

# 五月一日 China Day –WRA 中文班半日游

去年夏天, WRA 決定順應時代潮流, 也來開一門中文課,於是成為這個校園中新的一員, 唯一的東方老師。為了公平起見,中文課只先開放給從未接觸過中文的學生。一些在美國出生的華裔孩子被視為具備中文的先備知識,因此無法註冊初級中文,其中有幾個孩子不放棄, 就算沒有學分,一樣來旁聽。這裡的學生大都很聰明也很好學, 不管怎麼挑戰,總是能達成目標。初級中文須認 694 個繁體漢字,目前正在挑戰精讀無漢語拼音的純繁體漢字課文, 學生們已能克服聲調的困難, 唸出正確的中文。平常除了學習課本的生詞、課文和語法之外,我們每個月都會學一首中文歌。前一陣子他們在學校的文化之夜由專人現場伴奏演唱任賢齊的“對面的女孩看過來”及周杰倫的“髮如雪”還順便用中文 Rap 了一下,讓現場 high 翻了天。



參觀《伊利華報》報社



第一次吃“鳳爪”

上個星期我們也參加了克城慈濟會所舉辦的慈樂飄揚音樂會,聆聽來自各地慈濟師兄師姐演唱美妙的慈濟歌曲。雖然孩子們要趕回學校運動訓練,無法留到活動結束,可是他們也快樂地分享了他們所學的第一首中文歌,也就是慈濟歌之一的“因為你因為我”。學習中文歌一方面幫助初學者習於中文的發音方式及訓練口語速度,一方面也有助於他們與中文社群的交流,畢竟語言與文化息息相關,只有深入瞭解文化才能真正習得語言的精髓,進而運用自如。有個九年級的學生本來總覺得自己不比其他同學優秀,常常說他沒辦法突破。結果這個春假他參加教會的訪問團到四川去教中國兒童說英語,一到當地就成為最受歡迎的小老師,因為他除了能說簡單的中國話以外,還唱作俱佳,兩首中文歌走天下,大人小孩都喜歡他。回到學校後告訴我他充滿信心,

一定能學更好。事實證明,他確實進步神速。

另外幾個隨著 WRA 合唱團到北京、西安和上海訪問的學生則開心地說因為會用中文殺價,他們比其他同團的合唱團員省了一大筆零用錢,點食物也比較不會有麻煩,而且好玩得是除了人以外到處都是字,站在路邊都能學認字,所以邊走邊學,一點兒也沒閑著,由此可見深入文化的重要。

由於在美國學習中文不比在台灣或大陸那樣容易受到文化薰陶,因此我盡量安排學生課餘參與當地華人活動以及透過網路瞭解華人世界。在今年春節承蒙華都餐廳老闆娘邀請,招待全部學生享用新年大餐。學生們口裡嚐遍了傳統的年菜,手裡一邊拿著玲瓏阿姨準備的精美春聯學說吉祥話,一邊又忙著唱 karaoke 領學校準備的紅包,每個人都直呼過癮,希望天天過年呢!



在阿唐海鮮城外



Dear Mrs. Pu,

First of all let me introduce myself. My name is Lubin Lee and I am a sophmore at Western Reserve Academy.

Before I actually have seen some chinese news paper around like at chinese buf-fet. I always wondered who makes the newspapers and I guess I got the answer today. I was touched by your story about when you first came to the United States because I faced many difficulties too when I first came here. Making new friends, communicating in second language, eating different food everything was new to me. Since three years has past now I am fitting well to this place, at least that is what I think.

Also I am glad to hear that you are living in your dream life.

Today's meal was very very good. My friends and I really enjoyed it. Even though we were full we pushed ourselves and ate as much as we could. It was also a good chance to try various Chinese food and dim sum. I want to say thank you for being kind to us.

I think we were able to enjoy the trip because everybody gave us a warm welcome. It was a great chance to experience Chinese food.

I also want to share some story about a trip to China. This spring Reserve choir, orchestra and band went to China. We visited Beijing, Shanghai, Xian, and Suzuo. One of our major objects was to exchange music culture with Chinese students.

I was very pleased with the sound Chinese traditional instruments. Especially one performance we saw at Suzuo. We went to this art and design college and the students there were excellent. It was my first time seeing and listening to traditional Chinese music. I really liked one instrument called Erhu, it sounded very similar to violin. I actually purchased one hoping that someday I will be able to play it well.

Moreover, the Chinese people were very nice to us. I am still in touch with about two to three Chinese students I met there. If you ask me one thing that was very memorable, then I will pick the Great Wall. When first saw the Great Wall the first thing I said

was "wow" That was all I could say. Simply wow, that is how impressed I was. I knew the difficulties they face when they were building it and I learned why when I saw it.

How could human build such a thing on mountain like the Great Wall? I felt fresh as I climbed the Great Wall. I was pleased because I was witnessing one of the greatest world history with my own body. If I get a chance I would like to visit again with my friends.

Terracotta Warriors were also memorable. The warriors to protect Qin Shi Huangdi's after life. I have seen some cases people beliving in after life and bringing their valuables to their thumb but this was different.

It was big. Just like the Great Wall, it was unbelievable. Thinking about how long it took them to build them..wow I guess nothing is impossible to do in this world.

I would like to talk about food I had there. It was GOOD. I was excited because it was my first time trying REAL Chinese food. Today it is easy to find Chinese restaurants around but they are all Americanized. The favorite food I had was Peking Duck and KFC ^.^ Peking duck was delicious especially the sauce that came with the duck. It was a new experience for me.

The reason why I put KFC is because I thought it was better than American KFC and the spicy chicken burger was really really spicy. I loved it!

I also enjoyed shopping there. Many new asian style clothings and souvenirs. I bout some shoes, shirts, pants and hats there. Most of the stuff I bought is hard to see in the United States. I really enjoyed the trip to China with my friends and I hope I can visit again in the near future with my friends.

Sorry for sending my email this late. I am still in a process of learning English so I hope or I can say please edit it before putting on newspaper, if you are going to..

Again, thank you for everything today^^

Best wishes  
Lubin Lee

Hello Ms. Pu,

Thank you for giving my class the opportunity to visit your Chinese journal.

It's really a great thing you're doing for the community. I can imagine how wonderful it would be to move to a foreign country and discover a newspaper in my own language! It's nice to see someone who has truly reached for their dreams and achieved what they've always wanted.

My experience with the Chinese language and country is pretty limited, I'm afraid. The only other country I've ever visited is Canada where I spent an entire day in Toronto's China Town. It was there that I first became exposed to "true" Chinese cuisine, something which my mom appreciated seeing that she's a vegetarian. I've always been fascinated with Asian culture and languages. When I heard that the language department at Western Reserve was considering beginning a Mandarin program I begged my Latin teacher to push for the class. During my freshman year I doubled up on languages, Latin and German. However, once Mandarin was added I dropped German and decided to take on Mandarin. It is one of the toughest courses I have ever taken and I am enjoying the challenges that come with this difficult language. However, I refuse to give up and my perseverance is slowly

paying off. Ms. Chen is one of the most phenomenal teachers I've ever encountered and I am fortunate to have the opportunity to learn from her. She doesn't just teach the language, she introduces us to the culture. My class has sang Chinese songs during Western Reserve's Culture Night, ordered food in Chinese, eaten tons of Chinese food, and performed memorized conversations in front of the class. It has been an exciting year and I can hardly believe that my first year of Chinese is coming to an end. I hope to travel to China one day. I would like to go once I know the language well enough to communicate with native Chinese people. I have seen pictures, watched movies, and read stories about China, but that's doesn't come even close to the experience of actually visiting the country. If the next two years go well I would like to continue Chinese college because I believe that it is an important language to know, considering China's growing economical power. There are also a lot of scientific opportunities in China and if I major in science, as I plan to do, I would like to do research in China. It's a lot to look forward to. Being in Ms. Chen's Mandarin I class is just the beginning.

Thank You!  
Morgan Peele  
Western Reserve Academy Class of 2009

THE VIETNAMESE BUDDHIST OF CLEVELAND, OHIO



觀音寺

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本寺將于 2007 年 5 月 27 日(中國農曆丁亥年四月十一日)舉行佛祖誕辰紀念活動。活動安排如下:  
上午十一點到下午一點:佛法開示,誦經祈福,浴佛活動  
下午一點到兩點:午齋時間  
下午兩點到三點:蒙山施食

歡迎各位參加!

本寺每周日上午 11 點到下午兩點對公眾開放, 中午十二點到下午一點為誦經祈福服務時間。查詢請與本寺聯繫 216-941-9531

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