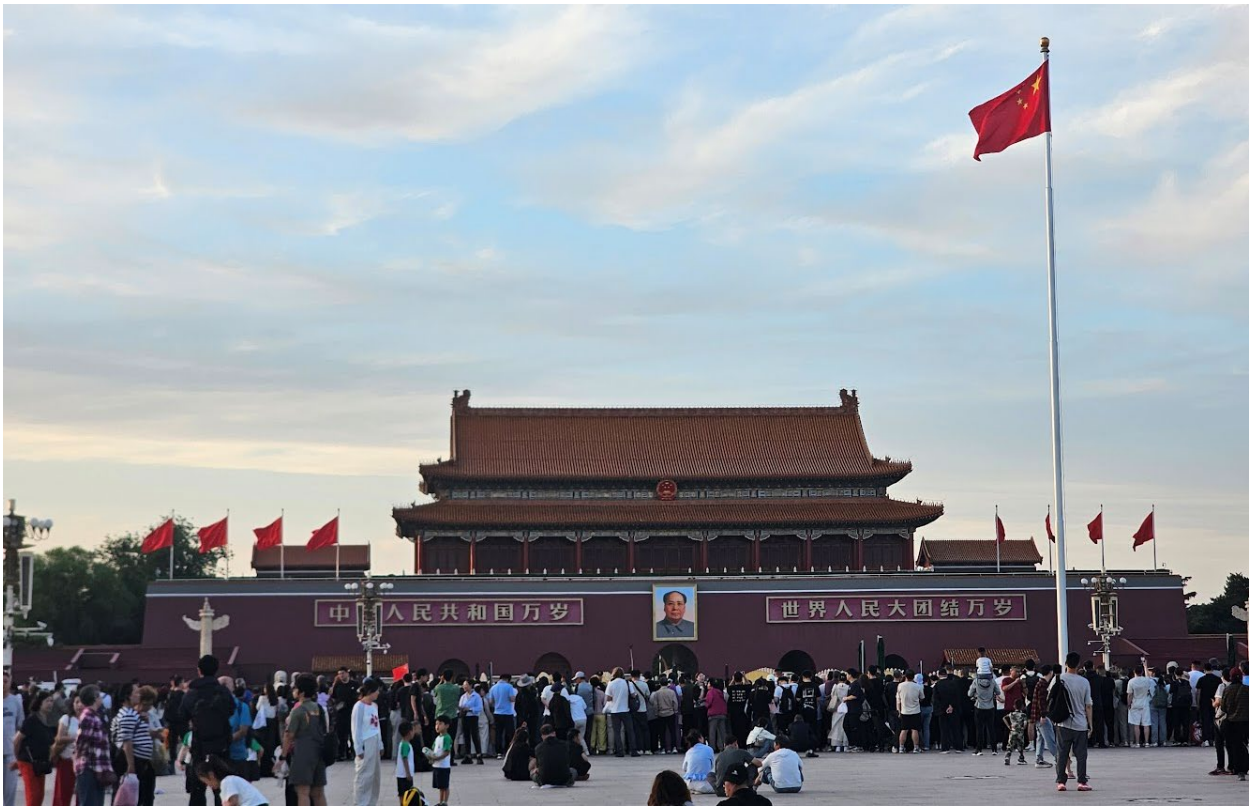
PCPS Overseas learning Journey to Beijing, China

On 18 May 2026, the school embarked on its first-ever Overseas Learning Journey to Beijing, China's capital city, marking a significant milestone in our students' learning experiences beyond the classroom.

Led by Vice-Principal Mr. Chong and four other Heads of Departments and teachers, 20 Primary 5 students participated in a series of immersive learning experiences that brought them closer to China's rich history, culture, education and technological advancements. These students had worked hard to prepare write-ups and videos and were carefully selected among numerous applicants to embark on this learning journey.

Upon arriving in Beijing, the team began their journey with an unforgettable visit to Tiananmen Square to witness the flag-lowering ceremony before sunset. In the vast Tiananmen Square, amidst the solemn ceremony and the evening glow, the students were filled with curiosity and excitement and learnt about the significance of the Square and the buildings surrounding it. As night fell, the Tiananmen Rostrum, the Great Hall of the People, the National Museum of China and other surrounding landmarks illuminated the sky. The students were filled with awe and anticipation for the learning adventures that awaited them in the days ahead.



Upon arrival, we participated in the solemn flag-lowering ceremony at the famous Tiananmen Square under the Beijing evening sky.



Our first group photo upon arrival in Beijing was at the historical Tiananmen Square.

After a restful night, the team headed to the East Campus of Yu Ying Primary School (the Affiliated Primary School of Beijing No. 20 High School) with great anticipation. Upon arriving, Principal Zhao Fang and her team of teachers and students welcomed us warmly. The two rows of students along the walkway greeted us enthusiastically, surrounding us with such warmth that energised us for the day ahead. The morning began with aMathematic lesson, where students from both schools engaged in collaborative problem-solving activities which were engaging and challenging.

A significant milestone of the visit was the signing of a three-year Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between our school and Yu Ying Primary School. Representing PCPS, Vice-Principal Mr Chong signed the MOU with Principal Zhao Fang, establishing a strong foundation for future educational exchanges and collaborations between the two schools. Following this, we also participated in the school's solemn flag-raising ceremony. During the ceremony, students from both schools gave brief introductions and extended hands of friendship, officially kicking off the exchange.



Upon arriving at Beijing Yuying Primary School, we were warmly welcomed by their Principal, Mdm Zhao Fang and student leaders.



Mr Chong represented School leader to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with Mdm Zhao Fang.



The signing of Memorandum of Understanding ceremony marks the start of our friendly collaboration and further interaction for the benefit of students from both schools.





We were formerly welcomed by the school and took part in their school morning assembly. Both schools then did an introduction to kickstart the two days of interaction.



The first proper lesson was Mathematics, where students apply volume concept to real life applications.



The Kuai-Ban display was indeed something new for many of us! Through Kuai-ban, Yuying students introduced the various airplanes in China and their capabilities.

After the ceremony, students had the privilege of participating in a lively and interesting Chinese Language lesson as well as an interactive Music lesson. Beyond the rich learning content, students from both schools had the opportunity engage in discussions on their learning, and some even took the initiative to exchange contact details. At lunchtime, the school prepared a sumptuous and delicious lunch for us. Principal Zhao took the opportunity to engage our students in conversation, hearing from them about her schooling experiences. Our staff also had the opportunity to chat with the school's staff over lunch, exchanging stories and experiences. Lunch was followed by another captivating performance, as the school's Allegro (Kuaiban) team performed an allegro recital and rap for us, and even gave our students a hands-on experience to try operating the bamboo clappers themselves. We concluded our learning activities at the East Campus amidst the joyful clacking sounds.



Mdm Zhao Fang had a good interaction with our student.



The interactive Chinese craft lesson was surely unique and challenging for our students at their first attempt. Throughout the lesson, there was many opportunities to interact with our Beijing students.



Lunch at Yuying Primary School is sumptuous! Our students had fun eating and time for some photo shoot.



Students had fun trying Kuai-ban and enjoyed the interactions.

In the afternoon, we visited the China Science and Technology Museum to experience advancement in technology! The venue focused heavily on high interactivity. Students experienced interesting artificial intelligence applications and physics-based exhibits. We rounded up the day with visit to the famous Drum Tower and a little walk through the Hutongs of Beijing.

On our third day, we visited the West Campus of Yu Ying Primary School, a newly developed campus equipped with modern learning facilities. During the first lesson of the morning, students sat in a brand-new computer lab alongside Yu Ying students for a lesson on AI programming. Students had the opportunity to work in teams to programme the code to allow for an electric fan to be operated using hand gestures. Following that, we were welcomed at the campus's assembly ground, where we witnessed a well-coordinated skipping rope performance, a vibrant cheerleading group dance and an energetic marching parade. Yu Ying students lined up in neat formations and shouted their class slogans with enthusiasm and pride. This experience was an unprecedented and pleasant surprise for us!



We visited Yuying Primary School West Campus. It was a newer building, a couple of kilometres away from their East Campus we saw earlier.

Following the parade, the subsequent activities were even more eye-opening. We had the privilege of experiencing Yu Ying's exclusive programme — basic military training activities. Under the guidance of instructors, students learned to dismantle and assemble mechanical training rifles. Next, they participated in a military obstacle course competition alongside Yu Ying students. Students from both schools worked in pairs to complete an obstacle course together. After a joyful and thrilling friendly match, students from both schools exchanged gifts, thanking each other for the time and wishing each other well. With that, our visit to Yu Ying Primary School came to a successful close – it was indeed a promising start to our three-year partnership.



Yu Ying students lined up in neat formations and shouted their class slogans with enthusiasm and pride. This experience was an unprecedented and pleasant surprise for us!



Reception from West Campus was as great! We were greeted at their parade ground and had the chance to watch their award wining Cheerleading in action.







Under the guidance and patience from teacher and friends, we learn how to control a fan with hand gestures.



Students from both schools, deeply engaged in their plans and try-outs!



Here is our product!



Our Vice-Principal engaging in talks with teachers to learn about their journey in pursuit of AI Education for students.



Happiness and friendship built in the end of the lesson.


热烈欢迎新加坡湾景小学
携手北京市第二十中学附属育鹰小学
开展体育国防军事活动研学



One of the highlights in West Campus is the army club where they learn about weaponry and army team-bonding game.



Our students in awe at how fast and familiar their counterparts are in assembling and disassembling their weapon.



A taste of “battle” time!



The team working together for the great friendly race!



After the race, what matters is the big smile on their faces and new international friendship formed.



It says in the pose! Having fun and stay cool!

We proceed to lunch, which was a hearty dumpling feast. Following that, we made our way to China's most iconic landmark, the Palace Museum (The Forbidden City)! Led by tour guides and teachers, the students personally marvelled at the architectural brilliance of the Forbidden City and the grandeur that symbolised imperial power.

Departing from the Forbidden City, our group felt as though we had travelled through time as we arrived at Beijing's most iconic fashion district—Wangfujing Street! We split into small groups and wove through the bustling shopping malls of Wangfujing. Some bought snacks, while others returned with bags, having purchased many for their families. After that, we went together to watch "Heroes of the Shuguo" performed by the world-renowned Suining Acrobatic Troupe from Sichuan Province. Amidst dazzling stage effects, the acrobats delivered a jaw-dropping performance, featuring heart-stopping feats. The students marvelled at the acrobats' courage and expressed deep admiration for their dedication to mastering this art form. That evening, students enjoyed Peking Duck for dinner, a classic Chinese delicacy.



Posiing together at China's most iconic landmark, the Palace Museum.



Its history meeting a modern strike pose! Students had much fun while learning about the history of Forbidden City.



Every evening, we will have some good time to recollect. Mr Chong addressing our students and facilitating the reflection session.

On our second-to-last day in Beijing, the children got to experience two defining facets of China: its cutting-edge technology and its rich historical and cultural heritage. We started off at Yizhuang, Beijing, to experience Baidu Apollo's high-tech research and development. Under the guide's direction, the students learned about Baidu Apollo's groundbreaking achievements in autonomous driving. They also had the opportunity to ride in Baidu's Apollo Go (Luobo Kuaipao) around the park to experience the feeling of driverless driving. The students were fascinated and thrilled by this experience!



We visited Baidu Apollo to learn about their high-tech research and development in autonomous driving. We were all intrigued by their sharing and display of various generation of autonomous cars. Many of these unseen in Singapore.


APOLLO, GO!
Baidu 百度
apollo



We had a chance to hop on to the autonomous taxi- Luo-Bo (Carrot) and it was an amazing experience.



Another wonderful time during lunch. They were treated to authentic Northern Chinese cuisine and couldn't get enough of it!

After immersing ourselves in China's technological advancements, we then moved on to a Wonder of the world that has stood for thousands of years—the Great Wall of China! Upon reaching Mutianyu, we were greeted by the cool northern wind as we started ascending the magnificent Great Wall. While exploring the Great Wall, a student remarked, "It is amazing that people could actually build such a grand structure thousands of years ago. It is still standing amongst the mountains thousands of years later; that must have been the high technology of that time!" Indeed, we could not help but admire the wisdom and resilience of people in ancient China.



Getting ready to set foot on the Great Wall of China!



The majestic Great Wall of China (Mutianyu) right in our eyes.



We chance upon a tablet in recognition of Singaporean contribution to the maintenance of the Great Wall in the 90s.


AAAAA
小心台阶



Our happy faces at the foot of Mutianyu Great Wall.



A roundup group photo after our hike up the Great Wall.

All too soon, our itinerary was drawing to a close. Before our departure, we were privileged to visit the Embassy of the Republic of Singapore in Beijing and were hosted by embassy officials, Mr Chan Ruo Wei and Ms Lee Wei Ying. We learnt that we had the privilege of being the first primary school to visit the embassy! Mr Chan and Ms Lee introduced us to the embassy's mission and daily work, letting us know that Singaporeans overseas always have the embassy as a pillar of support. During the Question and Answer session, the students shared their observations and queries about China, while also gaining a better understanding of the challenges and opportunities they will face in the future, which truly broadened their horizons. The final meal before our return journey was also very meaningful. We dined at an authentic Singaporean restaurant and had a conversation with the restaurant owner, Mr William Ding. Our local palate was satisfied with Hainanese chicken rice, curry vegetables, popiah and ice milo! Amidst the laughter, a seed of wanting to venture and develop overseas was planted in the students' hearts. Following that, we made our way to the airport, and the students returned home safely, their minds enriched by new knowledge and insights, and their hearts filled with the joy of friendships forged and strengthened.



We were the first Primary School group to visit Singapore Embassy at Beijing!



Mr Chan and Ms Lee introduced us to the embassy's mission and daily work, letting us know that Singaporeans overseas always have the embassy as a pillar of support.



There is actually Singapore cuisine in Beijing!



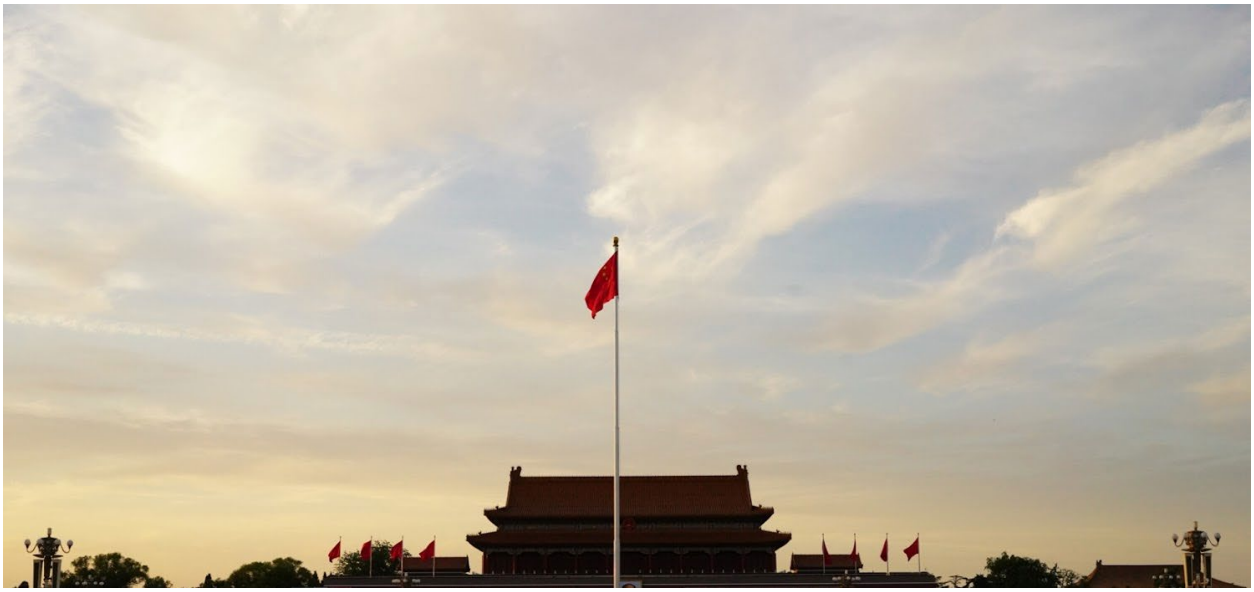
Our local palate was satisfied with Hainanese chicken rice, curry vegetables, popiah and ice milo!







This first-ever overseas learning journey has become a memorable chapter in the students' and teachers' lives. We believe the experiences and lessons gained will certainly inspire them to pursue excellence and reach greater heights in their years ahead.



Goodbye and see you again Beijing!