

China Day 5 - We have had another great day today. We watched lots of maths lessons. We also saw some other big differences between our school and China. When a lesson changes they do not have a bell but piano music plays. Also, the children do eye exercises all at the same time when music plays through the whole school. Those children who are monitors wear a badge on their arm!

Also, the teachers are used to lots of people visiting their lessons - sometimes as many as 35 teachers!!!!

The children love to talk about their maths and have a really good understanding of numbers - today they were trying to work out the area of the school hall in km².

Tomorrow we watch the slightly younger children and then back into the University for lessons on Saturday.

Hope you are all ok and good luck to Class 3 for their Assembly. Mr G

China Day 4 -

Hi everyone - today has been really exciting as we visited our link school. It is huge and is a little bit like a block of flats or a hotel - 5 floors up. We had a lovely welcome and I shared the presents I bought from our school. Look at the welcome message on the board for us at the front of the school. We then went for a look round the school and watched a lesson with Year 3 children - 39 in a class and no teaching assistant! The children were really great just like all of you and liked to practice their amazing English. The maths lesson was really interesting - the children stand up when they need to answer a question. The lessons are quite short - only 35 minutes and they have to work very quickly. They are taught and then do work from a textbook which is the same one that all children in Shanghai are using!

After the lesson we had lunch. The children eat in their classroom. They do not go outside for a break or play like us - only once a week! They have a great running track outside. We then visited some of the other children and one boy sang us a song. I will put it on the website tomorrow. You must watch it! After that we were taken to see the science lab, the IPAD room which Miss. Brown would love and then this amazing Design room with three cars in and a screen for the children to practice driving. Look at me in the pink mini!!! I could not believe they had this in school. One big difference to us in England is that the children get lots of homework. They also have to know all their times tables by the age of 6! They do some different methods for sums as well. Looking forward to my visit again tomorrow - we are going to see a Year 6 lesson!!! If you have any questions you want me to find out about let me know. I am hoping to Skype you if Mrs. Law and Miss. Brown can sort it out.

Speak to you tomorrow - Mr. Gould

China Day 3 - Hi everyone - another interesting day here in China. We had some more lectures in the University of Shanghai today and then met the teachers whose school we

are visiting tomorrow and for the next 5 days. Their school has over 1500 children!!!! Very big! I will put some photos on tomorrow. We are really looking forward to seeing how the children learn maths - one class of Year 3 children (40) and one class of Year 6 children!(39)

It has been very warm but has not stopped raining all day!

Hope you are all well and had a good day.

Mr G

China Day 2 - Hello everyone. Today was the official launch of the Maths Hub Project. We had a 6am start and a meeting at the University in Shanghai where some very important people welcomed us to Shanghai. We then learnt a lot about the differences between maths in England and China. It was very interesting. After lunch we then saw a lesson taught by a teacher pretending that we were the children in her year 1 Class. It gave me lots of very exciting ideas. Chinese maths teachers only teach maths in primary schools and only teach for 2 hours a day. The rest of the time they are planning lessons and marking the children's work. If they have marked your work and you have not quite understood something they will call you back later to go through it. Do you think this instant feedback sounds like a good idea? Also, Chinese children, even in Reception get a lot of homework!!!! Tomorrow we meet the teachers who are going to work with us in February. I will get a photo to put on. Hope everyone is having fun at school. Mr. Gould

China Day 1 - Hello everyone - here is my first message from China. Arrived after a very long flight of 11 hours. I watched the Muppet Movie on the plane. We arrived at our hotel by bus and then did not get to sleep so I did not suffer from Jet lag! We have explored the city. There are a lot of very tall buildings a little bit like London. Crossing the road is a little dangerous as the cars do not stop even when the traffic lights are red! The food is very interesting - last night we went to a restaurant where they served baby chick which we did not eat! There is even a restaurant that sells turtles!! I have stuck to the beef tell Mrs. Law. We visited a museum today and went on a ride which is like a trip through the digestive system - I tried to record it for Class 3 and 4 but it did not come out very well!!!

Tomorrow we start at the University for two days of lectures and meetings. We have to leave at 7.15am! We are having an official Reception in the morning and will then be learning about the differences between what the Chinese children have to learn in maths and what we have to.

On Wednesday we start at our schools and meet the teachers who are visiting us in February so that will be very exciting. I have some presents from our school for them.

I hope you all had a great weekend and I will write to you again tomorrow. Mr. Gould