August 24, 2016

To the Parents of ­­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,

Welcome to the 2016-2017 school year at Shanghai American School. My name is Ginger Harper and I will be co-teaching 5th grade EAL with my colleague, Miki Kobayashi. This is my third year at SAS and my seventh year teaching EAL. I enjoy living in Shanghai and meeting such an international group of students and teachers. Previously I taught EAL in South Korea and India. I moved here with my husband Joshua who is the high school technology resource facilitator. We recently had a baby boy named Jonah and adopted a puppy named Emma two years ago. You can find out more about me once my class blog is active on Schoology. The best way to reach me if you have any questions is by email ([ginger.harper@saschina.org](mailto:ginger.harper@saschina.org)).

I will be providing individual and small group EAL support. Our EAL program operates in an EAL and EAL Plus format. For the 2016-2017 school year, your child will receive **EAL** support. The description of support is outlined below:

**EAL:**

* EAL students attend Chinese class during the Language Learning Block (LLB)
* The EAL teacher supports students during reading and/or writing workshop in the child’s classroom using small group instruction or 1-to-1 support
* EAL students are monitored throughout the year by both the homeroom and EAL teacher
* These students are given a WIDA test in the spring. This data, along with classroom data, is used to determine whether EAL support will be necessary in the following school year

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns. My goal is to best support your child in acquiring the language needed to be successful in our demanding academic environment at SAS.

Best Regards,

Mrs. Ginger Harper

Email: ginger.harper@saschina.org

Shanghai American School inspires in all students:

* a life long passion for learning
* a commitment to act with integrity and compassion and,
* the courage to live their dreams