

Life Changing Experience In Gambia

In December a group of Y11 students visited Gambia along with the Box Youth Project, this has become an annual event with many students remaining involved even beyond their Farringdon days. Members of the news team who went have told us their best moments from their life-changing experience:

Matthew - working at Kullukochi Community Pre-school, helping to paint a 100 metre wall and playing games with the children.

Anya - I will be affected forever by my Gambia experience; we got involved in a lot of cultural activities and helped out many people by distributing resources. I really hope to be involved in this project again.

Lucy – We visited the only college in Gambia, the classroom conditions were shocking, a normal class size was about 60-70 students, they had only chalk boards and no computers. It made me feel so differently about what we have here. Class ages ranged from 18-30 in the same room; there was a nursery in the college and the babies were lay out on mats on the floor, so the women could go to college.

Emily Bell - Gambia was one of the most wonderful experiences I have had the chance to take part in. It was such an eye opener, I think I have a wider outlook on life now and a different respect for how much I have. One particular thing I remember is that the children from the pre-school remembered us even when they were just walking around the village.

Ewan Stead - Gambia had so many opportunities, so many different traditions. I enjoyed seeing the smiles on people's faces and the feeling of fulfilment and achievement when helping people; giving them the barest necessities was met with overjoyed expressions. Even though less fortunate the people were so positive and welcomed us with open arms.



Gambia 2018

The current Year 10 Gambia group, (who will be travelling there on the 19th of October and returning on the 1st of November) are about to start the preparations for their trip at the end of this year. Preparations are incredibly important as it will allow the students to make the most of the experience for themselves, and to benefit the Gambian community as much as they possibly can. One of the many things they will be doing to help those in Gambia is delivering first aid lessons to the young children in the local schools, therefore they must undergo first aid training before they go, which is happening in the Easter holidays. After getting their First Aid qualification, the students will meet with the workers from the Box Youth Project once a week to prepare for the other work that they will be doing whilst in Gambia.