

Reflection Journal by Vivian Wee (DMLS, Year 1)

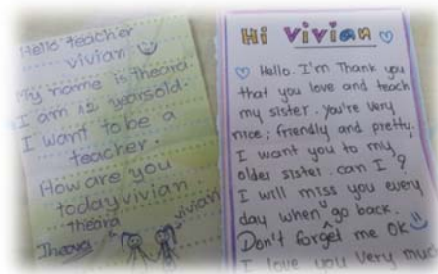
Finding Myself Within in Cambodia 18-31 March 2018

Project Finding Myself Within in Cambodia- The longest and the most meaningful trip so far. For this trip, there is only one personal objective I set for myself- learn, experience and serve wholeheartedly.

The process of meeting my teammates starts from strangers to buddies, students to friends and lecturers to guardians. The warm greeting by the students every morning never failed to cheer my day up. The passion of learning I see in them made me want to teach them more on whatever I can. On the last day of lesson, I was surprised by a letter from my student and my student's sister, asking if I can be their older sister. I could not find words to express how I felt that moment. It was definitely more than just mere 'happy' or 'touched'. We just know each other for like less than 14 days and yet, they treasure the relationship more than how I thought they would. Throughout the 14-days trip, I realized that happiness is the moment you start to appreciate what you have.



Me and my student, Theara



Letter given by Theara and her sister, Rathea

“This trip is not all about service, but also experiential learning”, a short and impactful quote by Ms. Grace during one of the debrief session. Instead of purely serving, I start to learn from them, and experience the lifestyle they have in Cambodia. I learnt to appreciate, learnt to share and learnt to be contented with what I have. A warm welcome by them is the best gift that I can ever ask for in a foreign country. They have nothing much to give, but they are willing to share whatever they have with you. Sharing brings joy, an experience I brought back from Cambodia, and hope to apply in our country.



House visit to Theara House



Last class photo with my students

I am really thankful for the opportunity to participate in this 14-days OCIP with Team F.M.W, Singapore Polytechnic. Throughout this 14-days, I experience, I learn, I serve. The relationships forged with the kids in Cambodia as well as my teammates and lecturers, the experiences and the memories is definitely a priceless and memorable one, which will be etched in my heart forever.