

S4 Howie Liu "It was an amazing experience having the Chinese delegates come to our school. As a bilingual speaker of English and Mandarin, it was an honour for me to interpret for them as they could not speak English and a truly wonderful experience for me as well. I showed them around each of our departments and they were able to visit some classes-they were particularly interested in the home economics, art and music classes we showed them to. They also managed to learn a lot about the school life in Scotland and how it varies to the school life in China. The delegates did a presentation on their school in Tianjin which I thoroughly enjoyed and learned a lot from. There were also performances that S3 and S2 pupils put on for the delegates which I enjoyed as well. Overall it was truly wonderful experience to be involved in and I hope I get to do something like this again in the near future."

S5 Ronan Doherty "The experience of welcoming and keeping the Chinese visitors company was truly fantastic. It was a pleasure to speak to a teacher I had previously met from my trip to Tianjin, and also converse with the headteacher of the school I visited: Tianjin School No.45. The powerpoint all about the Chinese school and it's achievements was extremely interesting, particularly the part describing their title of national choir champions. However, I must say that the table tennis at the end was particularly entertaining, and I felt our pupils proved a good match for our guests. I am ever-grateful for this opportunity that Mrs Zhou, Mr Docherty, and the Modern languages department, have made possible through their hard work and promotion of Mandarin."

S4 Michael McGrade: "The visit by the Chinese delegates I felt was an incredibly culturally enriching experience. We began with a formal introduction in Mr Docherty's office followed by a tour of various departments throughout the school. The delegates were very enthusiastic about being lead around the school and showed a particular interest in the hard work of the second year home economics class. Later on that morning, a number of third year pupils put on some outstanding performances and we were also given the opportunity to watch a slideshow which included numerous images of a school in China which was truly fascinating. I would to give a big thanks to Mrs Zhou for organising this event."

S4 Max McAllan "This fantastic opportunity to meet the Chinese delegates allowed me to learn more about the interesting culture of China and explore the stark cultural contrasts between our culture and their's. The opportunity to talk to native speakers of Mandarin allowed me to improve my pronunciation and listening skills as well as allowing me to learn more about their country. Through this experience I have become more educated in Chinese culture and would most certainly hope to visit in the future to experience the country's rich heritage. The strong links our school has made with the equally exceptional standards of Tianjin Number 45 Middle School allow students in both schools to explore each country's culture, and I hope we continue to do so in the future."

S4 Louisa Preston "Meeting the Chinese delegates from Tian Jin 45 Middle School was a fantastic experience that has broadened my cultural links with China through giving me the opportunity to speak to native Chinese speakers. Also, in doing this I was able to improve my pronunciation of Chinese words and gained a deeper understanding of Chinese culture. I have also learnt more about the Chinese education system, due to a presentation by the Head Master of Tian Jin 45. I thoroughly enjoyed their visit, and hope that the cultural links we have formed will strengthen over time. I am very grateful that I was included in their visit to St Ninian's."

S3 Frankie O'Donnell "I learned a lot from the Chinese delegates from Tianjin No. 45 High School because I learned a lot about what school in China is like and I liked learning about the differences and similarities in our schools. I always love learning about other cultures and this was great opportunity to do so and I hope our two schools stay in contact. This was also a great chance for me and my friends to develop our speaking and listening. Singing for the delegates was a very enjoyable experience and I hope I get more chances like this in the future.

S3 Sonny Innes "I really enjoyed the visit from the Chinese Delegates from Tian Jin No. 45 High School, everything was amazing, the singing, the tongue-twisters, but my most enjoyable moment was the presentation that they gave us, because it taught me what the schools are like in China and how the Government spends a lot of money on their youth's future. Since starting Mandarin, I have had some great experiences, including

the visit from Mr. Dong and the visit to Strathclyde University. I am very grateful for the experiences I have had since starting Mandarin."

S3 Lewis McLachlan: "I thought that the visit from the Chinese Delegates from Tian Jin no. 45 helped me to understand what school in China is like. I also enjoyed the presentation that Mr. Zheng showed us. I thought it was amazing the number of pupils that they had in their school (which was well over 3000) and the number of teachers required in the school. I also found the entertainment very good with the tongue-twisters and also the singing. I am privileged to have the chances that I have since choosing Mandarin."

S3 Eve McAuley " I really enjoyed the visit from the Chinese Delegates as it was really informative and interesting. I was great to see what life is like in a traditional Chinese school and it was really fascinating to see what the school looked like, not to mention the fact that they had 3000 pupils! The entertainment was great and it is a fantastic opportunity to be able to experience Chinese culture in this way. I am very grateful for the opportunities I have had since starting mandarin.

S3 Callum Holland "I thoroughly enjoyed the visit from the Chinese delegates and it was so kind of them to take time out of their busy schedules to come to Scotland and come to our school. I learnt a lot about what high school is like in China, all thanks to Mr Zheng's interesting presentation on his school, Tianjin No.45 High School. Some of his students even made us an extremely detailed paper cut-out with a thought-provoking message on the back. Overall, the visit was very good and I definitely learnt a lot about Chinese culture; I hoped they learnt something about Scottish culture too."

S3 Ruth McKeown "I found the visit from the Chinese delegates thoroughly enjoyable. We received Chinese paper cuttings from Mr. Zheng's students. They held personal messages on the back which we are currently responding to, allowing us to keep a relationship with the students at Tianjin High School. The visit further developed my Mandarin vocabulary through talking with the visitors and my knowledge of Chinese

culture. It was an extremely enjoyable experience which helped me to appreciate the many opportunities learning Mandarin holds."

S3 Daniel McLaughlin "I found the visit from the Chinese delegation thoroughly enjoyable and very interesting as an insight toward the life of Chinese students the same age as myself and my colleagues. It showed the opportunities offered to young Chinese pupils and the efficiency of the school itself, with its many facilities for use by the schoolchildren. It helped develop my knowledge of the Chinese lifestyle within a school and out with a school. The presentation showcased the many assets of Tianjin No. 45, such as the cultural and art museum. Overall, the visit was very insightful and has served as a good boost to my learning."

S3 Anna Gallagher "I really enjoyed the delegates' visit. It was a great opportunity to showcase what we have learnt over the course of our time in the Mandarin class. We also were able to show the delegates what the Wednesday Lunch Club have been learning about Chinese culture, music and dance, as well as a few tongue-twisters! Mr Zheng, the headmaster at Tian Jin No. 45 High School, showed us a presentation about his school and brought us some beautiful artwork made by some of the pupils there. It was a great honour to meet with and perform for the delegates and I hope that they will visit again in the future!"

S3 Hepsi Xavier "The visit from the delegates was an exceptional experience for me. It was a fantastic opportunity to show them what we have learned in Mandarin, and it was also very interesting to watch and listen to them speaking fluent Mandarin. I thought it was kind of these very busy people to take time out of their schedules, so that we can benefit! I thought Mr Zheng's (the head teacher's) PowerPoint presentation was extremely interesting, and I found it very fascinating to find out about school, Tianjin No.45 High School. I performed a tongue twister to them, which they seemed to like, and it's always great to learn about Chinese culture and tradition. I also played Auld Lang Syne on the

violin so that they can get a taste of the Scottish culture. It was also extremely kind of them to get use paper cut-outs their pupils made for us, and they were very meticulous. These cut-outs also had a personal message at the back, which I thought was very sweet. I hope that they pay us another visit in the future, and I felt very privileged to meet these wonderful people!"

S3 Jonas Yeung "Having the fortunate experience of meeting the Chinese delegates was amazing, it gave me a chance to learn about what a school like on the other side of the world. The presentation shown by Tianjin No.45 High School's head teacher, Mr Zheng, was very interesting, I got to see what the students there learned as well as what their school was like. It also gave me an opportunity to demonstrate what I have learned in Mandarin these past few weeks and I feel hearing the delegates speak fluent Chinese has helped my listening. It was a wonderful chance and I hope I can visit their school in the near future!"

S3 Thomas Moffatt "I thoroughly enjoyed the experience of meeting the Chinese delegates. I enjoyed the full event and it was nice to see them visit us. It gave me a large interest on learning about school life on the other side of the world. I really appreciate the delegates visiting us, they were a joy to speak to and they were very polite. I enjoyed listening to their fluent Chinese and it gave me a big inspiration to speak Chinese in my future and maybe even in China. I was delighted to meet these joyful people!"

S2 Michael Doyle "It's a big responsibility when you are asked to sing and be the MC for an event in which your foreign partners, the Chinese ambassadors in our case, are getting an impression -pertaining to the work you do in school- from. In the end, however, it is a remarkable experience; being fun, memorable and incredibly rewarding. It gave me the chance to show the delegates what I had learned and the assembly also assisted me in honing my Mandarin speaking and vocabulary skills. They brought us a PowerPoint on their school (TianJin No. 45 High School) that interested me greatly; to see what facilities they had compared to our school was quite intriguing. It made me feel really honoured that these people of high educational status took time to pay a visit to our

school and I really hope they keep on planning trips as it would make my day if they came back from time -to-time. My birthday was felt a thousand times better with this event!

S2 Bernice Yam 2a4: "I think it is a great opportunity to learn Chinese. It is really enjoyable and fun to learn about China and there culture. We've recently been visited by a headmaster who came all the way from China to see us, it was a fascinating experience and I very much enjoyed it. Overall I thoroughly enjoy this and I recommend it to everyone."

S2 Stephanie Chung 2a10 "Meeting the Chinese delegates was a great experience. I thoroughly enjoyed this opportunity and learning about their culture in China. It was fascinating to hear about their school and what subjects and facilities they have. It was fantastic to see their school when they showed us the video on the screen. This experience has made me want to be fluent in Mandarin so that one day I can go to China and go visit their school. This has been a fantastic experience and I would recommend everyone to take up mandarin.

S2 Sterling Lam 2a4 " When the head teacher of a Chinese high school came, I quite enjoyed it as it was interesting and I enjoyed it, I got to learn about his high school and what it was like, I also learned that his school was the Tian Jin Number 45 high school and is the 45<sup>th</sup> school in Tian Jin"

John Lynch 2a6 "Recently we were visited by Chinese delegates including the head teacher of Tianjin no. 45. I found the experience to be very interesting. It was really enjoyable and fascinating to find out about school life in China. This opportunity gave me great encouragement to continue and develop the language as far as possible. It was very interesting to find out about Chinese everyday life and culture. To hear them talk in fluent Chinese was truly exceptional and I sincerely hope they pay us another visit in the near future."

Gabriel Curran 2a10 "I think the opportunity to meet the Chinese visitors was very inspiring and it has increased my enthusiasm for learning Mandarin a huge amount. I found it very enjoyable and the presentation we were shown about TainJin 45 was amazing! By listening to our visitors

speaking in fluent Mandarin, it made me realise what I could achieve if I continue to work hard in Mandarin. I cannot wait for more experiences of this kind and I hope our Chinese guests enjoyed their visit!"

Jagoda Halicka 2a7 " I quite enjoyed the delegation party as it as both educational ad inspirational, it inspired me to continue on with my Mandarin studies after seeing the exceptionally high standards that the school sets. It was also very interesting to listen to a fluent mandarin speaker speak give a speech in mandarin (although the sad part was I couldn't understand him) I also enjoyed the performances as I am in love with Asia and its culture. All in all it was very enjoyable ad well done. "