

Love, Appreciation, and happiness. These were the biggest emotions I was able to experience during the Silk Road Summer Camp. From the relationships built between the children and their mothers to the friendships built between us student teachers and the children was a representation of the love shared between all. Seeing how even though the kids in the orphanage didn't have a lot of money, but were still willing to buy us presents and drinks was truly heartwarming. Furthermore, the kids are surrounded by so much love that they are also filled with happiness. They became so ecstatic and happy when we gave them our presents. The amount of appreciation they showed us when we gave them our presents and when we taught English was quite an eye-opener for me because it made me realize how lucky I am to have two loving parents who are willing to help me with anything that I need. I realized that I didn't appreciate all the things I had until seeing the happiness of the kids faces when we taught and played with them.

Lastly, I would like to give a massive thank you to Apprentices Education and Mr. John Ma for allowing me to partake in this incredible learning adventure. So many times, Mr. John Ma went out of his way to make our trip even more special, such as taking us out to eat traditional Uyghur cuisines and taking us on small trips every day after going to the orphanage. This trip was the experience of a lifetime and one that I will cherish for the rest of my life!

Ronald