

## Blog 30 – My First Week of Middle School



Summer is over and School comes just around the corner. This year, NIS has 120 new students from 24 nationalities adding up to a total number of 710 students! On the Friday before the first day of school, I volunteered to take new students in 6th grade on a tour of the school. There were five of them whom are from Mexico, South Korea, Holland and Tai Wan. I volunteered because I know how they feel coming to a new school in a different country and not knowing anyone there. I had that feeling when I came last year. I know how much a difference it could make when someone helps you become more familiar with the school and the people. They might not be very comfortable with the new environment now, but I guarantee that they will LOVE the school the longer they stay!

I'm in middle school this year. A lot of people say that middle school was the worst years of their life. But over one week, I feel that I'm going to like it. My Humanities teacher also teaches English and so far, he is my favorite teacher of all. He always has a great sense of humor and jokes around during class to have a bit of fun! He would always make us laugh nonstop and some people would even complain that they got a light stomach ache due to the giggling throughout the class! It definitely helps me remember the things we learned much better! I hadn't realized how humorous teachers could be! Those two subjects that he teaches have become my favorites!

For middle school, the major change is that we don't have a designated classroom anymore. Everyone just keeps alternating between each class according to the schedule. In addition, each student is assigned a locker for their text books and supplies. As new six graders, my friends and I are really fascinated by these changes and we feel more independent.



As one of the middle school requirements, each six grader has to earn 3 community and service points each semester by helping out with school fundraisers, events, plays, etc. My friends and I have decided to initiate an After School Activity (ASA) for first graders by hosting fun drama related games and plays. We need to present our proposal to the Community manager next week. This will definitely challenge us in many different areas including management, responsibility and most importantly, caring skills.

My mom is a member of the PTA and one of the main organizers for the middle school dance parties. I am definitely willing to help out with the decorating, stage set-up and food serving etc.! I'm not entirely interested in dancing, but I would like to be included in the whole process --- regardless point earning or not. :) Our first middle school dance party is coming in two weeks and its theme is Tropical Dance Party. Speaking of Tropical, Nanjing is definitely not in a typical tropical area, but it certainly has tropical area temperatures! This summer is the hottest in more than 60 years!!! For the past several weeks, the temperature during the day was above 100 degrees for the most of the time!

It was a hot and busy start for new school year last week. As the weather cools down, I'm sure I will treasure more and more of my second year in Nanjing/ first year of Middle school.