




The English Navigator



Study tours are a travel experience with specific learning goals. The learning goals of each study tour vary, but are always spelled out in the syllabus that is distributed to each learner. Study tours emphasize experiential learning and offer both group and self-directed activities that enable learners to explore new territories, cultures, and people. On our first overseas tour to Australia organized in 2006, our school escorted students to western countries including, Australia, England, New Zealand and Canada. These English-speaking countries also provided participants with impressive and enjoyable learning experiences.

In this volume, we would like students who went to the overseas study tour to England last summer to share their cherished and valuable time about the trip with a view to encouraging other students to raise their interest in learning English. Their writings can definitely provide you with an inspiring and positive attitude towards English learning.

As January approaches, let us celebrate our new year with joy and hope. May you all have a fruitful and prosperous year in 2015.

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FUN FACTS ABOUT STUDY TOURS

Understanding different cultures, making friends and sightseeing are what most students would like to do when joining overseas study tours. Besides these, learning a language is also a common goal for most students. They can learn and speak the language in an authentic situation.

What languages can they learn in the following countries?

Match the languages with the flags of different countries below?

- A. English B. Italian C. French D. German E. Spanish



1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____



FRIENDS FROM DIFFERENT COUNTRIES



On this study tour, the best memories were my classmates, the staff and teachers I met in England.

I made many friends from different countries, such as Austria, Chile, and Russia. They were very kind and helpful. I always talked and played with them. We also exchanged our Facebook with each other. I was so glad that I could communicate with them. I still keep in touch with a Chilean friend called Martin through Whatsapp. I also learnt some foreign languages from them.

One night, we went to a disco, which was an evening activity, and played with them crazily. The teachers there were also very friendly. They often shared some funny stories with us. The staff were very patient and explained the history of different places, such as Dover Castle and Windsor Castle. We took many photos together too.

This trip has helped me a lot about how to communicate and make friends with people from different countries. I learnt from them and they also learnt more about Hong Kong from me. After this trip, I love English more and I know English is so important. I won't forget this trip and I hope I can go to England again in the future.

3B 3226 Leah Sze



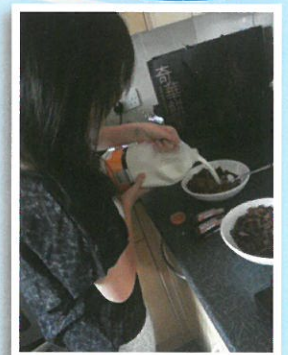
MY HOST FAMILY



First, I'd like to talk about my host family.

When we were in Canterbury, my classmates and I stayed with a host family for one week. This family was very friendly. They had a daughter who was very shy and she was really good at drawing. The pictures drawn by her were fantastic. They also had a cat which was very cute and I loved to play with it very much.

The first day when we arrived was a Sunday. The host family took us to the beach. It was beautiful. Although it was in summer, it was really cold. We played on the sand with their daughter. They bought us each a '99', which was an ice cream. It was delicious. They also showed us how to get to school the next day.



The study tour was very special for me because I tried lots of new things that I had never tried before.

3C 3338 Samantha Wong



THE MOST MEMORABLE ACTIVITIES



On this study tour, there were lots of memorable experiences.

I remember one evening we played Wii. At the beginning, I was shy because I had never played Wii games before. I didn't know how it worked and how to control the remote. However, when I saw Jessica, a student helper, play so well, I plucked up the courage to play the game. I focused on the music and the movements. And finally, I won. I was so excited.

A special time for me was when we had play time. I enjoyed walking on the streets freely in Canterbury. I remember once my friend Yonita and I walked too far away from the meeting place and the buildings

looked exactly the same. We could not remember the way back. We got into a panic and were exhausted. We kept going back to the places we had been to. Luckily, we found other schoolmates walking by and we followed them and we finally got back to the meeting place.

I learnt a lot during this study tour. I also learnt some British slang, like 'L00' which means toilet. My self management is better than before. We need to take care of ourselves and make our own decisions.

3C 3326 Diana Cho

Study Tour



Last summer, I went to England on the study tour. It was a very memorable experience for me.

The first week we stayed in Canterbury. We had lessons in Stafford House and also stayed with a host family. We not only learnt English there, but also did local visits to the museum, castle and the tour centre. We had some evening activities after lessons like going to a Disco and playing Wii-games. Through playing the activities, we had a chance to make friends with the other students.

The second week, we left Canterbury and moved to the South of England, and then the East of England. Finally, we returned to London. We passed Hastings, Windsor, Stratford, Oxford, Birmingham, Manchester, Nottingham and Cambridge. These are all famous cities in England.

The most memorable place during these two weeks was Brighton, which is a small city South of London by the sea. There were many shops and malls, and things to buy that we could not find in Hong Kong.

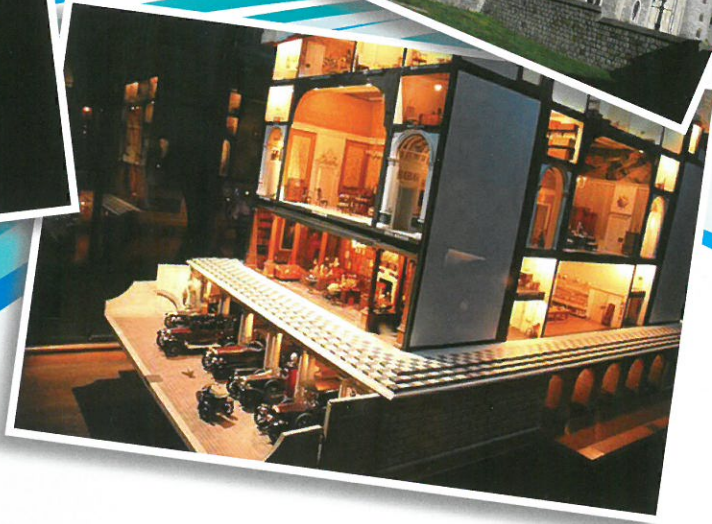
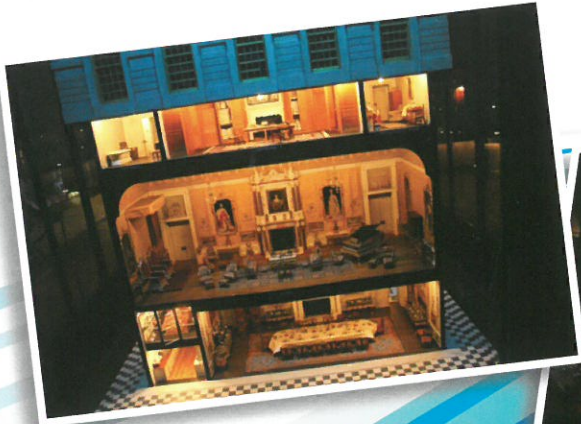
During the tour, I learnt that language proficiency is fundamental. Speaking fluent English is a must while knowledge of other languages is also a bonus, for example, Spanish. Besides English and Chinese, many people also speak Spanish.

My trip was the most memorable experience in my life. I am thinking about going there one more time by myself because I want to visit all these places once again and also see other interesting and fun places.

5D 5427 Rain Wong



Windsor Castle



Windsor Castle, located in the South-eastern region of England Berkshire Windsor – Maidenhead Royal Borough of Gates head Windsor, is currently where the British royal family live. Windsor Castle is the largest inhabited castle in England. It is one of the world-known attractions today. Before we went into the castle, we had to wait for a long time as there were a large amount of visitors to the castle.

On top of the castle, a building which is known as the Round Tower, is one of the landmarks of the castle. In fact, it doesn't look like the appearance of a cylindrical shape, because it is located in the centre of the castle's artificial hills. Although the hills are irregularly built, it looks like a cyclic, and it is known as the Round Tower. On the day of our visit, Queen Elizabeth II was in the

Round Tower. If we were lucky, we could have seen the queen. However, we didn't see her.

The most interesting part of the castle is Queen Mary's doll house. It was built in 1924 and is about 1.5 meters high. It is a miniature model of the British Royal Palace. It is stocked with 750 pieces of art, spanning Victorian style to the Pre-Raphaelite. There were 250 craftsmen, 60 decorators, 700 artists and 600 writers involved in the production. It was an amazing dolls house.

On this tour, I learnt a lot about the history and culture of Britain.

3D 3435 Yalie Wong





Hi, I'm Helen Leung from 3D.
What I remember most of the study
tour is one of the evening activities which
was a handicraft activity.

In HK, we are taught by teachers, so I expected that I would be taught about how to make some interesting handicrafts. However, what happened was another story.

I saw some color papers on a table and I started to fold them. I folded beautiful flowers which the staff liked very much. They asked me how to make it and I actually became a teacher to the staff.

This experience told me how different our cultures are. I guess we shouldn't just rely on teachers. We should be active too. It is important to leave a lot of room for creativity and I am very appreciative of the freedom in developing my own interests.

3D 3428 Helen Leung



FUN FACTS ABOUT STUDY TOURS

Accommodation

Where to stay

One of the exciting parts of joining overseas study tours is to stay in different types of accommodation with different people from around the world.

Usually students will be offered different types of accommodation such as hotels, hostels and homestays. Students staying in different accommodation will have different experiences during the trip.



Hotels

Both the traditional or modern hotels will provide students with a safe and relaxing place to stay.



Hostels



Students will have more chances to interact with other students staying in hostels



Homestays



Both the traditional or modern hotels will provide students with a safe and relaxing place to stay.



Manchester, Go Go Go!

From 21st June to 4th July, some teachers, students and I went to England for 14 days. We went to many places like Canterbury, London, Brighton, Manchester and so on. Fish and chips, the English traditional dish, can be found everywhere in this part of the world.



The day we went to Brighton, we went sightseeing and went to the Brighton pier to sit down. It really was magical. That day we ate fish and chips.

Some pigeons flew over me and stole all the food and threw them next to me. I thought it was the reason fish and chips were so popular. I lost HKD\$100 that day. It was an expensive day!

I learnt a lot of things. I improved my English and learnt some self-management skills. If I have a chance, I will return to England!

3C 3301 Brian

Impression of UK study tour

From 25th June to 4th July, I took part in a study tour to the United Kingdom. The first week, we went to Stafford House, the place where we had lessons. We had about 3 hours for study per day. In my opinion, I think that was quite short.



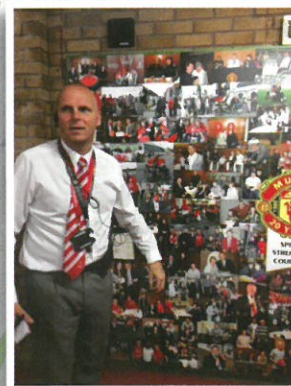
During the lessons, we always played games or had group discussions with the students from other countries. These students came from Chile, France, and Austria. Most of them were really nice and funny.

We learned about the history of Canterbury. After dinner, we had fun evening activities. I chose to go to the disco because I had never been to a disco before. I considered it amusing and exciting.

For the second week, we spent the whole week sightseeing. We went to Oxford, Birmingham and Manchester etc. In that week, I think my friends and I had become shopaholics.

The most memorable person for me was my classmate Louise. She was a girl from France. She always sat next to me and chatted with me. Also, sometimes I was shy to be a volunteer but she told me that I needed to take more initiative.

5E Hester



English Assembly 18th & 19th November 2014



The topic for this year was: **The Importance of Traveling to Improve English and Treasuring Opportunities Which Come Our Way.**

Part 1

Mr Alex Cheung Kai Lam (an English teacher) and his group of actors presented a delightful mini play focusing on having faith and a strong desire to overcome adversities. The audience were entertained with students who acted out a scene from the bible. Their presentation was both entertaining and thought provoking.



**...I AM NOT AFRAID
OF STORMS, FOR I
AM LEARNING HOW
TO SAIL MY SHIP.**

There are people out there who
tell you you can't. What you've
gotta do is turn around,
and say "watch me." ♡





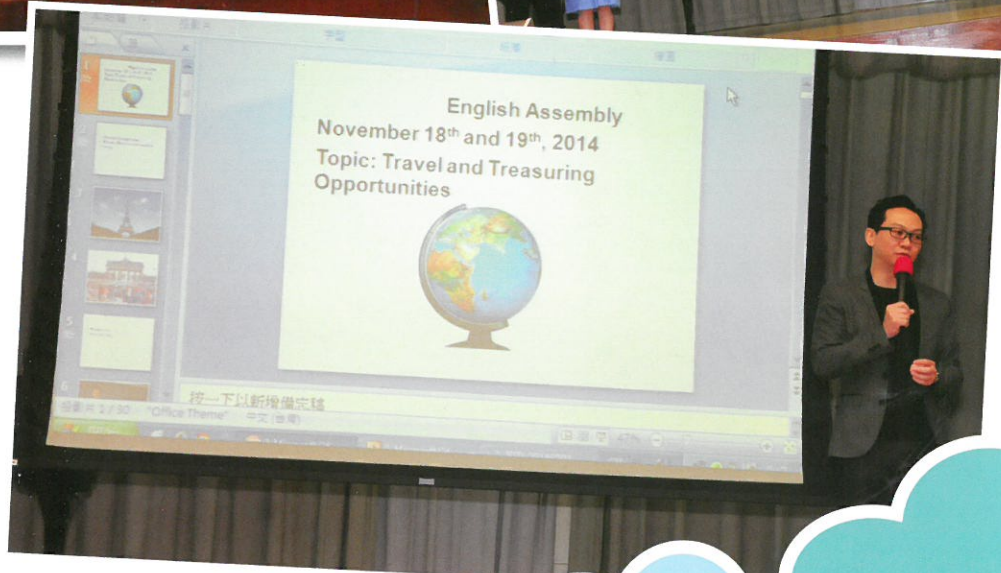
Part 2
Miss Tai and Miss Wong's traveling companions for the summer trip to England presented details of their trip which included the lessons they had, their host families, the places they visited and other enjoyable moments of their time in the UK. It was obvious that the students had a great time, they were treated well and they improved their English immensely.



**2014-2015
Summer
Study Tour
to England**



Part 3
Miss Haney, the native English Speaking teacher, did a short presentation on her traveling experiences and her life before working in Hong Kong. She discussed her previous duties in Australia where as well as English she also taught French, German and Japanese. Miss Haney emphasized to the students the importance of having goals, working out strategies to achieve these goals and perseverance.



The three main aspects of the assembly were to keep your body in good condition, your mind active and keep your spirit healthy.

FUN ON ENGLISH- SPEAKING DAY

Before I went into the School Office, I was very nervous. I wanted to talk to the principal, Mr. Ma, but I was scared because my English is not good. Luckily, my friends joined me in the interview with Mr. Ma. After the interview, I realized how humourous and nice Mr. Ma is. He is very approachable. I was so happy to be able to talk to the principal on the English Speaking Day!

1D Valarie, Sit Ka-wai
(first right)

2D Mandy, Cheung Man-yi
(first left)





The 21st November was our school's English Speaking Day. This year was the second time that I joined this meaningful activity. On that day, I was so glad that I could use my favourite language, English, to speak to teachers, schoolmates and even the principal, Mr. Ma.

At first, I wanted to ask Mr. Ma some questions but I didn't have enough courage. After a while, I saw my friends wanted to interview him too. Then we took a deep breath and stepped into the Principal's Room. We finally interviewed him! During the interview I discovered that Mr. Ma likes swimming and doing sports, especially stretching exercises. He also told us that learning English is very important and encouraged us to speak in English more. I would like to say "Thank You" to Mr. Ma for speaking with us in English!



ENGLISH SPEAKING DAY 2014



Friday 21st November was the annual English Speaking Day. At lunchtime the students attended the English stalls and played games with the higher form students. "Simon Says" was a hit with the students and they had a bit of fun forgetting they had to 'wait' for Simon!!! Students also enjoyed the sentence building and were able to win some prizes if they formed correct sentences. Throughout the day, the students interviewed various teachers and The Principal in English. They were excited to find out a little more information about their teachers.

The day was also greatly supported by the teachers outside of the English department. Miss Leung Yuk-wah even went as far as teaching part of her Chinese History lesson in English... a very brave teacher!



66th ENGLISH SPEECH FESTIVAL

'Ba Dump! Ba Dump!' my heart was beating so fast. Now the moment of truth. 'Champion, number 15, Chui Kyla Mae!' Once again, I did not disappoint anyone. Being announced the 66th Speech Festival Champion was truly an amazing feeling.

As always, I went to practise almost every day, adding more emotions and facial expressions. When I first read the poem, I felt a little nervous.

I really thought I would find it difficult to add emotion, but after I went through it a few times, I actually enjoyed the poem and the emotions came naturally. Luckily Miss Haney helped me too. Thank God, I nailed it!

I would like to thank everyone who supported me. A very special thank you to my friends who gave me a big hug. Melissa Hanyu, Victor Wong and Sandy Cheung who always support me in everything I do.

6D Kyla Mae

