

BEIJING 2014



On the 12th of July I travelled from Glasgow to Beijing for the 2014 Chinese Bridge Summer Camp. Over 60 pupils and teachers took part from Scotland, five pupils and one teacher came from Edinburgh, however there were also pupils from England and Ireland who stayed in different parts of China.

We flew from Glasgow to Dubai, then to Beijing. The flights were long and tiring but we were still excited as we finally landed in Beijing. We spent the first two days in Beijing and we were taken out for our first meal in China, visited the Hanban headquarters and got to see the pandas at Beijing Zoo. After two days we took the bullet train to Tianjin where we stayed for nine days. We stayed in a university with many students who had come to study Chinese from around the world.



During the nine days we did many things such as kung fu every morning, learning Chinese, activities such as calligraphy and Chinese knot making and trying new foods.

We visited the Culture Centre while in Tianjin, and we saw lots of Chinese art, listened to Chinese opera and got to make and try green tea. We also spent a day with Chinese students.

The group of students from Edinburgh visited Tianjin No. 1 High School and met with a group of Chinese students who came to school during their summer holidays to spend a day with us.



We learnt about the differences between Chinese and Scottish schools and took a tour of their school which had over 3000 students! They then took us to a museum and after we visited their homes and met their families who gave us Chinese gifts, and we brought gifts from Scotland for them. Lastly we went out for dinner and had a meal with them and a few of their teachers.

We ended the trip by travelling back to Beijing and visiting the Great Wall, Tiananmen Square and the Forbidden City, which was an incredibly long day, but it definitely was amazing climbing the Great Wall and visiting the Forbidden City. On the last night we had a closing ceremony with the Summer Camps from England and Ireland where we performed by showing the kung fu we had learned, things we had made such as Chinese paper art and opera masks and we ended by singing Auld Lang Syne.

Time went incredibly fast and the trip came to an end. It was sad to say goodbye to everyone in Glasgow as we had all become good friends. It was an amazing opportunity to be given, I had a great time and I definitely would love to go back in the future.

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