Experiencing and Exploring Canada 2012



[•] Life is like riding a bicycle. To keep your balance you must keep moving.[•] • A quote by Albert Einstein. We find this quote very fitting for the young generation. In the 21st century, it is not good enough for students to solely pursue academic excellence. To become a future leader, students have to learn how to keep abreast with what is happening all over the world.

In the summer of 2012, besides tours to the US, Germany, China, Taiwan and Singapore, forty one students from our school and 4 teachers travelled to Canada, touring Vancouver, up through the Rocky mountains, and finally into Camrose, Alberta. The Canada study tour was best captured by a quote, 'Seeing it once is better than being told 100 times.' This was truly evident as we journeyed over 1,000 miles to explore the major places in Canada.

This study tour successfully brings classroom lessons to life. By laying footprints on the magnificent landscape such as the Rockies and Lake Louise, experiencing foreign cultures in Jasper and Calgary, making new friends with native English speakers, participating in charity services in senior lodges and touring around the city, students connect with academic studies and the world at large in a whole new way.

As well as broadening their horizons by touring around the tourist attractions in Canada, students attended a 5-day intensive English course organized by the University of Alberta and taught by



professional English tutors and instructors. The Canadian teachers and volunteers were very inspiring and always encouraged the students to speak English all the time. This study tour was beneficial in so many ways other than academic development. Students had wonderful opportunities to meet the city councilors and to visit local families, from which lifetime friendships have formed and valuble insights have been gained.

We sincerely believe that a meaningful, experiential and educational tour, can and does make a difference in students' lives.

