

## Blog 10-My first week at NIS



Monday August 13, 2012 was my first day at Nanjing International School (NIS). Compared to my school in Florida, there are things that are extremely familiar and things that are totally fresh to me.

NIS is twenty years old. Currently, there are 680 students all through out Pre-k to 12<sup>th</sup> grade. This year, 120 new students from 22 different countries joined NIS ---- I'm one of them. NIS plays a big role in education for many foreign families that settled in Nanjing. They keep students and families occupied with many clubs, sports teams and after school activities, such as, Pilate, yoga, swimming, soccer, drawing, dancing and many more. This makes NIS not only a place for learning, but a big happy community where each foreign family is connected.



There are 18 students in my class and they are from France, Germany, U.S.A, Canada, India and Korea. My teacher's name is Ms. Nadean. She is an American, from Seattle, Washington. She has been teaching at NIS for six years. By knowing that my teacher is from America, I have a feeling of closeness and comfort.



Besides all the usual subjects, math, science and reading, there are specials such as music, P.E and art. But there are two classes that I have never “met” before, mandarin and drama. The fact that I speak Chinese and that my parents are from China, they placed me in an advanced mandarin class. But once I got there did I realize that I had a lot more work to do if I wanted to be in the same level as all the other kids in the class... I’ve got to take big leaps in my mandarin in order to reach the height of my high hopes.

Over only the first week, I have made many friends, explored and learned new things. I used to worry that two years in China might be way too long for me. After three months have passed so quickly, I realize what I really want is to experience new things. I hope these next year or two wouldn’t leave me too quickly.