

## 波默利塔初中生參訪 培德中學

## Pomolita Middle School Students Visit Developing Virtue Secondary School

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北加州瑜伽市波默利塔初中兩百名學生，於2017年3月3日參觀萬佛聖城培德中學，學習打坐與中國文化，並品嚐可口的素食。

波默利塔初中師生，當天將近中午抵達萬佛聖城。享用素食午餐後，紛紛表示素食很好吃。一名女生透露，這是她這輩子第一次吃到豆腐：「太好吃了，今天中午我連著吃了八大塊烤豆腐。」

他們對培德中學男女生分開上課感到好奇，也有部份學生表示很嚮往男女分校。波默利塔初中七年級的艾娃說：「男女生分開上課很『酷』，因為男生很煩。」八年級的文森則說：「男女生分開上課的話，我們男生講話可就自在多了。」

七年級的柯里斯欽原本以為在萬佛聖城可以看到「巨大的金字塔」，結果意外看到萬佛殿四壁的萬尊佛像。得知是由萬佛聖城開山祖師宣公上人一手塑造，他驚歎道：「無法想像當初是花了多少時間塑造這麼多佛像！」

除了參觀學校之外，波默利塔初中學生也學習打坐、用毛筆寫中國書法、剪紙、玩扯鈴。對他們而言，每項活動都新鮮有趣，得以體驗不同的文化氛圍。這次的參觀活動，由培德女中校友，目前在波默利塔初中任教的楊玉金促成。✿

Around 200 students from Pomolita Middle School visited Developing Virtue Secondary School at the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas to learn meditation and Chinese culture as well as to enjoy delicious vegetarian food.

They arrived at the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas near lunch time. After having vegetarian lunch, a lot of the students said that vegetarian food tastes very good. One girl said, "This is the first time in my life I've eaten tofu and it tastes so good that I ate 8 big pieces of the baked tofu at lunch today."

Students from Pomolita Middle School were curious about the separation of boys and girls at Developing Virtue Secondary Schools. Some of them said that they wanted to have this separation policy. Seventh grader Ava of Pomolita Middle School said, "It's cool to separate boys from girls because boys are annoying." Vincent, an 8th grader from Pomolita Middle School, has a different reason for wanting the separation policy. He said, "When boys and girls are separated, we boys can talk freely."

Seventh grader Christian had expected to see "a giant pyramid;" instead, to his surprise, he saw 10,000 Buddha statues lining up the walls of the Buddha Hall at the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas. Upon learning that all these Buddha statues were made by the founder, Venerable Master Hsuan Hua, he exclaimed, "I can't imagine how much time he took to do this."

In addition to touring around the school, students from Pomolita Middle School also learned meditation, using a brush pen to write Chinese calligraphy, Chinese style paper cutting and Chinese yo-yo. Each activity was interesting to them because they got to experience a different culture. This visit was initiated by a Pomolita Middle School teacher, Kim Duong, who is also an alumna of Developing Virtue Girls School. ✿