



Our pavilion has been Painted by Michelangelo team

In order to offer students a more vivid environment in which to learn Chinese and to get a real sense of China, Dr. David Joyner, Executive Director of the Confucius Institute came up with a wonderful idea --- “build” a Pavilion in the classroom!

It is not easy to build a real Pavilion without much building material and intricate Chinese decorations; but a solution was provided by Professor Liying Zhang, Co-Director of the Institute, who studied oil painting for more than 10 years and is expert in fresco – paint all the walls to create an immersive cultural experience. So in a highly creative and low-carbon way Prof. Zhang set about presenting typical Chinese scenery and buildings, assisted by two second year Art degree students from the local Further Education College, David and Stacey. After they finished painting the Pavilion, students from Bangor University named them the *Michelangelo team*. The pavilion is designed by Prof. Zhang, having chosen four representative Chinese scenes – a teahouse, Guilin landscape, the Great Wall and Xidi.

A teahouse is an establishment which primarily serves tea and other light refreshments. Although its function varies widely depending on the culture, tea houses often serve as centers of social interaction. In China, people gather at tea houses to chat, socialize, and enjoy tea, and young people often meet at tea houses for dates. The teahouse scene will be the main background for the performing area in the Confucius Institute.

The Guilin landscape has long been praised as the most picturesque place in China and is one of the must-see sites for most western tourists. It is a charming place at any time of the year with its pleasant subtropical climate. The name of Guilin, literally means “forest of sweet osmanthus”, owing to the large number of fragrant Sweet Osmanthus trees located in Guilin city. In 1981, Guilin was listed by the State Council as one of the four cities (the other three being Beijing, Hangzhou and Suzhou) where the protection of historical and cultural heritage, as well as natural scenery, should be treated as a priority project.

Xidi is a village in China, southern Anhui province, which was declared a part of the “Ancient Villages in Southern Anhui” World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 2000, along with the village of Hongcun. First built during the Huangyou era (1049–1053) of Song Dynasty by Emperor Renzong, the village was originally called Xichuan (West River), owing to the various water courses flowing through it. Today, 124 well preserved wooden residences from the Ming and Qing dynasties with beautiful carvings form the major attractions. Many of these residences are open to the public.



The Great Wall reflects collision and exchanges between agricultural civilizations and nomadic civilizations in ancient China. It provides significant physical evidence of the far-sighted political strategic thinking and mighty military and national defence forces of central empires in ancient China, and is an outstanding example of the superb military architecture, technology and art of ancient China. It embodies unparalleled significance as the national symbol for safeguarding the security of the country and its people. The Great Wall was continuously built from the 3rd century BC to the 17th century AD on the northern border of the country as the great military defence project of successive Chinese Empires, with a total length of more than 20,000 kilometers.



1. David painted the Xidi Village.
2. The Great Wall drawn by Stacy.
3. Li-River and beautiful mountains painted by Prof. Zhang.
4. Lectern table turned into Qing Dynasty official Suitcase.
5. Dr Lei Zhu sanded the blue door, and Prof. Zhang painted it as an ancient door.





The door of our teahouse is based on the style of Beijing Lao She Teahouse. If you want to taste of Beijing old style tea-house, the Lao She Teahouse (Chinese Name : 老舍茶馆) is must be your first choice, a wonderful wooden stage provides an a classical *ambience*, where is also a nice place to taste the specific culture -- "Tea Culture" in China. It includes articles, poems, and pictures about tea, the art of making and drinking tea.



1. Our three painters make a draft for the Teahouse.
2. Drawing the Teahouse together.
3. Finished.
4. Prof. Zhang Searched out a photo of Lao She Teahouse, and want to get some change on the painting door.
5. Paper box painted into tea tables and stools.
6. Guests enjoyed having tea here.

A wonderful show in Ysgol Y Graig

A Wonderful show given by the students who attended the Two dragon club in Ysgol Y Graig. The students are in year 5 and have never been learnt any Chinese before the two dragon club was set up in the school. Jin XI, the new in Confucius Institute teacher became their Mandarin teacher in June and gave a Chinese class every Thursday.

Although having less than 90minutes a week to learn all about China, the children are greatly enthusiastic and made amazing progress. They can not only say and recognize the Chinese language, but also sing a Chinese song and perform some Kungfu! In the last lesson, each student submitted a very exquisite booklet handmade by themselves, with all the knowledge about China they've learned and those they looked up after class. They also gave these booklets as a present for Jin Xi, showing their thanks for the happy Chinese class she brings. Finally, the Class Teacher Delyth gained the approval of the principal to give a show to the whole school, students and teachers. They performed a song named "Zhao pengyou" which is very popular among Chinese children and gave a Kungfu show. The audience warmly applauded for their brilliant performance.



1. Students show their own works.
2. Colorful and amazing works.
3. song performing—Zhao Pengyou.



Support to the Bangor CS EU Project

With the invitation of Bangor School of Computer Science, the Confucius Institute has supported the EVIVA project, that is *Evaluating the Education of Interpreters and the Clients through Virtual Learning Activities*. The main project idea is to evaluate the use of communication technologies such as 3D virtual worlds and videoconferencing in the training of interpreting students but also to train (potential) clients of interpreters.



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During the project, they are setting up a number of role plays where an expert speaker talks to an interviewer about his/her work, and these conversations will be interpreted to try out how the communication through an interpreter works with the different technologies.

Prof. Zhang has been invited to be the expert speaker trying two role plays. On 31st July Prof. Zhang did two conversations, approx. 30 min each, one in a 3D virtual world, one via videoconference. Discussion included topics such as: the mission of the Confucius Institute; the teaching of Chinese language and culture provided by the Institute; how this is likely to develop over the coming years; the most important issues in developing intercultural understanding between China and the UK; the types of research the institute carries out and the collaboration with departments in Bangor University and with universities in China.

Dr Robert Gittins, Development Manager, from the School of Computer Science was with Prof. Zhang and was responsible for the technical side of the meeting, Dr Sabine Braun, Director, Centre for Translation Studies, Surrey University and an English speaker, and the Chinese-English interpreter, were in two different locations. This project is a collaboration between the University of Surrey, Bangor University, University of Cyprus, University of Poznan and Steinbeis Transfer Centre Language Learning Media. The project has been conducted with the financial support of the European Union Lifelong Learning Programme.



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1. On 31st July Prof. Zhang did two conversations, approx. 30 min each.
2. Conversation in a 3D virtual world.
3. Conversation via videoconference.
4. On 28th July, Robert and Sabine hold a meeting with Prof. Zhang to discuss the 3D environment set up the interview.



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An Open Day for Children from Siddal Moor School

Usually, in summer vacation, when you enter a corridor of a university you experience quiet. But on 11th August, on entering the Confucius Institute at Bangor University, you find your visit was immersed in a friendly and joyous atmosphere, and the Institute was filled with waves of laughter and applause: Yes, it was the Institute's Open Day for Children from Siddal Moor school and students from Bangor University.

In order to run the open day smoothly, Anna, Widening Access Assistant from the Corporate Communications and Marketing of Bangor University, gave a brief introduction about Siddal Moor school. The Institute's teacher made thoughtful arrangements and diverse activities perfectly suited to lively and active children. The activities included Q&A quiz, games, calligraphy and Kung Fu. Moreover, the children were the first audience of the newly-built colorful 'pavilion' room of the Institute. Siddal Moor school also sent 11 teachers to help organize activities.



1. A group photo outside the "Bird's Nest".

2. Students visit the inside of the stadium.

3. Hi! We are a happy family!

4. Feel the internal structure of the nest. the water inside.



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Dr. David Joyner, Executive Director of the Confucius Institute gave a welcome speech and brief introduction at the very start, then Prof. Liying Zhang, Co-Director of the Confucius Institute led children to had a quickly Q&A match. Just in half an hour, children learned a lot about China, learned to speak a few words of Chinese, and very eager to answer the question. They also had a match for making Chinese lantern and using Chopsticks. After the fierce competition, the institutes 'teacher Zhihui Li organized one group to experience Chinese calligraphy, another group followed Pro.Zhang to learn Taichi Fan, a kind of Kung Fu.



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The Open Day was very successful, and everybody is amazed that the children can concentrate so well and focus their attention when they learn Chinese. Just as written in the feedback letter: "thank you so much for today's workshops with Siddal Moor School. The children and teaching staff thoroughly enjoyed them".



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1. Zhihui teaches students to count in Chinese.
2. Trying Chinese calligraphy.
3. Balloon-pop Match! It sounds like Chinese firecrackers when the balloon was broken.
4. Teachers like Taiji, too!

5. Together with law school summer camp members and teacher.



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Management Board Meeting on 18 August 2014.

CONFUCIUS INSTITUTE AT BANGOR UNIVERSITY



Farewell party with local people



Contact Details:

Tel: 01248 388555

Email: Confuciusinstitute@bangor.ac.uk

Web: www.bangor.ac.uk/confucius-institute

<http://bangor-confucius.uk.chineseecio.com/>

Address:

Confucius Institute at Bangor University
9th Floor Chemistry Tower

(Alun Roberts Building)

Bangor Gwynedd LL57 2UW, UK