

# China 2016

I have to raise up my hands and say that this trip has been one of the best trips I have ever been on in my life. Just thinking about and knowing, if someone says China, I can say yeah I have been there.

Time went by and slowly the 1<sup>st</sup> June kept coming more and more closer until the day came where we go to school in the early hours and go off to the airport. Finally, when we arrive we wait another two hours and then board the plane which will fly for a long six hours. When you are up there, you immediately notice how cold it is and feel tired. I wouldn't say it was boring for me personally, but it definitely felt really long for everyone I would say. You also have this impatience inside you wondering how china is actually going to be and later see outside the window the sky turning black and the clock of the time left till we arrive at our next destination, Dubai is ticking. We all felt really tired when we arrived; mostly because of the black sky and no sleep on the plane, but soon realise it was time to fly to our next destination with an even longer flight which was our target, CHINA!

We arrived in Shanghai round about 3pm and once we had our bags we left the airport and went to the coach which was taking us to our hotel in Yangzhou. I have got to say, although we were all tired, we just couldn't go to sleep because of the views outside. You look out and see these views that you will capture and will stay in your mind for life; you see how different China is and how they live. As well as looking out to see Shanghai's lifestyle, I had the lads with me and you think in your own world that, as well as experiencing this big moment by yourself, you will be able to share this moment with your friends and family and I have a person I know who lived those moments with me. At the end of the day, after the travelling and the viewing, we all felt so tired, went to our hotel rooms and dropped dead like flies.

We had our first breakfast the next day, which I have to say we all enjoyed it and remembered what we had; Yangzhou fried rice, these sesame noodles and dumplings with a red bean filling. After a filling breakfast we finally set out to meet our partners we have been thinking about the whole time. Once we arrived at our exchange school, the Meiling Middle School, we had an amazing greeting by 40 students with massive smiles on their faces and non-stop waving who led us to a room. We sat nervously, thinking and guessing who will be your partner until your name is called and finally met your partner. I must say that my partner Stephen was very nervous and there was a difficulty with communicating, but that's what made this great Chinese experience. After a good chat with your partner they led us to rooms with a multiple number of activities including music and calligraphy. When we finished all the fun we had a school dinner and left the school feeling even nervous for the next day waiting, the day with the partner.

At this point the morning after, we were nervous of the big day itself. You wait and wait until the time has come when you meet your partner and their parents. Once you meet, chat and tell Mr. Allison you are leaving you were guided to the family car and got ready for a big day coming. I don't really know what everyone did with their families. I heard some people went to the zoo, to tea rooms and most popular the Old town. The places where my partner took me were the zoo, a traditional Chinese garden and finally the most foreign market I have ever seen in my life. The big point that the Chinese should be aiming is to show what life is like for a Chinese teenager an, oh boy, my partner did show me very well indeed. At the end of the day once you know your partner you feel part of their family and we were waved at night with a nice 'bye.'

We woke up the next day, me very late because I forgot to put an alarm on and missed breakfast☹. We headed out to an activity centre where we had the chance to play a game of basketball against the Chinese. This was a very big day indeed, England vs China, and we were confident in our team. We had big man Tommy Ratibb the manager leading the way to victory where we had a game full of fantastic shots, amazing lay ups and, most importantly, Eddie Gillet's big volley shots, a chance of having fame once in his life. After a good day of activities we went to have our food and headed out to a shopping mall where we had a chance to have a look around the shops and at the end we left for the train station. Once again we had another security check where, unfortunately, Joe Benson had some confusion, but was happy once we went to our rooms knowing it's time to finally set out to this country's capital and most iconic place on earth, Beijing.

Everyone in the morning agreed to one thing, the beds in the snug overnight train were the comfiest beds so far and we were all energized and ready to visit one of the six wonders in the whole globe the - biggest, prettiest and most iconic things we have ever seen, The Great Wall of China. We were all sweating like mad although we haven't even started climbing the wall yet, it was that hot, but when we had permission and when they finally said go, I started climbing and I enjoyed the most beautiful views our eyes have ever seen. You will feel that the hard work done was all worth it. Just standing there capturing the moment was truly tremendous and you feel just amazing. After this iconic moment we had a chance to try out some

bidding skills in the Beijing market where all the boys especially stocked up on clothes and very fake things, especially watches. We went to the most amazing Peking Duck restaurant and finished the day spectating the tremendous lights of the 'Birds Nest' where we took the squad photo and had a delightful shower in a massive thunderstorm. After this tiring day we arrived in the Beijing hotel and slept from the moment we went in to the time we left in the morning where we enjoyed Chinese style doughnuts with jam and headed out for the Forbidden City.

Once we arrived at the Forbidden City, we had the last security check and headed out to Tiananmen Square which was full of tourists, Chinese people and security guards marching up and down. Once we entered the Forbidden City all I can say is that it was spectacular. As well as the great views we also had our tour guide who knew so much about this place and explained everything in detail. It was so interesting learning everything, from the Emperor and his wives to the two big lions guarding the Emperor's throne. After this experience we headed for the temple of heaven to relax and where we all enjoyed the colorful temples. After a chilly evening we went to our coach, had an open mic night with Tommy Ratibb coming back again with a rap and James Harper with an uplifting song, we got everything ready and got on to the next train back to Yangzhou.

The morning we arrived back to Yangzhou I think that everyone really missed our hotel and missed having a proper relaxing day. Halfway through the day we visited the lacquer factories where we learned how the Chinese make all their beautiful pots, charms and sceneries. Although we were all worried about health and safety, in the end we enjoyed the factory and learnt something new. We all relaxed throughout the day and for a long time in the evening together when finally it was time to go to bed.

This was the last day in Yangzhou before we all made the journey back to England and it was filled with fun and joy from everyone. We went to the zoo where we had the chance to see very rarely seen animals in England, such as pandas and monkeys plus we had the most amazing time in Slender Lake which included tremendous views, very old temples and a lot of ice cream for most of the people on the trip to finish the whole Yangzhou experience.

The last morning in Yangzhou was raining. We all really missed the rain from England! so we all got excited and went on the coach ready to start the journey back to the airport. It took about two hours to get to Nanjing, but time went by due to either singing and, in some cases, wearing pants on our heads not mentioning any names (Milo and Johnny), but then we arrived at the Nanjing museum at the Nanjing War Remembrance. I truly felt touched in that place because we always talk about how bad our wars were, but we never think about other places and other historical moments in some places of the world. Once we gained so much from the museum we set out to the Nanjing High School. I would say that the people studying there were some of the kindest people I have met and were so friendly towards us. Our day there was packed with activities such as dumpling making to celebrate their holidays, calligraphy, tea making where I actually got an interview and finished the day playing either basketball or an intense penalty shoot-out involving every one.

Once we woke up we headed out to Shanghai to complete our experience, but before we made our way back home, we had more chances to do stuff such as going to a barbeque place to cook your own food which ended out to be quite a rough time for Milo since he was messing around with a jalapeno all the time ☺, going to the Old Street and looking at the lanterns in the night and experience luxury in a five star hotel where all the girls had their pictures taken in their traditional Chinese dresses which looked beautiful and where all the Chinese boys were taking a photo looking all smooth lying on the stairs in rows.

Last day in China and I think wow. Just wow. I think about every little thing that made this trip the best experience in my life. From the tiny things such as using chopsticks to the difficulties of communicating with your partner. With all of these thoughts, the time to spend whatever Yuan the people had left in the market and the final pictures taken at the bund, created the best possible ending you would ever think to finish the Chinese experience.

Yotis Nikolaidis 9 Cotswold

## Physical Education - Newsletter Information – July 2016

### Summer Sport

As we enter the last few weeks of the summer term, it gives us an opportunity to review and celebrate the progress and successes of our teams despite the impact of the weather during the term.

All our Cricket teams have had success in terms of their performances in matches and results. Cricket training sessions have seen staff guiding and developing squad members in all aspects of the game. A special mention and word of thanks should go to the team captains for maintaining a positive outlook even when the weather threatened at times. Conor Jakeways Year 7, Tom Butler Year 8, and Nathaniel Newitt Year 9 – Thank you gents for your hard work and persistence. Also, thanks go to the following staff for their commitment and giving of time to coaching – Mr Hill Mr Butler and Mr Mills.

### **House Matches**

House Matches continue to be popular with all year groups and competitions have once again been an opportunity for extended competition outside the curriculum. The atmosphere, whether on the Rounders pitch or Softball pitch, was always competitive. (Andy Stone)

	Ankerdine	Bredon	Cotswold	Malvern	Woodbury
<b>House Rounders</b>					
<b>Year 10 Rounders</b>	2	5	4	3	1
<b>Year 9 Rounders</b>	3	2	4	1	5
<b>Year 8 Rounders</b>	2	3	5	4	1
<b>Year 7 Rounders</b>	4	5	1	2	3
	11	15	14	10	10
	Ankerdine	Bredon	Cotswold	Malvern	Woodbury
<b>House Softball</b>	Ankerdine	Bredon	Cotswold	Malvern	Woodbury
<b>Year 10 Soft Ball</b>	1	4	5	2	3
<b>Year 9 Soft Ball</b>	3	2	5	4	1
<b>Year 8 Soft Ball</b>	4	3	2	1	5
<b>Year 7 Soft Ball</b>	2	3	5	4	1
	10	12	17	11	10

**Congratulations to those listed below on their sporting performances and achievements this Year.**

#### **Boys:**

U13 Year 8 Rugby Worcester Schools Winners of their schools league  
 U13 Year 8 Rugby Worcester Schools County Cup Champions  
 U14 Year 9 Rugby Worcester Schools County Cup Champions  
 U15 Year 10 Rugby Worcester Schools County Cup Quarter Finalists  
 U16 Year 11 Rugby Worcester Schools County Cup Finalists  
 U16 Rugby Hereford County Honours- James Austin  
 U15 Football Worcestershire Schools County Squad- James Francis  
 U14 Rugby Worcester County Honours: Eddie Gillett Hak Saami  
 U13 Rugby Hereford County Honours: Conor Burton Marc Hackman  
 Charlie Allford (shot putt) went to the finals of the Minor County championships.

#### **Girls:**

Year 7 Netball team runners up Worcestershire Schools County tournament  
 Sophie Hayward 3rd in shot putt District Minor championships; qualified for Mason's Trophy (Inter Counties).

Katelyn Griffiths (800m), Aimee Cochrane (Javelin) went to the finals of the Minor County Championships.

Jemma Corbett and Jodie Whiteman attended trials for Worcestershire Schools County Football  
Alice Crump has been successful at getting selected for the regional Midlands Netball Squad for next year.

### **Partnership Schools Orienteering Finals**

The Chantry Year 7 and 8 Orienteering teams qualified for the Summer School Games Orienteering |Finals at Upton Warren on 16<sup>th</sup> June.

Congratulations to all the teams as the competition was so high. Out of the 17 teams that entered we were 6<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>.

The runners were:

In Year 7, Aimee Cochrane, Katelyn Griffiths, Rebecca Francis, Beth Taylor, Haydon Leek, Morgan Watkins, Josh Davies

In Year 8, Marc Hackman, Will Essex, Georgia Livesey, Oli Rodgman, Ellie Hunstone

### **Athletics success**

Congratulations to the pupils who qualified for the Country Minors Athletics Championships on 28<sup>th</sup> July. They came 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> in the City Athletics Championships in May.

Charlie Allford for Shot

Katelyn Griffiths for 800m

Aimee Cochrane for Javelin

Congratulations to Sophie Hayward, Emily Day and Megan Tillman who all competed in the City Schools Championships at Nunnery Wood High School and qualified for the Counties Athletics Championships in June.

### **Boccia at The Schools' Summer Games in July**

Congratulations go to Jeremy Ball, Jamie Kerrell and James Everiss who have qualified for the Worcestershire West Boccia team. They will join pupils from Hanley Castle High School to compete in a competition at the Games.

### **Super 6s Athletics at Malvern College, 8<sup>th</sup> June**

This summer The Chantry fielded a strong team for this Partnership Schools competition. Each competitor had to enter 1 x track event and 1 x field event and also run in a relay race; they had to be all-round athletes. Although we didn't qualify for the finals, The Chantry teams should feel proud of their efforts.

Well done to: Izzy Jakeways, Hannah Goodman, Lucy Farmer, Ari Goldsmith, Harriet Butler and Grace Bowyer.

Tommy Fouweather, George Mitchell, Hak Saami, Josh Lucy, Toby Vesper and Charlie Johnstone.

**Sports Fixtures Summer 2016**

**are on the school website**

**[www.chantryschool.com](http://www.chantryschool.com)**