CHINESE STUDENT SHARES PASSION FOR MĀORI LANGUAGE

Graduate Diploma in Teaching (ECE) student Lingxiao Wang wants to inspire Kiwi children to learn New Zealand’s native language through song.

Excited to begin his early childhood education learning journey, Lingxiao was thrilled to find out that NZTC offered a Graduate Diploma in Teaching (ECE) qualification with start dates throughout the year.

Having never experienced online study before, the Chinese student initially found the concept of a ‘virtual classroom’ challenging, but quickly adapted with the support of his classmates and NZTC staff.

“There’s always someone to turn to, whether it’s a tricky situation we face in our daily lives or an academic question. The blended learning study mode has suited me well, allowing me to study at home following my own schedule.”

Now six months into his study, Lingxiao is embracing every opportunity to combine his love for teaching with another passion he’s picked up since arriving in New Zealand, the Māori language.

“I joined a choir during my working holiday, where we sang a lot of Māori songs. The beautiful lyrics and tunes captured my heart,” he shared.

“Now I am learning to apply te reo Māori in my practice. For example, I help my Associate Teacher to do a karakia (prayer) before lunch.”

“I would also like to practice waiata (singing) to help children gain more knowledge of the Māori language. This captures the children's attention and inspires them to learn about the philosophies and values of the Māori culture.”

NZ RANKED LEAST CORRUPT COUNTRY

New Zealand has been rated the least corrupt country in the world in the latest Corruption Perceptions Index. The index ranks 180 countries based on how corrupt their public sector is perceived to be by experts and business people. New Zealand scored 87 points, tying with Denmark in first place.
TRANSFORMATIVE JOURNEY FOR INDONESIAN ECE STUDENT

Graduate Diploma in Teaching (ECE) student Devi Christyo sees every day of her life in New Zealand as a blessing.

“New Zealand is very convenient, safe to explore, has loads of places to discover and people from so many different cultures to meet. People are more open-minded and have a broader perspective on life.”

Devi’s advice for new international students is to live without regrets, embrace the challenges and enjoy every moment.

“Learn to explore the world outside and don’t always stay in your comfort zone. Try to branch out and learn to meet new people. There is so much New Zealand has to offer!”

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After experiencing the kindness of Kiwi teachers during her journey as an international student, Devi Christyo decided to pay it forward by becoming a teacher herself.

“Looking back at all my experiences studying my art degree as an international student, I realised all the effort and sacrifices my teachers and lecturers had made for me,” she said.

“They helped to encourage me throughout my journey. Just seeing a bright smile on their faces gave me the strength to do the same for others.”

After graduating with a degree in Communication Design in 2017, Devi decided to kick off her teaching career with an early childhood education qualification.

“I chose to study with NZTC because the college offers good support for international students like myself. It’s sometimes really hard to find all the necessary support, especially as a foreign student, so I really appreciate all the help NZTC has offered me.”

Now studying a Graduate Diploma in Teaching (ECE) with NZTC, the Indonesian student continues to love her life in New Zealand - a place she now calls home.

“Although I’m not born and raised here, I have completely fallen for New Zealand. I love the air, nature, peace and vibrant multicultural life.”

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DEVI’S TIPS FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

1. Don’t rely on your friends too much, learn to be independent.
2. Broaden your perspective.
3. Don’t be afraid to try something new.
4. Reflect on yourself so you can improve.
5. Set little goals for yourself and overcome them as you go.
6. Never give up. Even when you are at your darkest time, a new day opens up new opportunities.

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NZTC TOUR INDIA

Marketing Manager Sanjay Jain will meet with educational partners and prospective students in five Indian cities.

NZTC Marketing Manager Sanjay Jain will travel throughout India in February to share the college’s study options and thank valued Indian educational partners for their ongoing support.

Sanjay will visit five cities, meeting with educational partners and prospective students and attending IDP Education Fairs in Chandigarh, Delhi, Bangalore, Kochi and Trivandrum.

The college’s programs and study pathways will be shared, as well as opportunities available for students who choose to study the college’s teaching programs.

“The demand for early childhood teachers in New Zealand is higher than ever. Our Bachelor of Teaching (ECE) and Graduate Diploma in Teaching (ECE) programs are excellent options for international students, enabling them to become eligible to apply for NZ teacher certification after graduating,” said Sanjay.

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OECD REPORT CONFIRMS NZ EDUCATION SYSTEM IS PERFORMING WELL

New Zealand’s education system continues to perform well compared with other developed countries.

The OECD’s Education at a Glance report is an international assessment of New Zealand’s education system, comparing data from more than 35 developed countries. The latest report confirms New Zealand’s commitment to its education system, with the country ranked highest in the OECD in terms of educational spending as a percentage of total GDP.

The report also highlights the key role of international students in New Zealand’s economy. New Zealand has one of the highest shares of international students in tertiary education, making up 20% of all diploma-level and above students in New Zealand, much higher than the OECD average of 6%.

Tertiary-educated adults in New Zealand also enjoy one of the highest employment rates in the OECD at 88%.

Read the full report here.