



Reitaku Times

Special Edition

JUNE 2017

U.K. trip caps off Reitaku education



REITAKU PHOTO

Reitaku Junior High School students pose with their Cleeve School peers in Cheltenham.

To conclude the three-year Reitaku English program, the school provides its students with a nine-day homestay in Cheltenham, a town located on the edge of the Cotswolds, U.K., as well as a two-day visit to London. Everyone at Reitaku participates in the trip, and they start preparing for it from the beginning of their third year.

The trip has another purpose as part of the integrated study program called “Yume Project” (Dream project), through which students find and build their identities as global leaders. In grade one, they go on a school trip to

Okutone, Gunma Prefecture, the headwaters of the Tone River, to understand how nature supports us. In grade two, they visit Ise Shrine and other temples and shrines in Kyoto, Nara, and Mie prefectures, to study the folklore surrounding Japan’s creation. It also reminds them of importance of the country. The purpose of the third-grade trip to the U.K. is to learn how countries interact to maintain world peace.

Yui Murata, a sixth-grade student, has a unique point of view regarding the U.K. trip. She said: “It gave me motivation to study English. In the U.K., I wanted to

express what I was thinking, but I couldn’t. This made me want to study English harder in high school.” She recently passed the Pre-1 level of the Eiken Test of Practical English Proficiency, despite having no English background when she entered junior high.

The program includes homestays, visits to local schools and sightseeing trips to famous landmarks around Cheltenham and London. Students are paired up and stay with local families for nine days.

By Yui Murata



REITAKU GRAPHIC

Cheltenham, U.K.

NOTICE TO READERS

Third-grade students at Reitaku Junior High School visit the U.K. every March for 11 days. This paper includes four stories of what they learned through the trip. They saw the U.K. from different points of view, as some were impressed by the landscapes and some were moved by the host families. Others found it interesting to discover the differences and similarities between schools in Japan and the U.K. It is hoped that you will find it interesting to read and understand how 15-year-old Japanese students felt when they were put in a different situation from their usual life. – Editor