

## Cultural trip to China



The phrase 'trip of a lifetime' is massively over-used, but in this case it's fair to say that this phrase is more than applicable to our recent visit to China.

27 pupils from Upper 4 and Lower 5 along with 4 members of staff set off on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March, returning 11 days later hugely educated on a wide number of areas including history, architecture and most certainly food!

We started in Shanghai, visiting the Shanghai Tower, the 3<sup>rd</sup> tallest building in the world, having dinner 300 metres up in a revolving restaurant in the Oriental Pearl building before taking an evening river cruise on the Huangpu river.

We then travelled to Chengdu where we visited a high school for a morning. The pupils were treated like rock stars and were given a huge reception out in the sports fields, before undertaking lessons in traditional Chinese arts such as embroidery, flower-arranging and making Chinese tea. We also spent an unforgettable day in a panda reserve helping to clean the pens and prepare bamboo feasts.

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# High School & Sixth Form



A bullet train took us Xi'an where we experienced the Terracotta Army and its secrets.

Beijing was our next city where we visited Tiananmen Square and the Forbidden City. We then went to a traditional tearoom, watched a puppet show (which told the story of Monkey), experienced some amazing acrobatics and finally, took a walk along the Great Wall.

We returned to Shanghai to fly home absolutely shattered but with memories that will last for a lifetime.

If you would like to see more photos and videos from this trip, please visit the Gateways School Facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/gatewaysschool>

Mrs May Day, Mrs Karen Titman, Capt. Col Davies and Mr Martin Davison