



East Spring Secondary School

Power of Positive Energy (PPE)

Student Goals/Outcomes for Excellence & Success

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Department: Humanities – Overseas Learning Journey Position: N/A

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PPE Sharing

Good morning Mrs Jalil, Mrs Mohinder, Mr Chan, teachers and my dear East Springians.

I'm Denice from 4E3 and she's Giovinna from 4E1. Have you been to Bali? Giovinna and I were fortunate enough to be part of a team of 30 students who embarked on the Humanities Overseas Trip to Bali, Indonesia in November last year.

Initially, I thought Bali was just like Singapore but I was proven wrong. Apart from being enriched as a geography and social studies student, I was able to see the relevance of what I learnt in the classroom being applied to life. For instance, the Bali bombing and volcanoes. Most importantly, I have gained insight as a global citizen such as opening up my eyes to cultures outside of my own.

When we interviewed the locals, the Balinese were extremely friendly and they hosted us with great hospitality despite the language barrier between us. There was also a huge contrast between their living environment and ours. For example, they lived in simple stone huts with animals running about and had no aircons or fans. However, they seem to possess much joy as they spent time with their family.

Curious about how was their school like, we went to a local balinese high school in Juta Selatan. We were astonished upon seeing the students and staffs lining up outside the school, welcoming us with so much love and warmth. That left us touched by their sincerity.

When we toured around the school, it dawned on us that they did not have any fans in their classrooms at all and only had one computer lab in the whole school! However, when asked how was school like, one student said, " I always look forward to going to school because I love to study and can also make new friends." We could tell that she was eager to receive an education! I found myself thinking and reflecting back to what I used to do, complaining that there's no air conditioners, no lifts and no lockers here in East Spring, thinking that school is a waste of time and hoping for school to end each day.

I have come to realise that the balinese students are very appreciative of what they have. I felt that I should take them as my role model and learn from them to cherish and appreciate what we have instead of asking for more.

This trip has definitely broadened my horizon! Before the trip, I had the impression that Bali was not as developed as Singapore and had much to learn economically from us. Yet as I left Bali, I realised that we in fact have a lot more to learn from the Balinese about their strong culture which they embrace and their joy of life.

As what our vice head prefect said to the sec ones last Friday, to treasure every learning opportunity, I hope many of you will work towards going on the overseas learning opportunities provided by our school to learn more about other cultures and be enriched as a global citizen with cross culture literacy.

Thank you!

