

# WE ! OTC

## OASIS TRAINING CENTER

### A Letter from Our Graduates

By Martha Liu, Mary Ma and Sunny Ma

*This is a letter from our OTC graduates Martha Liu, Mary Ma and Sunny Ma. All of them are working in Shanghai now. In this letter they give OTC upcoming Graduates some suggestions. They hope what they wrote can help you guys in some way.*

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

How are things going with you? Hope you all are doing well and enjoy your life in OTC! It's our honor and pleasure to write to you. We feel very happy and excited.

Time goes so fast, and we've already been graduated for 2 years. We have so many things to say, to share with you. We hope it is helpful to the Grade Two students and every graduating class.

Graduation is coming; I believe you have complex feelings, thoughts and various questions of uncertainty just like what we had during our last special time. What will I do after graduation? Where is the next station for me to go? Am I capable of doing something new in a completely different environment? Will I be a suitable team player? These questions are running through your mind.

Here, we have some insight to share with you. First, you need to put yourself in the right place and think about the situation you are in now. The most important thing is to know what your life goal is. If you have this in your mind, it will be much easier to choose the kind of job you want. There are lots of opportunities for everyone to choose. On the job you can find out your potential and apply your knowledge. But there are still ups and downs, and you need to be aware of the competition between us and others. There are lots of talented people who live in this big city with a high diploma. There are competitions and struggles you need to face. This is just the right time to challenge yourself. Always remember "Survival of the fittest". It may take longer than you expected to find a job. Of course, there will be disappointment, depression, but don't be defeated by all that. And it is important that you learn how to be independent. You need to be confident and always keep a positive attitude.

Sometimes, we think we are excellent. We speak good English and are proud of ourselves. We should be aware there are lots of young people who speak better English in the big cities. We are not discour-

aging you, we want you know the reality so that you will have a better understanding. We encourage you to walk out and challenge yourself. See what you can really do. You will learn more and more new things and gain life experience as time goes by. These will be your skills for earning a living. Sometimes, we deeply feel that we can't do anything, and ask ourselves what can we really do. This is normal for everyone. For the ones who want to come, be confident. This is the most important thing. Not everyone is capable of doing everything. We can learn from it because we have learned how to be a quick learner.

For Grade One students, keep learning. One year will pass by quickly. Treasure and enjoy your time in OTC. Otherwise, you will find you wasted your chance and time there. There are some things you can't realize when you are still at school. We suggest you spend time studying as much as you can. OTC is able to prepare you for later life. Academic study is very important because you need to gain more knowledge. Computer class is a necessity for your work later. Character First is so helpful for thoughts, behavior and actions. Learn whatever you can learn to enrich yourself in every aspect.

Best wishes,

Martha, Mary, Sunny ☺



Some of our OTC graduates in Shanghai.

## To Our Dear Friends

By Class of 2007

*Grade Two students will leave OTC soon. They want to share their thoughts with our dear teachers, classmates, and schoolmates before graduation.*

*Abigail Mai*



I am glad that I could study at this unique school and develop my English. I thank the teachers for their effort in educating me. I thank my classmates and friends for their help. Especially in my heart, I thank my teachers who gave me a valuable chance and helped me to start my learning in OTC. Good luck to my honorable teachers! Best wishes to my dear schoolmates and classmates! Please remember, "No pain, no gain." I believe everyone will have a good future. I will miss you forever and I will miss our school — OTC forever.

*Agnes Wei*



Here, I began to dream. Here, I began to feel confident. Here, I discovered what a miracle is. Here, I started my journey of life. Honorable teachers and lovely students, thank you all for making my school life so colorful and rich. This will be my most interesting memory.

*Allen Jiao*



OTC, which is a unique English School, I love it here because it gives me the things I need in my life. If there were no OTC, my life would be like a boat in the sea without aim, and lost. OTC makes me full of courage and confidence to overcome the difficulties in my life. In my two years of studying at OTC, I have not only learned computer and English skills, but also changed my life, I learned how to love, care, and forgive, which are very important to all areas of my life. Dear teachers, classmate, and schoolmates, we are the best of friends in the world.

*Angel Zhang*



OTC is the place that my dreams came true. I would like to call it a "Dream Factory" because it has fulfilled many students' dreams. Through these two years of studying at OTC, I learned many things that

will help me in my whole life. I was touched by my great teachers' kindness, patience, and benevolence. My life has been totally changed by studying at OTC. There are not enough words to describe my grateful heart for our school and teachers. Here, I just want to take this moment to say, "I love you, my dear teachers. I love you, OTC".

*Annie Jing*



OTC, is my second home! OTC was the most wonderful time for me, and it is memorable in my whole learning life. During these two years, here are many excited, happy and unforgettable things have happened. I have learned how to be a virtuous person and face difficulties with an optimistic attitude. Now I will leave OTC, I really do not have any words to express my feeling. I just want to say, "Thank you, you gave me a remarkable period in my life". I would like to say something to my classmates, "All you guys are marvelous, smart, and intelligent. I believe you all will have a bright future." For Grade One students, I hope you will treasure this opportunity and use your time wisely to learn more at school. More pain, more gain.

*Arleyen Xue*



Our graduation ceremony is coming soon; it means that we — some of our teachers and all the Grade Two students will part from each other. I can not imagine how the situation of saying goodbye will be. We have been together for two years, and I can't use words to express the feeling between our teachers and us. I am not sure whether we will be able to say farewell without tears. But in my heart, I really do hope that our every step will be great and fortunate, and our lives will be full of happiness and interest.

*Betty Jing*



At this moment, teachers, words can't express my gratefulness to all of you; I just want to say "thank you". For the Grade One students, I hope all of you can invest your time and energy wisely, and catch every possible opportunity to learn as much as you can. I really don't want to say farewell to my dear teachers, helpful classmates, but reality will not allow me to stay with all of you forever. GOOD LUCK!

*Della Yao*

OTC, the only school that has challenged me with its completely English environment, will be my best recollections in all my life. As graduation is getting closer, I just want to use my last chance to express my deep gratefulness to OTC and all of the teachers. In China, we have a saying which is "one day as a teacher, a life of fatherhood". OTC teachers have taught me for two years, I think that my gratefulness can not be conveyed by words. I just want to tell you that you all are so great. All of you and OTC are like the most lustrous and brilliant Pearl in the north of China.

*Dolly Zhang*

It's time for our classmates to go to the real world to show off our abilities. I am sure that we all will be successful. Great teachers, it was you who made me become smarter and smarter. It was you who let me become who I am today. I love you all very much. I do want to leave some advice for Grade One students before I leave. Please use your time wisely. Be optimistic, do what you can do and try your best to do it. Success is there waiting for you. Come on! Best wishes for you all!

*Irene Lei*

I want to say that it has been a great joy for me to know all of you, and also it is a great treasure for me to study here. I want to say thank you to all of my teachers for teaching me. Your teaching not only enlarges my knowledge, but also influenced my life and valued philosophy. My dear classmates don't be afraid of our future. We must believe in ourselves. We will have wonderful lives in the future. I want to say to Grade One students: "The bigger your dreams are, the bigger your success will be. And keeping study hard."

*Jenna Liu*

I am a little bit sad because I will leave tearfully from my lovely school and depart from my dear teachers and classmates. I want to thank our elite teachers, but I have no words to express my gratitude to my teachers, except "thank you". OTC is like a big bowl which is full of various foods waiting for you to digest, or like a developed factory which teaches you to master various skills. The useful skills and knowledge that I gained from OTC are all treasures to me, I will remember them forever.

*Jesse Zhu*

To be a university student was my dream when I was young. As time went by, I didn't have a chance to go to high school. But when I was in a hurry to make a decision of how the rest of my life should be passed, God appeared and he made a wise decision for me which was to send me to ZhiZhong, then pass the OTC entrance examination, at last to be an OTC student. I felt excited about being your student. My great teachers, you've done uncountable things for me; also I felt joyful to be your friends, my dear classmates; you brought me the most happy time that I've ever had. I learned the knowledge that I wouldn't have learned if I were a university student. I accepted the most wonderful teaching style, which I wouldn't have experienced if I were a university student. OTC not only helped me fulfill my university dream, but also helped move toward my greatest dream which is to go abroad. I love you, OTC. You are my all in all.

*Jon Zhou*

I love this fantastic English learning environment — OTC. English only environment, knowledgeable native English teachers, unique western teaching styles, unforgettable Beijing Connection and various activities made this school different from other schools. I spent the most wonderful time at this school. There is no school like OTC in my life. To me, one of the graduates of 2007, I am happy and proud of what I've learned here. To Grade One students, I want to tell you that OTC is a good place for you to study, especially for English learners. It is worth your efforts to spend much time here, and you should catch this chance to make the most of your time and learn as much as possible.

*Juliana Zhou*

I think it is hard to express my appreciation to all the teachers. OTC is such a wonderful, warm and excellent school or family. I really can say that my fate was changed by OTC and it let me know which direction I should go. The golden rule — "Do to others what you want others do to you; don't do to others what you don't want others do to you," which our teacher told us let me know how wonderful our life is if we put it in our real practical life. Thank you, dear teachers, it is you who picked me up from failure, and my worries were taken away by you. Do you remember that you always use one special sentence to encourage us which is "You can do it." It seems very simple and normal but with power. It is the greatest gift that you gave me and it will be with me forever. Thank you again, dear teachers. Good Bye!!!

*Kayla Gao*

All of our Grade Two students will graduate from this school soon. That means we will leave this lovely school, after two years here. In these two years, I learned a lot. Now, I have good listening, reading, writing and oral English skills. I should thank the school and all of the teachers who provided me with the opportunity to study here. We had so many wonderful times in the school. We studied, laughed and played together. Of course, sometimes we had sad and hard times. We were busy with doing our homework and preparing for quizzes, and we complained. All of these are unforgettable. We grew from small saplings to trees under the teachers' patient and careful cultivation. It is time for us to meet the wind and rain. It will be difficult for us, but I am confident that all of my dear classmates will overcome the hardships. Come on, my friends!

*Levi Wang*

Facing graduation, I have a lot of words to say to our teachers. Here I just want to say thank you to you all. Thank you for teaching me these two years at OTC. Thank you for helping me. Thank you for sharing happiness and your life experience with me. You have spent your time and energy selflessly. I really appreciate it. I have a mountain of words I want to say face to face, but time doesn't allow me. Thank you all you kind-hearted people. I love you!

*Lydia Xing*

As today is ending and tomorrow is beginning, words can't describe my heart anymore. The only words I can say here is thank you — honorable teachers and helpful classmates. At my departure, I hope that all of you teachers will become more and more beautiful and young. To my dear Grade Two students, believe in yourself, challenge yourself, and do the best you can. Nothing can stop your path as long as you try. For the lovely Grade One students, treasure your limited time and learn as much as you can in our fantastic school. OTC is great, and we are excellent. My time at OTC is a wonderful memory in my life.

*Mary Zhao*

After two years of studying at Oasis Training Center, with all the selfless and noble teachers' encouragement and guidance, I have grown up more and become more and more mature. I've not only learned lots of valuable knowledge, but also know how to be a virtuous person. I

think OTC is the best school that I have ever attended. At the last, I really don't want to say goodbye to my dear school, teachers, selfless classmates and schoolmates, but I have to because it is time. I must go to the colorful world and demonstrate my ability in order to make my own life. So I am eager for the next stage of my life.

*Melissa Du*

Facing the forthcoming graduation ceremony, my feelings are hard to express just in words. I have been living and studying at OTC for almost two years, but I will graduate from here after several days. Here, I want to say something to my precious teachers, dear classmates and Grade One students. Teachers, I hope you all will have a long and happy life. Dear classmates, be confident in what you have learned at OTC and try your best to show how excellent you are in the real world. Grade One students, treasure each minute at OTC to learn as much as you can to be ready to face the society which is full of competition. My time at OTC has ended, but OTC will be in my heart forever!

*Peter Fan*

Time flies, and now I am ready to leave here soon. At that moment I'm going to get started on my new journey. I want to give all of my good wishes to my dear teachers and schoolmates. No matter what the life in OTC has looked like, we all shouldn't blame others and it is not necessary. There is nothing more than study here, so friends study hard and have fun till the end.

*Sabrina Song*

In these two years at OTC, I harvested a lot from here, from my classmates, and from my teachers. This is really a hard time for me to say goodbye to everything here. I hope we all will keep in touch with each other after graduation, dear classmates.

*Sarah Shi*

Time is flying. It is hard to believe, it's already time for me to say goodbye to my dear teachers, schoolmates, and dear classmates. It is very hard to describe my mood at this moment — happy, excited and a little bit afraid. Here I want to thank all of the OTC teachers, thank you for your teaching and kindness during these two years.

And also I want to say thanks to my dear classmates; thank you for helping me to study, and I am very happy to know each one of you. At last, I want to tell Grade One students: "Please use your time wisely, and ask questions if you don't understand. Remember that teachers like you to ask questions; don't be afraid of it."

*Sharon Li*



OTC is a particular place that ignited my hopes. During these two years, OTC not only trained both my practical English and computer skills, but also theories of real life. With two years of unforgettable training experience, I got a lot of valuable things here that I did not discover before.

The thing I am most grateful for is a group of diligent and helpful teachers who accompanied me over the most difficult phase during my English learning period. **Thank you! Dear teachers.** Because I will walk out of school soon, I want to leave some sweet wishes to Grade One students. "Please treasure your valuable time at Oasis Training Center, and try your best to learn as much as you can. Oasis Training Center is like a big family. Please care about each other and help each other all the time."

*Summer Jiang*



Time always passes fast. I still remember what I looked like the first quarter of studying in OTC. I looked so confused in the English-only environment, and I never thought I could speak in English, but now I made it. If I can make it, so can you — Grade One schoolmates. All of the change I have

made can not be separate from our teachers' help. Here, I want to thank them for making a contribution these two years, and I enjoy the benefit of your instructions. Thank you so much!

*Teresa Shi*



It is a blessing to have been a member of OTC and to have met such caring and wonderful teachers and classmates. I wish I could stay longer. Two years' education is not enough for me, but I need to make a hard choice to finish one of my duties that my parents and teachers wish. At this special time,

I want to thank my dear classmates, thank you for bringing happiness to me, and I learned a lot from you! A special thanks to my dear teachers for giving me wonderful skills and abilities to face the complex world. You are so great! I love you!

## Class of 2007



## Spoiled Brat

By Summer Jiang



Not only can we be spoiled at home, but the school can also spoil the students. I am one of the spoiled students in OTC. From elementary to junior school, I believe every student was scolded by the Chinese teachers all the time. In my experience, my teachers criticized me every time without asking the reason why I did wrong, and they seldom apologized to students even though they were wrong. After being at OTC, it is totally different than I am used to. For example, OTC provides tissues, soap, and drinking water. At the beginning, I was not used to it. I was surprised and appreciative. Gradually, I became accustomed to using all these things; even I think it is normal now. However, it causes wastefulness. We don't treasure water, tissues, and soap any more, and we use tissue everywhere instead of towels. I think we are building up bad habits because we are

not satisfied with and grateful for what the others have done for us, and we become greedier. When I see some schoolmates are wasteful of the stuff in school, I feel sorry for them, and also for myself because I act the same way, and I am ashamed of myself. In OTC, I have heard a lot that the teachers apologize to the students, so I have to question where the students' mistakes are. Why should not we apologize first? Often, we think that is the different national culture. It might be, however, we can't always use cultural difference as a shield. Maybe we use cultural difference as an excuse; it makes the teachers assume that is Chinese culture. I want to say it is not true, and you can not judge a whole country only because of a group of students. Actually, Chinese tradition teaches us to be thrifty and diligent, and we are disseminating the wrong culture. I am worrying about these things.

## From Interns of 2007

By Carrie Liu, Joseph Yin, Jane Wu, Crystal Ge and Angela Ma



Carrie Liu, Joseph Yin, Jane Wu, Crystal Ge and Angela Ma

How time flies! It's time for OTC graduation again. It reminds us of our graduation last year. We were so excited about it because it's time for us to reach our life goals, and make our dreams come true. Meanwhile we were sad and frightened because we were going into a completely new world. We were leaving the place, the people and the environment that we were already familiar with. We didn't know what was going to happen and what was waiting for us in the distance. Grade Two students must have the same feeling that we experienced last year. Here, we want to tell you "Don't worry about the uncertain future. You will make it; just do what we did." We think everyone of you deserves recognition because while you have been here studying English you have overcome so many difficulties. You are qualified with

English and computer skills. All you need is to try, to explore. Therefore, graduates, do not feel as though you are leaving school; feel as though you are transitioning into a new chapter of your life that will be filled with a myriad of opportunities to learn new material. We don't know what the future holds, but we know who holds the future: It is you.

Dear Grade One students, we are glad to see your improvements and the efforts that you made this year. We can see how your confidence has been built up; you are no longer shy boys and shy girls. You can speak English confidently in front of others and express your thoughts and feelings. We are proud of you guys. Keep learning and equipping yourselves. Never ever give up. You have one more year here to enrich your knowledge and get ready for diving into the competitive society.

As interns this year, OTC has prepared us with work experience, which is a foundation for us doing our future jobs once we step out of school. We are very thankful for OTC teachers. Thank you for your efforts to teach us and lead us. You are much more than teachers, you are friends, tour guides, advisors and sometimes we see you like part of our families. It is you who make us dream big. You don't only teach us English and computer skills, you helped us on building confidence and character, too.

Recalling the time we spent together, we had so much fun. You gave us the best presents, wonderful memories. The beauty of the memories won't ever fade. We will miss each one of you, but we don't see the leaving as an end. Rather we see it as simply being a transition: a transition into a dynamic and challenging profession.