

## **Blog 16<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> November 2017**

16/11/17

Day 45, Thursday - As soon as the school day began, this morning at 7:30, I taught the first Ceilidh Dancing lesson to the students. As expected, since we weren't used to teaching so many people, and were kind of unsure as to how to go about teaching the students, this lesson didn't exactly go according to plan. Unfortunately we weren't able to give them the best ceilidh experience, as we didn't even get around to dancing with the music. I hope they weren't too disappointed, but at least I know what to do for the next lesson.

17/11/17

Day 46, Friday - Today started off with another two ceilidh dancing lessons, taught to two separate groups. From 7:30 to 8:15 the first group danced, and were really great! The kids are all still a bit embarrassed about holding hands, which I found quite strange. I guess in Scotland we grow up doing these dances, and are accustomed to guys and girls dancing together. The second group of kids were larger than the first, but I tried showing them the dance all together, before splitting this class into two smaller groups. These two lessons worked a whole lot better than yesterday's one, I'm just disappointed we weren't able to give Thursday's class the same Scottish dancing experience.

18/11/17

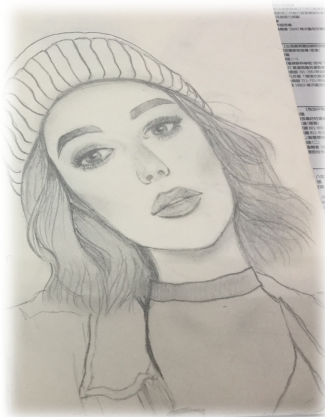
Day 47, Saturday - At 9am I left with Kate to Beitou, where we spent the morning at the library and hot springs (which were lovely but stank like rotten eggs). Afterwards we wanted to go to a Hot Spring Museum and try out one of the foot spas, but the museum was under renovations and the foot spa was being cleaned out. Instead we spent that time chatting with a friend of Kate's who came out to meet us. At around 5pm Kate and I caught the MRT to Shiling night market. You'd think the fact that everything here is cheap would be good for my spending habits. Sadly this isn't the case, as I don't think I have ever caused this much damage to my bank account. Needless to say we both ended up carrying many bags back onto the MRT once we had made our way through the night market, and then headed straight on to Taipei Main Station. By the time I got home my arms as well as my feet were in agony.

19/11/17

Day 48, Sunday - At the start of the day I went out to the day market with my host mother, where I saw a number of dead animals I didn't know existed, and learned how to tell if a passion fruit is ripe or not. Afterwards we picked up snacks at a nearby supermarket, and then headed out to lunch with the family. We ate at another hot pot restaurant, which I'm beginning to realise is a family favourite.

20/11/17

Day 49, Monday - Nothing very exciting happened today; I've been working on a presentation on problems facing Pakistani women, and how Malala Yousafzai plans on combatting these problems, alongside some other personal work. After school I started working on some more sketches, it's kind of becoming an addiction.



21/11/17

Day 50, Tuesday - I just arrived back from a violin concert I went to with my host brother, Kate, the Ex-Principal of Zhongping and a couple of students. It was really lovely, but I'm obviously not used to going to events like these, as I fell asleep during the first half, and couldn't stop fidgeting after the interval.