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Welcome
Kia ora 新西兰欢迎你

The Confucius Institute at Victoria University of Wellington is located in ‘the coolest little capital in the world’. Our Chinese partner is Xiamen University, located in Wellington’s sister city of Xiamen in southern China.

The Institute facilitates and supports a growing Chinese teaching network of schools in cities, towns and communities from Wellington to the Bay of Plenty in New Zealand, as well as the Chinese language programme at Victoria University of Wellington.

The Institute’s Mandarin Language Assistants (MLAs) programme began in 2012, with three MLAs working in schools in Rotorua, Whakatane, Opotiki and Tauranga. The programme has been very successful. From three in 2012, the number of MLAs increased to 12 in 2013, 21 in 2014, 38 in 2015 and 48 in 2016. We expect to sponsor more MLAs in the years ahead. MLA teaching bases are now established in Wellington, Lower Hutt, Upper Hutt, the Kapiti Coast, the Wairarapa, Palmerston North, Whanganui, Rotorua, Tokoroa, Murupara, Kawerau, Edgecumbe, Reporoa,
Tauranga, Hawke’s Bay, Whakatane and Opotiki. In 2017 a new base in Gisborne will be started as nine schools begin teaching Chinese, supported by MLAs.

The main aim of the MLA programme is to increase opportunities for New Zealand students to learn Chinese and experience Chinese culture. The Institute carefully selects and sends young Chinese graduates to New Zealand schools for a year, to assist and support the efforts of those schools in teaching Chinese. The programme is a collaborative one, with the Institute working closely with the schools and communities that host the MLAs.

The cumulative achievements of the MLAs have been significant. The impact the Confucius Institute has made on developing Chinese language teaching in New Zealand is recognized by the Ministry of Education and our partner schools.

This Handbook has been specially prepared for new MLAs and the schools that will host them. Information in the Handbook includes the role of the Confucius Institute, first-hand experiences of MLAs from previous years, and the respective roles of host schools and MLAs.

For new MLAs, there are key facts about the New Zealand education system and some useful tips on being an effective teacher in a new learning environment. We hope you will be inspired to do your very best for your host schools and students, and enjoy your valuable year in New Zealand.

Further information on the Confucius Institute and the MLA Programme is available on http://www.victoria.ac.nz/ci.

We wish our school partners and MLAs continued success in this cross-cultural educational experience.

Wen Chin Powles, Director
Confucius Institute
Victoria University of Wellington
我们是 2016 Mandarin Language Assistants

WHANGANUI

Chen Dejun 陈德君
Shi Liting 时丽婷
Ma Ming 马鸣

PALMERSTON NORTH

Lu Yinyin 陆茵茵
Shao Jiaqi 邵佳琦

KAPITI

Liu Chang 刘畅
Xu Huan 徐欢

WELLINGTON

Li Wenfang 李文芳
Jiang Chenghao 江晨皓
Niu Lai 牛丽媛
Zhang Yue 张悦
Shen Huiyi 申慧思

HUTT VALLEY

Chen Qing 陈青
Zhang Lu 张露
Li Tong 李桐
Zhao Yang 赵杨
Cao Jiangdi 岳姜笛

Wang Luming 王鹿鸣
Wang Yiqiu 王亦秋
Li Yinghui 李迎慧
Fang Tingting 方婷婷
Gao Mengmeng 高蒙蒙
Hao Lihua 郝丽花
Role of the Confucius Institute

- To build New Zealanders’ understanding of and familiarity with China, its language, culture and people
- To expand opportunities for New Zealanders to learn Chinese - in schools, universities and communities
- To build knowledge of China’s long and rich culture through cultural programmes
- To enhance scholarship about China and build academic links between China and New Zealand.

http://www.victoria.ac.nz/ci
Mandarin Language Assistants and New Zealand Host Schools

MLAs are expected:
• To work with and support school principals and teachers to enhance the Chinese teaching programmes of these schools
• To improve student engagement and achievement in Chinese language and culture
• To raise awareness and the profile of Chinese language and culture in schools and communities.

MLAs will:
• Teach a maximum of 20 hours a week
• Reinforce and supplement the teaching of Chinese language and culture
• Support classroom teachers in a highly professional manner
• Consult with classroom teachers on the implementation of the schools’ Chinese programmes
• Provide students with every opportunity to learn and practice Chinese
• Model correct pronunciation and intonation when engaging with students
• Prepare informative and insightful teaching resources to enhance students’ understanding of culture and life in China
• Be open to, and accepting of the different teaching techniques and learning styles used in New Zealand schools
• Give interesting talks and presentations on China when requested
• Participate and assist willingly in school events when requested
• Provide progress reports to Confucius Institute at mid-year and end of year
• Provide a notarized police clearance to the Confucius Institute and the school before arriving in New Zealand – this is essential to meet the requirements of the New Zealand Vulnerable Children Act 2014 (http://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2014/0040/45.0/DLM5501618.html).

Note
MLAs will also be aware of professional boundaries/ codes of conduct and the New Zealand Teachers Council’s Code of Ethics. http://www.educationcouncil.org.nz/required/ethics/coe-poster-english.pdf

Note
MLAs are not responsible for disciplining students in the class or school
Host schools will:

**Support MLAs in their Teaching and Stay in New Zealand**

- Schools are required to treat MLAs with courtesy and care, according them a warm Kiwi welcome. Failure to treat MLAs with respect will result in the removal of MLAs from schools

- Principals to assign Lead Teachers to assist MLAs in their day-to-day life and work at schools, understanding the culture of the school, and being aware of professional boundaries/ codes of conduct and the New Zealand Teachers Council’s Code of Ethics

- Organise introductions and welcomes for MLAs to school staff and students

- Give ongoing support, necessary information and appropriate access to school resources

- Offer opportunities for MLAs to gain knowledge of teaching in New Zealand schools and a positive experience of being a member of staff

- Provide progress reports to the Confucius Institute on MLAs at mid-year and end of year

- Organise transport arrangements on days when MLAs are in school and where there are long distances involved
Please note that MLAs are not responsible for disciplining students in the class or school.

Provide Medical Insurance

- Schools are required to organise and cover the cost of medical insurance, including accident cover, for MLAs covering the period of February to December

- Please note that this is a compulsory requirement - schools that do not provide insurance cover will not be allocated an MLA by the Confucius Institute

- The Administrator can advise on insurance providers if schools need this information.

Organise Appropriate Homestay Accommodation

- Schools are required to organise suitable accommodation with approved homestay families for MLAs

- Homestays must provide 3 meals (breakfast, packed lunch and dinner) and a bedroom with a bed, desk, chair and adequate lighting and heating

- The Confucius Institute covers the costs of accommodation for MLAs over and above the weekly contribution of NZ$50 that MLAs are asked to contribute. Details of payment arrangements for homestay accommodation costs are sent to schools by the Administrator at the time when MLAs are allocated to schools

- In choosing an appropriate homestay family, schools are asked to consider:
  - homestays that are genuinely interested in hosting an MLA from China, will regard the MLA positively, communicate with the MLA and treat the MLA as a member of the family
  - are prepared to be involved in the MLA’s daily life, helping the MLA cope with living and working in New Zealand
  - are kind to and trusting of the MLA
  - have more than one adult - MLAs have found it difficult to deal with relationship tensions within single-host homestays
  - are located within manageable physical distances to schools.
Key Working Relationships

MLAs will work closely with a key staff member identified by the host school.

In **Secondary schools** – this will be the Head of the Languages Department or the Teacher in charge of teaching Chinese.

In **Intermediate and Primary schools** – this will be a team or lead teacher.

It is important for host schools to provide MLAs with a full introduction (orientation) and all relevant information, at the start of the programme:
- Schemes of work, timetables, class lists
- School and city maps
- Calendars of school events, school procedures, dress codes
- Photocopy, library and internet access
- School philosophies, codes of conduct and behaviour management policies
- Local, school and Māori protocols.

Key concepts of New Zealand Education

We want our young people to
- Be creative, energetic, and enterprising
- Seize the opportunities offered by new knowledge and technologies to secure a sustainable social, cultural, economic, and environmental future for our country
- Work to create an Aotearoa New Zealand in which Māori and Pakeha recognise each other as full Treaty of Waitangi
partners, and in which all cultures are valued for the contributions they bring

- Develop the values, knowledge, and competencies that will enable them to live full and satisfying lives
- Be confident, connected, actively involved, lifelong learners.

Language Learning in New Zealand

Learning a new language provides a critical means of communication with people from other cultures, as well as exploring one’s own personal world.

English, Te Reo Māori and New Zealand Sign Language (NZSL) are the official languages of New Zealand.

New Zealand’s close relationships with the peoples of the Pacific have led to Pasifika languages having a special place here, while Chinese is becoming an increasingly popular foreign language choice amongst New Zealand students.

Strategies To Be An Effective MLA
- Pre-plan, be organised and equipped
- Support the needs of the class teacher and students
- Consult with the teacher should you wish to suggest new ideas
- Show enthusiasm and passion in the teaching of Chinese language and culture
- Select resources and activities that will stimulate students to learn
- Spend time to know resources that are available in the class, department or library
• Create learning resources e.g. posters, cards, PowerPoint slides that will enhance learning for the students
• Be respectful, patient, flexible and adaptable.

No Exams, Just Games And Prizes? Wait…
There are no formal assessments in language courses in Primary and Intermediate Schools.
Class teachers are encouraged to award certificates of learning.
There are school assessments (mid-year and end of year) for language courses in Years 9 to 10 in Secondary Schools.
Award certificates are usually presented at the end of year assemblies.

FOR YEARS 11, 12 AND 13
Students sit for the National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA) examinations at the end of the year.
There are 3 internal standards and 2 external standards with a total of 24 credits.
Approach your teacher-in-charge for a copy of NCEA standards to help you understand the NCEA achievement criteria and to better prepare you to assist your students.
Optional Tests: Yct / Hsk Conducted By Confucius Institute

Students may choose to sit for a YCT or HSK Chinese Language Proficiency Test that is managed by the Confucius Institute several times a year.

Fees and dates are available from CI Victoria: www.victoria.ac.nz/ci

Resources For Chinese Teaching

HAO is a Ministry of Education New Zealand Chinese Language resource. This 20 unit module comes with CD and DVD, with detailed lesson plans, is designed for the New Zealand classroom teachers at Intermediate schools.

Some popular textbooks used in secondary schools are Nihao books 1-5, Kuaile Hanyu and Chinese Made Easy.

The Confucius Institute at Victoria University has a collection of books and audio-visual materials that MLAs are welcome to borrow and use.

New Zealand’s children are used to learning in an interesting and comfortable environment. On realizing this, I adjusted my teaching methods. In addition to encouraging my students to memorize Chinese characters, I spent time with them to practice writing characters using interesting and effective class activities. A good Chinese teacher should be able to help beginners form correct and efficient learning habits without making them feel stressed. (Yolanda Niu Liai, Wellington Girls’ College)
在实际汉语教学中, 不管是教具制作还是学案编写，我们都倾向于使用学生自己的照片和自己的语言——毛利语。举例来说，塔费欧的大部分学生之间存在亲属关系，所以当我们想教家庭成员的汉语说法时，我们会给学生拍照片，并塑封起来以供长久使用。学校学生们彼此都认识，也知道大家之间的亲属关系，所以看着那些照片自然而然也就知道“妹妹”“哥哥”等是什么意思了。（宋晓蓓）

In practical Mandarin teaching, we use our students’ own pictures and Te Reo Māori when developing teaching tools or worksheets. For instance, as most of the students in Tawhiuau are related to one another, it is easier for them to learn what “mèimei” (sister) and “gège” (brother) mean through looking at their own pictures. (Liz Song Xiaobei, Te Kura Kaupapa Mothhake O Tawhiuau)
“耶！汉语课！”、“哇！好酷啊！”每每听到学生们的感叹，我都发自内心地感到高兴，中华文化的小种子可能就在这些小小的瞬间在他们的心里生根发芽了。课堂上我们一起玩“王老师说”的游戏，一起唱自己改编的汉语歌，一起齐心协力“循声找颜色”、一起在谷歌地图上“游览”故宫、一起做漂亮的剪纸、一起研磨写汉字，短短30分钟的汉语课总是意犹未尽。（王鹿鸣）

“Yeah, Mandarin Class!” “Wow, that’s so cool!” --- I feel happy every time I hear my students say so. It is the moment that they start to be interested in Chinese and Chinese culture. In Mandarin classes, we play “Wang Laoshi says”, sing Chinese songs, play games of colours, “visit” the Forbidden City on Google map, do paper-cutting and write Chinese calligraphy. 30-minute Mandarin class always goes by so fast. (Wang Luming, Brooklyn School)

今年是我在学校教学的第二年，在去年的基础上，今年我在课后开展了一个Chinese Club，在平日教学的基础上让想继续拓展的学生有机会更学习更多的中文。教学的内容从最基本的数字到难度比较深的汉字读写，通过各种游戏与课堂活动，比如说简单的数字游戏，动物拼图，颜色配对等等让学生们在玩中学。（邵葭琦）

This is my second year working here. Based on last year’s teaching, I started a Chinese Club after school this year to give students more opportunities to learn Mandarin. The teaching content covers different levels, from the easiest level – counting numbers – to higher levels – character recognition. Through different kinds of class activities and games, our Chinese Club has achieved a lot for the students. (Jackie Shao Jiaqi, College Street Normal School)

这里的孩子特别善于表达自己的感情。他们会在下课以后跑过来给你一个大大的拥抱，然后真诚地说一句“Thanks for coming today”或者“谢谢”。这是在新西兰的幸福小事之一。

课堂上，孩子们特别喜欢玩“Bingo”游戏，他们喜欢比赛，喜欢挑
战，每次教了新的内容，总有学生提议用新学的内容玩“Bingo”游戏。在复习数字时，我也向当地老师学习了新的游戏——“Sparkle”，每次玩这个游戏，他们就会自动分组——男生组和女生组，每个人都像是在“为荣誉而战“。（袁昀）

The children here are really good at expressing their feelings. They run to you and give you a big hug after class, saying sincerely “thanks for coming today” or “Xie Xie”. For me, this is one of the happiest moments in New Zealand.

During classes a most popular game is “Bingo”. Kiwi students love competitions and challenges. Every time I teach some new Chinese to them, students would play “Bingo” using their new knowledge. When reviewing how to say numbers in Chinese, I learned a novel game “Sparkle” from a New Zealand teacher. When playing this game, students form two groups spontaneously-boys and girls. Everyone takes that game as a fight for honour. (Katherine Yuan Yun, Saint Mary’s School)

班上有一个小男孩尤其痴迷于踢毽子，每天上学都会把毽子随身携带，他说每周最期待的就是汉语课，汉语课总是很有意思，别的班的小朋友都特别羡慕他。自此以后，每次上课，这个班的保留节目就是用汉语给踢毽子的小伙伴数数，不仅踢毽子的学生技术越来越好，数数的孩子们的汉语发音也越来越好。每次上课都能看到他们的进步，我想这就是作为教师最欣慰的事情吧。（徐欢）

A boy in the class is so fascinated with kicking “jianzi” (shuttlecock) that he brings it with him to school every day. He said that Mandarin class was his most anticipated activity every week, because it is usually fun. His friends in other classes who don’t have the chance to learn Chinese envy him. Students in this class will count in Mandarin the number of times the “jianzi” is kicked. I observed both the kickers’ skill and the pronunciation of counters improving. I am so glad to see them making progress. I believe that is what makes a teacher feel most rewarded. (Elizabeth Xu Huan, Kapiti College)
Many Schools Organise:

- Chinese speech competitions
- Cultural festivals and China Days
- Music, art, food workshops through CI VUW’s Discover China!
  Cultural Workshops Programme: http://www.victoria.ac.nz/ci/courses-and-programmes/china-workshop

MLAs play an important role in bringing Chinese culture to New Zealand students.
Chinese cultural activities should be combined with language teaching through which students could understand China better. For example, teaching colours can be combined with Chinese opera. Showing a video about Sichuan opera and making unique Peking opera face masks can make your classes more popular. Traditional Chinese paper-cutting can be used to teach animal vocabulary by getting students to cut out their own zodiac signs. If you want them to remember the names of a variety of ingredients and cooking methods, letting them cook a Chinese dish would be a perfect choice. (Serena Wu Shan, Solway College)

除了语言教学，在课堂上，我会给学生们介绍中国文化，比如春节、饮食、筷子、传统乐器、书法、剪纸、京剧等等。小朋友们对中国文化特别感兴趣，每次都会提出很多问题，在讨论的过程中，我们感受不同的文化，学生们还总会带给我新的想法。在拓展课中，我会让同学们进行更多的文化体验，比如打太极、踢毽子、做红包、老鹰捉小鸡等。下课之后，他们常常会把自己的学习成果展示给老师和家长，还会开心地教其他小朋友。（袁若琳）
Apart from language teaching, I also introduce Chinese culture to my students, such as Spring Festival, Chinese food, chopsticks, traditional Chinese musical instruments, calligraphy, paper cutting, Peking opera, etc. The kids are very interested in Chinese cultural activities and would like to share their ideas with me. Through our communication, we are able to experience more cultures, and they never fail to give me new ideas. In the classes for extension groups, students would experience such activities as Taiji, kicking the shuttlecock, making red envelopes. After class, they always show what they have learnt to their teachers and parents, and are happy to teach other kids. (Lynn Yuan Ruolin, Brookfield School)

在中国文化周期间，我们进行了一系列的文化活动：制作中式灯笼、剪喜字、教授太极等等。制作中式灯笼和剪喜字的时候，我们会进行有关灯笼和剪纸文化的普及：为什么要用红色，灯笼和“喜”在中国的象征意义等。教授太极动作的同时，我们会告诉学生中国人“以柔克刚，以静制动”的太极哲学。教授书法的时候，我们会普及一些中国汉字历史、文房四宝知识以及中国人习书法以修身养性的优良传统。寓教于乐的同时，我们也进一步展示了博大精深的中国文化。（刘子琪）

During Chinese Culture Week we made Chinese lanterns, did paper-cutting, Taiji and so on. When making lanterns, we imparted the symbolic significance of lanterns and “Xi (the Chinese character for good luck)”. While showing Taiji movements, we told students the philosophy of Taiji is to “adopt a soft approach to subdue a tough opponent” and “use soft appearance with inner toughness to unleash force”. We also showed students the history of Chinese characters and the beautiful tradition of self-cultivation through practicing calligraphy. Along with a lot of fun, we demonstrated to them a picture of enduring Chinese culture. (Katy Liu Ziqi, Tarawera High School)
如何让每周五一个小时的Chinese Club既富有趣味性又充满中国文化气息，成了我每周工作日程中的重头戏。想要吸引尚处青春期的男生，自身的戏一定要足。拥有多重身份的我，每周根据主题扮演不同的角色。比如，上一周我还是导游，带着学生在新疆吃葡萄，喝奶茶，学唱新疆民歌《达坂城的姑娘》，下一周我就成了漫画家，把《梁山伯与祝英台》的故事用漫画的形式说出来，再配上一只手剪的蝴蝶，让传统的中国故事变得生动起来。（江晨皓）

Instead of teacher-centred teaching methods, I try to design different tasks aimed at letting the students enjoy the one-hour Chinese Club every Friday. How to attract teenage boys? You need to be dramatic. I play different roles each time according to the topic of the week. I designed a programme named “A Journey to China” which was a combination of sightseeing, food tasting and culture experiencing. One time I assumed myself as a tour guide, taking those young tourists to “travel” around China. When we arrived in Xinjiang, we ate grapes, drank milk tea, and song a Xinjiang folk song “A Girl from Dabancheng”. Another time I became a storyteller, using videos, music and animations to narrate the tragic love story “Butterfly Lovers”. I taught them to draw a cartoon after listening to the story and combined it with butterfly paper cuttings, which made the story come alive. (Oliver Jiang Chenhao, Wellington College)
在每周一次的兴趣课堂里，我们总会带学生体验有趣而又多样化的文化活动。太极、剪纸、踢毽子、书法、翻绳儿......学生有模有样地学习，老师也乐在其中。和孩子们一起，仿佛回到了自己的童年时光。当他们完成双人游戏，把剪纸剪出了另一番花样而又满心欢喜时，我不禁暗暗称赞：课堂虽小，创意无穷。文化不在于传授，更在于在传递中创造。

（郑冰清）

We have Interest Class once a week. During these times, students would experience different kinds of cultural activities such as Taiji, papercutting, kicking shuttlecock, Chinese calligraphy and Cat’s Cradle, etc. Both students and teachers enjoy it very much. The kids are very excited when they make a Cat’s Cradle, a two-person game, or are able to cut paper into shapes. Although the classroom is small originality can be found everywhere. I find that culture, instead of being taught, is created through being handed from one person to another. (Zheng Bingqing, Tauranga Intermediate School)

第一次去吃中餐，学生们都非常激动，她们用学到的中文和餐厅的工作人员交谈，询问“这个是什么做的”，“那个多少钱”，“请问我们可以点一些面条吗”。用餐的过程还不时听到学生们热烈地评价这个叉烧包好吃，那个虾饺是我的最爱等等。另外，她们还在餐厅里拍摄了自己创作的中文微电影剧本。餐厅的工作人员都很惊讶她们可以说这么多的中文。（陈青）

The students were all excited the first time I took them to the Chinese restaurant to try authentic Chinese food. They tried to talk with the waiters and order food by using what they had learnt in class. “What is this dish made of?” “How much is that?” “Can we have some noodles, please?” Chinese food is so attractive to them that they kept talking about it during the whole meal. Moreover, they filmed a short Chinese movie, written by themselves, in the restaurant. The whole restaurant was quite surprised that our girls could speak so much Mandarin. (Greene Chen Qing, Wellington East Girls’ College)
Homestays for MLAs are arranged by schools. MLAs have a wide variety of homestay experiences. For example, some families have young children at home, some are without children but have university-aged kids who come back home occasionally for holidays. An MLA will have a private single room. Any homestay matters should be discussed between the MLA and the school.

As an MLA in a homestay situation, you are not a guest in a hotel. You are a responsible member of the family and you must respect the family. You will share the household chores in support of the family, such as cooking, washing up and cleaning, and of course you are responsible for keeping your room clean and tidy.
Homestay is one of the key ways of experiencing life in New Zealand and sharing Kiwi experiences. It is the best opportunity to learn about New Zealand and New Zealanders. The more you integrate yourself into the homestay family, the more benefit you will gain from your year in New Zealand as an MLA.

住家是由你任教的学校来安排在新西兰人的家里，会有各种丰富多彩的生活体验。有些家里有孩子，有些家的孩子已经出去读大学了，只是偶尔回来度假住上几天。在住家，你会有一间私人的房间。如果有什么问题，你就要和学校协商。

你住在新西兰人的家里，不同于住旅馆，不是客人。你要承担家庭责任，尊重家人，要共同承担家务活，如：分担家里的煮饭、洗碗、打扫、清洗等工作。当然，要保持你自己的房间干净整洁。

住在新西兰人的家里将是一种新的生活体验，你有机会体验和分享新西兰人的生活。这是了解新西兰和新西兰人的最佳机会，也将更广泛地拓宽你的新西兰经历。

希望你能很好的融入新西兰家庭的生活，你一定能获益匪浅。

**Homestay Essentials**

You can expect:

- An approved safe homestay or equivalent accommodation to be arranged for you

- Your homestay will be conveniently located on a bus route or within walking distance to school; if public transport is not available, the school is responsible for arranging transportation to and from school during work days

- A private clean room with bed, desk and chair, wardrobe and adequate lighting and heating (you are expected to clean your room and bathroom, if attached)

- Meals provided by your homestay – breakfast, a packed lunch and dinner (dining out is on your own)

- Help to set up Internet access (there may be a small cost); please be aware that internet charges in New Zealand are much higher than in China, and that if you use the internet excessively, you will need to reimburse your homestay family separately.
Feel Like Cooking?

Although standard meals are provided by your homestay, you are encouraged to cook and share some meals. Most Kiwis love Chinese food.

Most supermarkets have an Asian food section; larger cities have Chinese supermarkets; most places have outdoor farmers markets during the weekend.

Be considerate while using kitchen facilities and control the amount of fumes and oil while cooking Chinese meals.

Daily Life

Getting Around Your City / Town

- Some cities have cycle lanes. It is compulsory to wear a helmet.

Banking And Mobile Phones

- Banking hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 am -4:30pm.
- ATM machines are 24 hours and easily accessible.
- You will need your passport and New Zealand home address to open a bank account. There are a number of main banks, such as ANZ, Westpac and BNZ.
- The Confucius Institute will help you with banking and mobile telephone set-up as soon as you arrive in New Zealand.

Health & Safety

- Your medical insurance is organised by your host school and it covers the duration of your stay in New Zealand
- Contact your principal and lead teacher for information and advice
- Have the emergency or medical centre numbers with you
- New Zealand’s emergency number is 111.
Homestay is one of my fortunes in New Zealand. My homestay mom is a humorous and kind woman and always explains everything patiently to me. We are more like close friends rather than boarder and host. Our “kitchen chat” is the most pleasant thing during a day. My homestay dad is a super rugby fan. Under his influence, I too became interested in rugby which is considered the national sport here. They are English migrants who are keen on all kinds of food especially Chinese food. No matter what I cook, they would give me a thumbs-up. I really appreciate that they've made me feel like at home in New Zealand. (Bella Zhang Lu, Wellington East Girls’ College)

My homestay is a young Kiwi couple. They are very nice to me. We live far from downtown and the transportation is quite inconvenient but they would always take me out on weekends or during school holidays, visiting their parents, family members or big cities nearby. What’s more, they also like to host my friends and treat them very warmly.

They both have been to China and are interested in the Chinese language, culture and Chinese food. I sometimes cook dumplings for them and teach them some basic Chinese. They look forward to traveling to my hometown, Qingdao, in the future and I really hope that I will have the chance to show them around. (Barbara Liu Xiao, Kaitao Intermediate School)
最初只是无意间说了一句自己假期要去南岛旅行，住家妈妈却记在了心上。第二天下班回家后，我发现桌子上放着各种南岛旅游攻略和地图。晚饭后妈妈还拉着我一起研究。她把我的生日记在了日历本上，我爱吃吃什么不爱吃什么也都熟记于心；每次出远门，不论早晚，住家妈妈都会到机场接送我，还要叮嘱我一番。最让我感动的是，生日那天我人在南岛，住家爸爸妈妈在我回家的当晚就为我补办了一个生日party，简单却温馨。太多太多的事，让我变得越来越依赖那幢充满着黄色灯光的房子。（申慧思）

I said by chance that I wanted to travel around the South Island during the holidays and my host mum kept it in mind. The next day when I got home, I saw lots of maps and tourist handbooks on my desk. She gave me many suggestions about traveling around the South Island. She also marked my birthday on the calendar and bore in mind what I like to eat and what I don’t. Every time I go traveling, mum will give me a lift to and from the airport. What touched me most was that the family held a lovely birthday party for me the day I came back from the journey, because I was away from home on my birthday. Now, I feel like home whenever I think of that house full of warm light. (Spencer Shen Huisi, Samuel Marsden Collegiate School)

我的住家是一个中西结合的家庭，这让我有机会体验到两种不同文化擦出的火花，其中最明显的就是美食啦。Sarah阿姨老家是山东人，做的一手好面食，包饺子，包子，做面条都不在话下，让来到新西兰两个月都没吃过这些的我感动地泪与口水齐飞！Bob手艺也很不错，他做的意大利肉酱面，法式蛋饼，还有一些海鲜让我对西方美食的看法有了很大的改观！每天晚饭之后我们都会进行一番友好交流，这些交谈让我们进一步了解了彼此。（吴莎）

Since this is a family that combines Chinese and western cultures, I feel lucky to have the chance to experience both. Sarah is so good at making dumplings, steamed stuffed buns, Chinese pancakes and noodles, which are all my favourite. Before I didn’t appreciate western food much, but I changed my mind after I tried Bob’s bolognase, French omelette, boiled mussels and many other tasty dishes.
Not only does food bring me great enjoyment but also the atmosphere of their home makes me feel relaxed and warm. Every day after dinner we would have a nice talk either about my school life or about the latest news, which has helped us know each other better and feel closer. (April Wu Sha, Whakatane Intermediate School)

“16, Epuni Street” -- this is my home in Wellington. My homestay parents have two sons. When I first arrived, one of them pointed to a coloured stone in the garden and said: “If you see this stone, it means you’ve found the right house!” The two boys are sweet and versatile. The elder one loves to write songs for guitar. He loves rock music but he can also play beautiful classic music on the violin. The younger one is good at cricket and rugby. I cook for the family every Thursday. They would encourage me anyway no matter how my cooking is. I feel very lucky to live with such a lovely family and I am really impressed by the magic bond between us. The bond has nothing to do with nationality or language; it is only about mutual care and love that people have for each other naturally. (Zhao Yang, Te Aro Primary School)
My homestay parents are really outgoing and sociable. Almost every week they have friends coming home for dinner. Sometimes they take us to their friends or to watch a movie. On the weekends, they would take us for a walk by the sea after work. Living with a Kiwi family I get the chance to experience the cultural differences between China and New Zealand. Apart from me, there is a Japanese girl in the homestay. She is my colleague with whom I go to work together every day. Through contact with her, I also know more about Japanese culture.

(Doreen Zhang Yue, Queen Margaret College)

I live in a small seaside town called Matata which is quiet and comfortable. Far away from the hustle cities, my daily routine includes wandering on the beach, feeling the sea breeze and picking beautiful shells. Waking up with the sunrise and resting with the sunset make life simpler and more comfortable. My homestay was with a Māori lady. She takes good care of me. She encouraged me to experience a variety of activities. For example, one time she drove me to Auckland to the Pacific Festival. She also took me to Hamilton to attend her niece’s party. I learnt how to ride a horse and saw kiwis (birds) being released. I feel so lucky to live in such a friendly town where people would greet you no matter whether they know you or not. (Zhang Yan, Edgecumbe College)
GETTING AROUND THE COUNTRY

- Always inform your school and the Confucius Institute of your plans to travel around New Zealand.
- There is a good and affordable intercity bus system.
- You can book travel online for special low fares.
- Plan your travel in New Zealand over the school holidays in advance; seek advice from your school or homestay.
- Affordable accommodation: Youth Hostels (YHA) are found in many cities.
Welcome to 100% Pure New Zealand. If you want to feel the beauty of nature, New Zealand won’t let you down. During your vacation you have lots of opportunities to start your travel around this country with friends. Rivers, lakes, seas, mountains and the stars are stunning. You can try the world’s most delicious hamburgers, taste local coffee and wine or just stay at Youth Hostels and chat with people from all over the world. Apart from these, you can also experience the Māori culture and its traditional dance, the haka, hot pools, waka (canoe), seafood, walking and cycling along the seaside. These are the things you will never forget. (Robbie Ma Ming, Whanganui Collegiate School)

It was right during autumn in New Zealand when the first school holiday came. We decided to go to see the beautiful yellow and gold of the South Island. We spent 14 days on our trip, from Rotorua, through Whanganui, Wellington and Napier and by car in the South Island. We saw the most beautiful scenery on the way, and every photo we took could make a precious postcard. Undoubtedly New Zealand has left a deep impression on me. (Norah Shen Fangyuan, Rotorua Boy’s High School)
极限之都皇后镇最极限的运动恐怕就是跳伞和蹦极了。抱着视死如归的大义凛然精神飞到4000米高空，屏息倒数：3、2、1，猛一个跃身，投入大自然的怀抱。忘记了人间的悲欢离合，尽情感受极限带来的冲击！耳边是呼啸的风声，底下是人间壮丽的山河，彼时彼景激发出来的心情恐怕会因人而异。（张明敏）

在Queenstown, a city famous for extreme sports, the top thing you need to do if you want extreme feeling is skydiving. You will fly up to more than 4000 meters high by helicopter and then jump into the sky. You will feel you are going to die. Forget all about human beings and totally embrace nature! Hearing the roar of wind and looking down at the splendid mountains and rivers, what will you be thinking of in your mind? (Zhang Mingmin, Otumoetai Intermediate School)

旅行第二站是Tekapo,下车时正好赶上最美的时刻，那里的湖水由于天然岩石的作用，呈现乳蓝色，再加上青山，远处的夕阳，营造出一幅人间难得机会见的画面，让人陶醉其中，惊叹不已。哪知到了Lake Pukaki，才发现那里更胜一筹。乳蓝色的湖水一直延展到天边，天地浑然一体，那时才体会到“如沧海之一粟”的感觉。之后去了新西兰著名的库克山，那里的夜空该是我见过最美的。那条Hooker Valley步道我们走了五个小时，一路上大家说说笑笑，好不快乐。（张耀峰）
Then we went to Tekapo to enjoy the beautiful scenery of the lake. The milky blue of Lake Tekapo, green mountains and golden sunset in the distance made us feel that we wouldn’t see such a super amazing scenes anymore in the future. But when we went to Lake Pukaki, it’s just like a paradise! I couldn’t believe my eyes. The milky blue stretched along to the end of the horizon made me feel I was small and insignificant in the world. After that, we went to Mt. Cook, which is the best place to see the night sky. It took us five hours to walk the Hooker Valley Track, but we were happy, talking and laughing all the way. (Zhang Yaofeng, Oropi School)

I personally have a special feeling for the ocean. My favourite thing while travelling in New Zealand is to stay by the seaside to observe different kinds of sea birds, and to feel the various temperament of tide and beach. From Napier’s gentility to Dunedin’s meditation, oceans at different latitudes have different personalities; from Greymouth’s wildness to Kaikoura’s calmness, even oceans at the same latitude have different temper as well. The most memorable experience was when across the Cook Strait, I stood on the deck of the ferry and watched the sea, feeling like it was too beautiful to choose a colour word to describe it. The ocean can always give people a positive answer. While watching the ocean in various parts of New Zealand, you can get the answer from different aspects. (Miranda Qu Keyu, Reporoa College)
在霍比特村，我们和比尔博一起踏上了那场意外之旅，也不禁对绿龙酒馆的啤酒啧啧称奇；在瓦纳卡湖，我们尝试了高空跳伞，体验了从4000米高的飞机上跳下时天旋地转的感受；在奥克兰动物园，我们还看到了水豚和奇异鸟，它们都是我在中国时没见过的动物。

在教学和旅行中，“新西兰”这三个字逐渐对我有了更多的意义。我不会忘记在新西兰做汉语教师志愿者的日子。（李桐）

We started an unexpected journey with Bilbo Baggins at Hobbiton and tasted Amber ale at Green Dragon Inn. It was so great to walk around the Shire and learn more about my favourite film. We also did skydiving from 12000 feet high, fully embracing the beauty of Lake Wanaka. At the zoo in Auckland, I saw capybara and kiwi. I was so excited that words failed me for I had never seen them before. Some foreigners may share the same feeling when they see pandas for the first time.

As time goes by, New Zealand means more to me. I will never forget my time here working as an MLA. (Neal Li Tong, Scots College)

拥有碧海蓝天和雪山冰川的新西兰堪称冒险者的天堂。四个多月里，我体验了高空跳伞，环海骑行，火山攀登及冰川徒步。在旅行中，我不但饱览了旖旎壮丽的风景，也收获了珍贵的友谊。最重要的是，我找到了那个勇敢无畏的自己。世之奇伟、瑰怪，非常之观，常在于险远，而人之所罕至焉，故非有志者不能至也。每一次探险都需要勇气和毅力，每一段经历都值得终身铭记。在新西兰当汉教是一次千载难逢的机会，愿你勇敢尝试各项探险，尽情感受生命的魅力！（王亦秋）
New Zealand, with blue sea, clear sky, snow mountains and glaciers, has been deemed the paradise for thrill-seekers. During the first four months in New Zealand, I’ve experienced plenty of adventures, such as skydiving, cycling by the sea, climbing a volcano and hiking on glaciers. Not only did I enjoy splendid scenery, I also made lots of good friends. Most importantly, I found courage and bravery in myself. The most breath-taking scenery in the world always exists in dangerous and remote places, where only people with great determination can reach. Courage and determination are needed in an adventure. Every adventure is worth remembering for the rest of your life. It’s an once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to be an MLA in New Zealand. Hope you can try as many adventures as possible and feel the charms of life. (Rachel Wang Yiqiu, Amesbury School)
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E noho ra

新西兰再见