

2009-2010 Winter International Youth Leadership Chinese/English Camp NEWSLETTER

Welcome to Taiwan Introduction

During the days between December 12, 2009 to January 2, 2010, Palos Verdes Chinese School once again sponsored the Winter international Youth Leadership Chinese/English Camp. This trip was directed by Principal Ming-Fen Yeh as she lead the students through a fun trip from Taipei to Tainan and to Taichung, Taiwan. This year, there were only two students attending this trip. One of them was Katherine Cheng and the other was Jane Lu. The following newsletter is the highlights of our trip and a complete coverage of this trip and its activities. Hope you enjoy our newsletter and be inspired to join the camp next year.



← Katherine's and Jane's Ducky Ceramics from Day 2!

The Members:

Jane Lu, Katherine Cheng, Principal Ming-Fen Yeh



Jane Lu, Newsletter/Photo Leader, is a fifteen year old entering her junior year in September 2010 at South Pasadena High School.

Principal Ming-Fen Yeh



Katherine Cheng, CO Newsletter/Video Leader, is a fifteen year old entering her sophomore year in September 2010 at Palos Verdes Peninsula High School.

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Day 1, 12/22/2009

After a fourteen hour plane ride from LAX, we: Jane, Katherine, and Principal Cheng, finally arrived in Tao Yuan Airport in Taiwan at 5:07 am. Outside, when we arrived, it was 287 K (14 C) outside and cloudy, but not raining. Driving the Evergreens bus from Tao Yuan to Taipei, we first went to a temple to pray and offer food when we got off the bus. Afterwards, we went to the Presidential Office and took a tour around and by taxi, everyone then went to an Army Memorial Place where we watched the soldiers do a special

march at each dot of the clock. For lunch, we went to an expensive Japanese restaurant called Mitsui. Katherine and I both had some liver, egg soup, miso soup, green noodles, sushi, and a red bean dessert. After lunch, we went to the Taipei 101. Taking an elevator, we made it to the 88th floor in 37 seconds and then down to the first floor in 45 sec- both at 600 m/m. Dinner was at Ding Tai Fong and later, we went shopping until we had to take the Taiwan High Speed Rail to Tainan.



Here we are at Tao Yuan Airport

Day 2, 12/23/2009



Finally arriving at Tainan after two hours on Taiwan High Speed Rail, we woke up at eight o'clock to go teach two different classes full of third graders. During the first class, we taught the little kids different Christmas vocabulary and had them draw what the word looks like. The second half of the class we made Christmas cards from foam snowmen and let them use their imagination. The second class we had more experience, so we handled the time better than the last class. We used 10 min of the class time to teach 7 vocabulary words and then had

them make Christmas cards with foam Christmas trees and different sorts of stickers. At 11:30am, we left the elementary and headed for lunch at a famous Tainan Xiao Chi Dian. Then, driving for awhile, we stopped at a farm with hundreds of ducks. Jane held some ducks, but Katherine was too scared to hold them. Visiting the farm for 30 minutes, we then sat down and painted ceramic ducks. Afterwards, we headed to the Space Observation place. It was a new building that just opened. The most exciting part was we got to see the sun

through a microscope. It was really interesting. Our last stop was at Orchids Discovery World. There was many different and colorful kinds of orchids. They also had orchid ice cream which tasted very sweet, but really good. For dinner, we ate at Chou's Shrimp Rolls in An Ping. After a long day, we decided to go shopping! Yay!

Day 3, 12/24/2009



At 8am sharp, our taxi driver came and thus, he drove us around Tainan the entire day. First, we went to two shrines and after, we ate from a famous bao zi place- it was really good! Then we went first to a Japanese house to see towel puppets and then took a longgg ride to see the endangered Black-faced Spoonbill. Entonces, it was another longgg

ride to Bu Dai Xi to see puppets. There, we were suppose to see a show, but we found out at there it was only on Saturday nights (>.<). Después, we went to a Honey-making Bee place and took a short tour and drank honey tea. Afterwards, it was off to the Prince Hotel to drink coffee and have afternoon tea. The fruit tea we had there was

good, but a bit sour and too watery. Before we ate dinner, we went to Jan Fu San Fancyworld and played. It was like Disneyland, but Disneyland is sooo much better. (xP) Nonetheless, it was still fun and we still had a good time. Por último, we ate at another famous restaurant where they served us chicken noodles which was actually very good.

Day 4, 12/25/2009

Today was a very tiring day- there was too much transportation. We first rode the high speed rail from Tainan to Taipei for two hours. Then from the Taipei train station, we headed to Kee Lung to eat lunch. After lunch, we took a taxi ride for another 40 minute taxi to Ju Feng. We spent hours shopping at old stores and after it was 40 min taxi ride back down to Kee Lung Train station and to Ji Long, a pottery place where we saw many ceramics and pretty pottery. After an hour and a half ride, we headed back to Taipei. Then, we went on the high speed rail to head back to Tainan.



Day 5, 12/26/2009

Today was more of a relaxation day for everyone. Since on December 29th and 30th, Katherine and Jane are going to Lioujia Elementary School to teach, we spent the morning preparing crafts and other items for them until the afternoon. Then, we went with Principal Cheng and her sister to an afternoon tea and buffet at a six star hotel. The food was pretty good, but really expensive though. (Dx) Afterwards, we went shopping and later we went to hua yuan yi shi.

Here we are at the Afternoon Tea and Buffet at the 6 star hotel



Day 6, 12/27/2009



Here we are at the ri yun tour

Once again we went on the Taiwan High Speed Rail to depart for Taichung from Tainan. When we arrived, it was 9:30am and then we went on a ri yun tour to see landscapes even though it was pretty chilly. Afterwards, we went to an expensive restaurant called The LaLu. After that, we took other longgggg ride to our hotel. Lastly, we went to downtown and ate.



Menu at The LaLu

Day 7, 12/28/2009

Waking up in the cabin in the farm in Taichung, we hear drops of rain falling on the roof. Drip Drop Drip Drop. Having the rain change our whole schedule, we stayed at the cabin for some extra hours watching DVDs. Then at about 10 o'clock we finally left the hotel and headed down to the city side of Tai Chung. Before we headed to the high speed rail, we make a few stops. First we stopped at another hotel to tour around. Then driving down, we bought some

sweet cabbage and delicious tomatoes. Then, it was to a river where a president once visited before. After, we stopped at memorial built for Taiwanese soldiers to recognize them because they fought without weapons against the Japanese. Since it had been a long day, we all got thirsty and headed to a coffee/tea shop. Our last stop was at a wine liquor museum/plaza. We learned the history of liquor and saw many souvenirs. That was the end of our trip at Tai Chung. Arriving at Tainan at 5:15. We dropped

off our luggage and headed off to go shopping. And that was how we ended our day again.



The Liquor Place

Memorial Place

Day 8, 12/29/2009

This is the first day of Katherine and Jane taught at Lioujia Elementary School. Because there were so many different classes to teach, both of them had to teach at different classes. Jane taught a third and a fifth grade class while Katherine taught two sixth grade classes. After a tiring morning, Jane and Katherine had lunch at Han Li and then went home for a rest. After, they head out to ChihKan Tower. They explore the ancient artifacts and then head home.



Chihkan Tower

Jane's 3rd Grade Class

Day 9, 12/30/2009

Today was the second day of teaching at Lioujia Elementary School and also the last day in Tainan. After teaching many tiring lessons, we head back the city side and ate lunch at a grand opening new mall called the Evergreen Mall. We hung out there for about 3 hours wandering inside doing really, nothing since there was not anything really interesting inside that mall. Afterwards, we decided to shop at the small shops surrounding the Tainan train station. Leaving the small shops at about 5:30, we then head back home to pack.



Day 10, 12/31/2009

Today is New Years' Eve!! Yay!! First we went to a Taiwan university to take a quick visit around and then it was off to lunch at a place called Maussac—a special tea shop. We went there with a teacher from the university and a student. With full stomach we headed for the performance stage at Taipei 101 and saw the dress rehearsal for the annual New Years' count down. The most exciting part was we saw the bands S.H.E. and Fahrenheit perform! (Some other ones too x]) But, right before the countdown show started we left because it got really crowded and Principal Ming-Fen was worried for our safety. Thus, we headed to insurance company guy's house (aka a friend of Principal Ming-Fen) to celebrate and watch the 101 fireworks from his house. We spent the whole night there (until 2am :P) and watched the fireworks. It was an amazing day though!



Day 11, 1/1/2010

Today was the last day at Taiwan and officially New Year's Day! We woke up really late because we got back home at about 2am yesterday. (xP) Waking up late, we then headed another six-star hotel and ate lunch at the The Rose Buffet there. Afterwards, we went shopping at Ximen Ding. Yay! After shopping for a few hours, we went back to where we stayed and ate dinner. Then rested for awhile until we had to go to the airport and go back to Los Angeles. Our flight was at 11:45 pm and we arrived LAX at 6:30pm. Thus, this was the end of Taiwan trip. Reflecting back on the past days, everyone had lots of fun and hope you may join us next year!



Cute penguin we found at Tao Yuan Airport x]



We're on the web!
palosverdeschineseschool.org



"Taiwan was really fun! I loved it!"

