

## **A wonderful trip to London**

I'm back in China now, but when I think of the trip to London, I always feel very meaningful.

When I was in London, I went to the Grey Coat Hospital to experience their study styles as an exchange student. And I found that their study styles are quite different from ours. Each class there is quite small while ours is big. Their classes' atmosphere is very active. The students there will shout out when they understood and they will put up their hands to show that they have ideas. I think it's very good to do so. However, it's not easy to control the class. I found that the word, which was said the most times, is 'Sh!' in order to make the class quite. Anyway, the students were very cordial. They said “你好” continuously to us and I was really moved.

I also went sightseeing in London. I went to the British museum, National Gallery, London eye, Windsor Castle and the Oxford City and so on. I also saw the Buckingham Palace, the Thames River, the Bridge of London and the Big Ben. The view of London is pretty good and I really enjoyed it. However, the weather there was really cold and the price of the goods there was really high, compared to China's.

My host family treated me very well. I really enjoyed my stay there.

After all, I loved London, a really beautiful city. And I will cherish the wonderful trip to London in the deep of my heart.

**By He Qianwen (何倩文) Class 2 Senior Year 2**

During this National Day Holiday, we 10 students from Shanghai No.3 Girls High School have had a ten-day-trip to our friend school, Grey Coat Hospital in London Britain. The teachers and students there were all very generous. With their help, we have learnt a lot about the culture of London.

The hundreds of historical constructions are one of the most important marks of London. We've visited Oxford Town and Windsor Castle, and have been deeply attracted by the glorious and elegant style. Besides, Gothic buildings are found everywhere. For instance, the London parliament building is a typical tall castle, which has a long long history. Unlike modern Shanghai, London is classic and old, and can always attract the visitors at the first sight.

The clean environment impressed us, too. The air is very fresh and plants are often found in the city. Almost none of the students use disposable chopsticks. There are fewer cars in the streets. The biggest park of London, Hyde Park, covers an area of 1,600,000 square meters! The school we visited is a girls' school which has 13 grades. The classes are small; there are only 20 students in each class. The students can choose the lessons they have. And the classroom is often noisy because everyone is eager to express her own opinion.

When we stayed in London, the host families offered us great help. We've also made a lot of new friends. At last, I want to say thank you to Grey Coat Hospital and our school, for giving us such a great opportunity to know more about the world.

**By Lin Yining (林伊宁) Class 3 Senior Year 2**

## **Britain tour to my thoughts**

The trip to Britain for life makes me forget, let me in a short period of ten days to experience a particular culture.

First, the school's teaching methods and classroom atmosphere I still remember well our students to positive thinking and positive statements, as well as the teachers are carefully designed so that the effect of the classroom to achieve the best results. As the teacher said: "The teaching of foreign ideas and personal point of view, the domestic emphasis on teaching problem-solving ability."

This was followed by the foreign countries not only clean and beautiful urban environment I was impressed. I am from the United Kingdom on the road through the urban area, I could see the British city of very rich green, and green space in the city center there are a large number of people for leisure. This is what people are longing for the harmonious and beautiful picture! The road is also very clean, not only my shoes do not get particularly dirty, and almost absence of litter on the ground. In the use of public transport, people have to take the initiative to stand on the side of the escalator, on the other side left in a hurry. I think that people say London is the best embodiment of civilization.

Finally, the hospitality of host families. I thought that the British are not very hospitable, but with ten days of their lives, I feel their enthusiasm and generosity, I feel the warmth of the family.

I, of course, the trip also left a small number of regret, there are some famous scenic spots due to the time of the reasons not to visit the hope that the next time there is an opportunity to re-visit to Britain. I hope that my own city can be very beautiful and harmonious.

**By Yang Jing(杨静) Class 1 Senior Year 2**

## **A WONDERFUL EXCHANGE**

Last Sunday, I went to London. It's like a dream to be in another country. I hadn't thought to be abroad before. That's so nice an experience!

When I first step out of the airport, the host families have been already waiting outside to welcome us. I'm so excited to run toward my host family. To my surprise, the mum of my exchange student gave me a warm hug and a kiss. I felt good because my host family is very kind.

Everything is fresh to me. It's the first time that I feel like a stranger living in a new place. Fortunately my host family is like my real family, so I started to get used of the life there. The school life is very colorful. Drama lesson, dance lesson, singing lesson, history lesson filled my spare time.

It's so nice to been to London with my host family to exchange the culture between England and China, east and west.

**By Chen Yiqin (陈逸沁) Class 9 Senior Year 2**

When our plane flew through the lazy-pacing clouds and sailed upon the air, London appeared in my eyes, quiet and was vested by the warm, yellow lightings. I had imagined hundreds of thousands of times what London will be like. However, when I really set my feet on this unique land, I can still feel my heart turned out of my breast. During the ten-day-trip, some detailed understanding and acquaintance of London started to supply the gap of Britain in my mind. I will never forget the excitement on the London Eye, the gorgeous Kensington Palace, the stately Windsor Castle and the academia of the Oxford University. I will never forget the time I had with them, no matter when we were crazily shopping, sat together on the sofa and watched The Duchess or had fun on the Musical Mamma Mia. And among all, the British's hospitality, politeness and decentness will never be diluted by time. Instead, they will always be treasured in my heart.

**By Liu Yicheng (刘逸成) Class 1 Senior Year 2**

A different thing I found was that they really have quite a lot free time. Not the same as us, they go to school at 8:30 every morning and the school over at 3:30 in the afternoon. Their lessons are very various. They have Maths, English, R.E, Drama, History, French, Spanish, and Chinese and so on. They can choose the subjects which they are interested in. They often do the works in a term in the class. Usually, after school, they often join some extra lessons, for example, Tennis lesson and Guitar lesson. I hope the schools in China can become like that in the future!

In addition, the museums in London are really wonderful! The British Museum and The National Gallery are very unforgettable to me! I have also been to the London Eye. It's quite fun! The Themes River, just like Huangpu River in Shanghai, but more famous and beautiful. I was been told that there are at least 20 bridges standing over the Themes River! What a huge number!

The family I stayed in was a really good family. They took me go sightseeing, and sent me gifts. Further more, they usually corrected my spoken mistakes. I feel very very thankful to them. And when I left their home, I even cried when I hug with them.

Now I have been in Shanghai again. My first trip to another country was really wonderful and unforgettable that just like a dream! I think I will remember it forever and keep in touch with my host family.

**By Lu Ying(卢颖) Class 8 Senior Year 2**

I think it was a fantastic trip! London really gave me a deep impression. Many ways in London are totally different from Shanghai, including the culture and daily life. At school, the students are more confidence. If they have any idea in class, they will raise their hands and express opinions. Most of the students are in a relaxing atmosphere. If you have been to London, I think you will never forget the structures there. The government keeps the characteristic style of building. In London, I think every corner is a view. I also suggest the Chinese's government should learn some from London on keeping the ancient buildings, because they are our treasure. The trip in Oxford gave me a new idea about university. The landscapes are charming and gentle and I enjoy the Oxford very much. From the communication with the local people, I found that the Westerners stress equality very much. They never judge a person by his or her appearance. To conclude, London is a fabulous place.

**By Tian Wenjun (田雯著) Class 4 Senior Year 2**

The reason why I want to come to London is that I am interested in British history, architecture and the life style in Britain. It's been a worthwhile trip. London is a metropolis that mixes antiquity and modernization. Culture in the London is rich and diverse, with a strong tradition of literature, theatre, popular and orchestral music and the performing arts. These, together with collections in the Museums and galleries created a London cultural circle. We also have been to the Oxford and Windsor Castle. Because I saw the film The Queen before, I was keen on the castle. Windsor Castle, the oldest and largest occupied castle in the world, is one of the official residences of Her Majesty the Queen. The St George's Chapel, the Round Tower, the Drawings Gallery and so on showed us the Royal glory and dignity. London is a really attractive city, so I want to go there again.

**By Zhang Yiyue(张怡悦) Class 4 Senior Year 2**

It's my great honor to visit Grey Coat Hospital as an exchange student from Shanghai No. 3 Girls High School. Through this precious chance, I've learnt a lot. Not only the way that British students study but also their attitude of study.

I am grateful to have a nice host family which gave great help and good arrangements in London. During the wonderful trip to London, I've visited the London Eye, the London Bridge and so on. I was attracted by architectures in the city which made me feel that I am in a fairy world.

Thank the Grey Coat Hospital for giving me a nice trip to London.

**By Zhang Luhui (张璐祎) Class1 Senior Year2**

## **The Chinese exchange 08**

On Monday 30<sup>th</sup> September I picked up my exchange partner from the airport. I had only met her once as the person I had stayed with wasn't coming back to England. They were all very polite and tired as it was the middle of the night back in Shanghai.

We were given a warm welcome, everyone saying hello to them which they really appreciated. They joined most of our morning lessons while in the afternoon they had a workshop at lower school. A history of London, dance etc. a great thank you to all the departments involved.

We showed her all the sights of London: Trafalgar Square, Westminster Abbey, the London Eye, Buckingham Palace etc. and she loved to take photos on her camera and it was lovely seeing them at the end of her stay.

She felt so grateful for the time she had had, always thanking us. Feeling very privileged to have this opportunity. It was lovely getting to know her and learning about our differences and similarities. You become really close by the time they leave and it's quite an emotional goodbye. But it was really worth it even if I went to lower school up 4 times a day!

**By Georgina Corrie 10G**

### Chinese exchange '08

On Monday 29<sup>th</sup> of September, 10 students from G.C.H and Ms Lambert waited eagerly at London Heathrow for the arrival of the exchange students from Shanghai No. 3 Girl's School. After a long wait and an equally long journey home, we tucked into a typical English dinner of fish and chips.

The students came to lessons with us, which we were told were very different from classes in China and the school organised daytime activities such as a day trip to Windsor and Oxford, a tour of London and various workshops. We were left to entertain them in the evening, so my friends (Lucy, Amy, Georgia and Tara) and I took our partners on the London Eye and to see Mamma Mia! at the theatre. They proved their excellent grasp of English by understanding the plot which, frankly, is quite confusing! We also took them to many typical tourist attractions such as Covent Garden, Oxford Street and Chinatown, where we had dinner. Although the food was very different to the real typical Chinese food, it was still delicious.

Compared to Shanghai, London is very expensive, so it wasn't surprising that they were shocked by the prices. Luckily, they all brought a sufficient amount of money, and a few even brought the new iPod-chromatic!

We took our exchanges with us throughout our weekly routine and we taught them a lot about English culture. We all really enjoyed having our exchange partners with us and we have all learnt a lot. We wish our friends in China the very best and hope they will keep in touch.

**By Claudia Minett 10G**