

My time in India by Miss Ebertz

October 2014

Goodbye India.

03rd November 2014

9:47 am

After a fantastic week full of incredible encounters, generosity from the teachers and students at Mayo College and experiences that I will never forget I had to pack my bags and head to Jaipur for my last day in India. Before I went back to the UK I stayed with one of the boys' family in the beautiful city of Jaipur. The drive to Jaipur was again very exciting for someone who lives in England. There were cows crossing the road, everybody honks the horn as soon as they overtake a vehicle and there are not just cars and lorries on the road but also loads of motorbikes, tuk tuks, people carrying goods and camel and donkey carts!

Jaipur is the capital and the largest city of Rajasthan. The city today has a population of 3.1 million and is known as the Pink City of India. In Jaipur I stayed with family Khaldewal who were very kind and just like everybody else in India were very proud to host a guest. Like most Indians they live together with the whole family which means that there are not only three generations under one roof, but also the families of the four Khaldewal brothers who run a family business in the city centre. They showed me around Jaipur, visited three of the many palaces with me and showed me what family life in India is like.

Yesterday morning they took me to the Airport in Jaipur and I flew back to London. After a 20 hour journey I am now back in Leeds and I cannot wait to share my experience with the pupils and staff at Beechwood. I am looking forward to working on some fantastic projects that I have planned and discussed with the teachers at Mayo College.

Thank you very much for reading my blog, I hope you enjoyed it.

Last day at Mayo College.

31st October 2014

4:55 pm

Early this morning I was picked up from the Oman Guest house on the campus of Mayo College and went to the Girls' School where I had a very delicious Indian breakfast. In India the day starts with a very sweet and milky coffee, spicy food and a lot of fruit. Then the German exchange pupils and I went to the village of Tilonia which is a very inspiring and unique project here in Rajasthan funded by an organization known as Barefoot College. Barefoot College is a non-governmental organization that has been providing basic services and solutions to problems in rural communities for more than 40 years, with the objective of making them self-sufficient and sustainable. The villagers collect rain water to provide safe drink water, they recycle, run workshops, have their own hospital and live in circumstances that are a lot safer and more independent than other villagers' in India. They run a craft shop and the project is a fantastic example of sustainable living and farming.

In the afternoon I joined the whole junior school again and we went to a park to see a music and dance performance that is typical for Rajasthan.

Tomorrow is going to be my last day at the college as I will be travelling to Jaipur tomorrow and will spend the last night with the family of a boy from Mayo college. They will show me around Jaipur and take me to the airport on Sunday morning. But before I leave in the morning there is a very early horse riding lesson tomorrow at 6.00!

Time just seems to fly as my week in India is almost over...

I will write more about my time in Jaipur on Monday.

Time is flying...

31st October 2014

2:19 am

After two very busy days, packed with exciting activities at Mayo College I finally find some time to tell you more about my visit.

I have not only visited the Girls' College and Junior School, but also had the great honour to get to visit the Senior School and attend one of their daily assemblies. The assembly hall is in the main building and it reminded me of a chapel or church, as the senior students sit on pews and the interior is richly decorated with arabesque designs and patterns.

After the official meeting with the principal Mr Lalotra, we had the chance to visit the metal, paper and wood workshop where not only students work, but where all the furniture for the college is made by craftsmen.

I was particularly impressed with the art department and the fantastic displays and talented pupils there. When I am back in England I will upload photos to the international section of this website.

In the afternoon we went to a waterpark with the whole Junior School. The entire park was shut to the public and the boys did enjoy themselves on numerous slides and in many different pools.

I will try to tell you more later on today...

Day 3 in India.

29th October 2014

9:57 am

Today it is 34 degrees and I have been visiting the Mayo Boys' Junior School. I met Mrs Ritu Nautiyal again, as well as the Mayo boys who came to see us at Beechwood in June this year.

The school's headteacher Mr Chaturvedi welcomed me in a school assembly and in a traditional Indian way by giving me flowers, sugar and drawing a dot with kum kum powder on my forehead. After a busy evening of Art lessons and a short trip to Ajmer I will be attending a Magic Show tonight.

Just a short note for today...I will tell you more tomorrow!

Hello from India.

28th October 2014

7:56 am

After a 20 hour journey I have arrived in Ajmer India. The scenery is breathtaking- Mayo College is a campus with beautiful buildings, gardens and sport facilities. After a fantastic dinner with the head master of the Junior school and the German delegation I went to meet some of the pupils who visited us at Beechwood in June. At Mayo College I am staying at the guesthouse which is another fantastic building with beautiful gardens.

Today is the second day of my stay and this morning I was woken up by the noise of some beautiful peacocks that roam in the gardens and on the whole campus. After a delicious breakfast at the Mayo Girls' school I joined some art and craft lessons and visited the school's own art gallery.

I am already looking forward to the entertainment tonight when the very talented students of the Girls' college perform dance, music and drama.

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Mayo College

20th October 2014

9:26 pm

[Next week I am going to Mayo College in India. Please read my blog to find out what I do during my time there.](#)

[Miss Ebertz](#)