



給家長和老師們的信 (2024/2025-2)

親愛的家長和老師們：

安排八年級學生每年到英倫的學習之旅，從08年開始，也舉辦好些年了，除了到倫敦的一所學校上課和觀光外，到牛津和劍橋這兩所著名的學府去參觀，也是我們必備的行程，每次到劍橋去，總會和孩子們乘艇在康河上遨遊，雖不曾學會撐篙，孩子們總能哼上一兩句“再別康橋”，讓河裏河外都散發出一點點的詩意，聽着負責撐篙的大學生詳細介紹河上的各院校，總教我們流連忘返，也憧憬着未來，是的，正如我常說的“總要有夢”。

今年嘗試慢慢放下幾十年來心繫的工作，不用天天守在校園裏了，到英倫去走走，是我第一個念頭，終於趁着兒子要到倫敦去開會，一句“我也要去”，就上了飛倫敦的飛機，和在UCL就讀的孫女Rachael歡樂共聚後，我選擇住在Cambridge，要追尋往日的足跡，要見見在讀的學生，就是一位正在修讀Linguistic的學生，他寫了一篇有關康橋的文章「鴨子」，把我引到這裏來了，還有一位去年剛在這裏完成博士學位的校友，知道我想研究有關語文的教學，介紹我到這裏的語文學習中心，去看看如何協助來自世界各地的學員，最初我只準備用一星期的時間去了解一下，然後隨兒子返港，後來發現學員們的語文水平差異很大，極重的口音，如何去指導，值得研究，遂決定留下來。

有家長知道我到了劍橋，全家人跑來和我共聚，也有約我到倫敦去見面，有學生約我共飲一杯，更有校友跑來陪我上教堂，也約了幾位在讀的同學共話，了解一下他們學習的情況，是苦是樂，娓娓道來，十分感恩。最興奮的莫過於一同去punting, 見到學生文中描述的鴨子，時間沒有在牠們身上停留，一樣的調皮，一樣的可愛，追着遊客覓食，帶我回到往日的時光。

抵不住這小鎮的吸引力，學生和家長們的熱情，我對兒子說，我要多留一些時間，他要我再三考量，一個要天天吃藥，時有頭痛腳痛的人，要獨自留下，實在要三思，我保證會小心謹慎，何況我仍是每天上班的年青老婦，應該無問題的，終於回到康橋的夢就在這10月天實現了。

這是第一次獨自一人在外地生活，就讓我放縱一次吧！雖然仍然記掛着學校的期考，每年的聖誕音樂會，還有學校校舍的加建，先讓我盡情享受闊別多年的康橋，然後再回到有挑戰性和充滿樂趣的工作吧！

祝身體健康、生活愉快！

劉筱玲博士
創校校長及榮譽顧問
二零二四年十一月五日

5th November 2024

Dear Parents and Teachers:

We used to arrange study tours to England for Year 8 students every year. We organised these UK tours over several years starting in 2008. In addition to sightseeing and attending classes at a school in London, we also visited Oxford and Cambridge, two world-renowned universities. Every time we visit to Cambridge, going punting on the River Cam with the children is always a must-have on the itinerary. Although they have never learned to punt, the children can always hum one or two lines of "Farewell Cambridge", which puts a happy smile on everyone in the river. Sharing a little bit of poetry, and listening to the college students in charge of the poles as they introduced various colleges on the river, always made us linger and look forward to the future. Indeed, as I often say, "You must always have a dream."

This year I tried to slowly step back from the work that I have been caring about for decades. I no longer need to stay at the school campus every day. Taking a tour of England was my first thought. Finally, when my son planned to travel to London for a conference, I said, "I want to go too." So I boarded a plane to London, after happy gathering with my granddaughter Rachael · who is studying at UCL · I chose to stay in Cambridge. I wanted to trace the footsteps of the past and meet one of our student alumni who is currently reading a degree in Linguistics at Cambridge. He wrote an article about Cambridge "Duck" which brought me here. Another alumnus, who just completed his PhD in Cambridge last year, knew that I wanted to study language teaching and introduced me to the Language Learning Centre here to see how students from all over the world are supported.

At first, I only planned to spend a week catching up with the students, before returning to Hong Kong with my son. I found that the language proficiency of students at the Centre were varies greatly · they all came from all round the world, and all had very strong accents · I would like to find out the ways of how to teach, so I make up my mind to stay a little longer ! As some parents knew that I had arrived in Cambridge, and whole families came to visit me. Some also invited me to meet up in London. Other students asked me to join them for a drink, one CKY alumni also came to accompany me to church for service. And I made appointments with several current students, hoping to find out more about their studies. We talked about the studying life, there and everywhere, I felt very grateful!

The most exciting thing was going punting together and seeing the ducks described in the student's article. Time does not stop with them. They were just as naughty and cute as before. They chased tourists for food and took me with them, quite like the old days! I couldn't resist the attractions of this charming small town and the enthusiasm of the students and parents. I told my son that I wanted to stay even longer. He asked me to think again, as a person who needs to take medicine every day and has headaches and footaches from time to time should have a less intensive schedule! If you want to stay, you really have to think twice, he urged. I promised to be careful. Besides, I am still a youthful senior who goes to work every day, so there should be no problem.

Finally, my dream of returning to Cambridge came true on this October day. This is my first time living alone overseas, so let me indulge myself for once! Although I still think about the school's first-term assessments, the annual Christmas concerts, and the expansion of the school campus, let me first enjoy Cambridge after being away for many years, and then return to a job that's challenging but fun!

Wishing you a happy and healthy life!

Dr LAU, Siu-Ling
Founding Principal School Consultant