported the Bag of Hope Drive and met their mission target of "Empowering and inspiring through challenge and compassion."



CORPORATE ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM WITH HALLIBURTON

In 2019 Halliburton, one of the world's largest oil field service companies, celebrated 100 years of service. As the company is currently operating in over 70 different countries, it seeks a greater influence on the environment and wellbeing of communities.

To mark its 100th anniversary the company sponsored a select number of charities around the world and MCF was the selected non-profit organisation in China.

sustainable business growth and increase the company's social impact with support from MCF. On the day, training was also provided to staff who signed up as volunteers and will begin the program on 19th June.

"Enhancing the economic and social well-being of the communities in which we operate is among our most enduring principles" says David Zeng, Halliburton



We are delighted to announce that this year Halliburton is partnering with us through our corporate engagement program. The program is designed to give employees the opportunity to use their professional skills and experience to positively impact the community and the lives of the children we support and at the same time to fulfil Halliburton's Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) goals.

On 10th June we were invited to give a presentation to all Halliburton staff on MCF and our programs in Beijing. This was part of Halliburton's larger CSR efforts in Beijing which seek to achieve

China President, adding "we create opportunities to benefit and support the communities where we live and work. Our commitment to good corporate citizenship is fundamental to creating sustained value for our Company, our stakeholders, and the world".

Helen Boyle describes the partnership as "a great opportunity for both Halliburton and MCF to help *Make a Difference*". We would like to give a heartfelt thank you to the staff at Halliburton for their support, and helping us continue working towards MCF's mission, which is to enrich and develop the lives of disadvantaged children.

SHANG'S PATIO EMPORIUM

Shang's first Patio Emporium was filled with a variety of different activities for our little ones: Kids Games, Lucky Draw and Fun with Science.



On one side of the market our vendors presented their businesses and products, whereas food and beverages were offered on the other side.

On top of that a flea market offered second hand clothing, stuffed animals, books and many more things. Even though we had to cope with a sandstorm that day, we managed to keep all our tents on the ground and enjoyed the company of one another.

Thanks to all the sponsors and our MCF Friends for making this event happen.



COOPERATION WITH AIIB

MCF had the privilege and pleasure of speaking at the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) as part of their Community Awareness for partners and staff (CAPS) program. We gave an introduction to MCF, spoke about our mission to help disadvantaged children through education and health care support, and shared stories relating to MCF's impact in the local community.



They spoke about the different opportunities for AIIB partners and staff to get involved with MCF, and how MCF's activities provide a unique opportunity for volunteers looking to interact with the local Beijing community. A special thanks to AIIB for having us and to Henry Bell and others at AIIB who already support MCF's mission and activities in Beijing.



HIGHLAND GAMES

The annual Highland Games event at the Dongfeng Sports Park always promises to be something not to be missed and this year was no exception. Organised by the British Chamber of Commerce in China (BritCham China) team, over 1500 people turned up for Highland Fling, Tug-of War and other traditional activities you would expect to see at a Highland gathering. Following on from the previous year, MCF was chosen as the charity for this year too which we are very grateful for.

The event was honoured by the presence of Her Excellency Ambassador Caroline Wilson who participated enthusiastically in the activities across the event. MCF also hosted a fun program of family entertainment with our dedicated team of volunteers for the day. Children were invited to get involved in various experiences including



science experiments with our Fun With Science Team, creative workshops designing flying saucers with volunteers and adventuring through the fun but challenging mini maze.

All in all it was a day full of fun and excitement for everyone. I would like to take the opportunity to thank all the volunteers, sponsors and in particular the British Chamber for their support and encouragement.



MCF BOOK SALE AT SHANG

On June 22nd MCF launched its first Book Sale at Shang and it was a great success! We will continue collecting books and have a market on a regular basis. Please consider passing on your used books to us! We would like to thank all the staff at Shang's management for their support.



MCF
BOOK SALE
AT SHANG

WHY
ENCOURAGE YOUR CHILDREN TO READ.

WHERE
JIN SHANG BUILDING
FIRST FLOOR
NO. 20, XINYUANLI WEST ROAD
CHAORYANG

WHEN
JUNE 22
11AM - 2 PM



Shang



Book Drive

ARE YOU PLANNING TO GIVE AWAY
GENTLY USED BOOKS?

PASS THEM ON TO MCF!

WE ARE LOOKING FOR CHILDREN'S
BOOKS IN ENGLISH OR CHINESE

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



Shang 金尚



You can drop off donations for Helen at the
reception of Jin Shang Building (金尚SHANG),
No. 20, Xinyuanli West Road, Chaoyang District

请于3月15日前将捐赠书籍交给金尚前台
地址：北京市朝阳区新源里西20号楼金尚·源



FRIENDS OF MCF IN ACTION

Become a Friend (volunteer) of MCF

As we look back on this year at MCF, we are grateful to those who have been with us through countless events and have helped us along the way. As we bid a repeated heartfelt goodbye to those who are leaving Beijing, we would like to take the time to invite new Friends to join us on this journey.

At MCF we are always looking for fresh faces with a passion for helping others and inspiring others along the way! Feel free to drop us an email at: friends@mcfcchina.org



PARTNERS OF MCF

Thank you to our Sponsors!

We at MCF would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all our sponsors and partners for their contributions during 2021. Your generous contributions as well as volunteer partnerships have allowed MCF to continue educating the disadvantaged children of Beijing and providing for them.

We hope that through being involved with MCF, you have also gained a deeper understanding about disadvantaged communities in China and how we can continue to give back to the city in which we live.

Interested in partnering with MCF? Drop us an email at csr@mcfcchina.org



THE BRITISH SCHOOL
OF BEIJING, SANLITUN
A NORD ANGLIA EDUCATION SCHOOL

Shang 金尚

HALLIBURTON



IOP Institute of Physics



ABOUT MCF

WHO WE ARE

MCF is a social enterprise that has been operating in Beijing for over 12 years, overseen by its founder, Helen Boyle. It is a platform for individual volunteers, both local and expat, as well as organizations to work together in a cross-cultural experience to give back to society.

OUR MISSION

MCF's mission is to enrich and develop the lives and education of disadvantaged children, giving them a better chance to reach their full potential.

HOW DO WE ACHIEVE THIS?

We provide opportunities that enhance the children's educational development at no cost. MCF's cultural programs offer experiences as well as extra-curricular activities such as art, science, sports and more. Every week, we work with more than 150 children, and we sponsor several individuals, supporting their education.

In addition, MCF's healthcare programs provide regular check-ups (including eye and dental) to ensure the children's physical well-being is also looked after. We provide glasses if needed, and we have paid for several children's specialist medical care.

OUR VISION

The Foundation brings together people from different backgrounds and uses their talents and experience to help the children develop their knowledge and abilities. MCF volunteers integrate with and positively impact the society they live in, creating opportunities for a better future for the children.

THREE PILLARS OF MCF

These core values guide the life and work of everyone at MCF:

- 1) Inspire and Be Inspired: Spark a chain reaction of positivity in your daily life.
- 2) Make a Lasting Difference: Everyone has a gift to give, so let's make a difference.
- 3) Respect and Trust for All: Create respect and trust no matter what you do!

MCF ANNUAL REVIEW



MORE THAN 60 ACTIVE
INTERNATIONAL FRIENDS



ONLINE HOMEWORK CLUB
STARTED



IN TOTAL OVER 6200 HEALTH-CHECKS
AND 900 EYE-CHECKS
COMPLETED,
600 EYE GLASSES DONATED



SUPPORTING
12 SCHOOLS IN
BEIJING AND THE
SURROUNDING AREA



WWW.MCFCHINA.ORG

INSPIRE AND BE INSPIRED

