

# Fletcher Maynard Academy

## More From India —Ms. Coulson



### **Bhuleshwar Market, Mumbai**

Bhuleshwar is a busy market area in the historic Hindu part of the city. There were lanes full of small shops selling everything from food, flowers, to jewelry and fabric. Even the cows were enjoying a day at the market!

### **Taj Mahal, Agra**

The photos do not do justice to our experience, especially at the Taj Mahal. It is breathtaking in real life. There is so much detail in the building's design. Each of those flowers you see was hand carved in the marble. Also, colored gems had to be cut and shaped to fit in each of those inlays. No wonder it took 20 years to build!



### **Cavalossim, Goa**

We made our way up and down the Sal River on a private boat tour. We saw local fisherman out working, wildlife and the beautiful countryside. The crew prepared and freshly caught fish and shrimp lunch for us and one of the crew members sang us traditional Goan folk songs.

### **Sahakari Spice Farm, Goa**

The spice farm is a working farm, which grows all sorts of amazing spices. We took a tour of the farm and learned how all the spices we eat like pepper, cinnamon and vanilla are grown. The neatest thing to learn was that a cashew grow on a small fruit with only one cashew per fruit! So they pick the cashew off and then the fruit to make cashew juice. Now I know why a can of cashews are so expensive!



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## Transportation, India

Vans, rickshaws and camels oh my! We rode in a tourist van for most of our trip but we had opportunities to ride motorized rickshaws in Goa, bicycle rickshaws in Old Delhi and camels on our way to the Taj Mahal in Agra. Some of us even braved a taxi ride in Mumbai!



## Babulnath Mandir, Mumbai

This is one of the oldest Hindu temples in the city and was being renovated when we were there. Shiva, in the form of the Lord of the Babul tree, is the main deity in this temple. We bought beautiful baskets of flowers to place in the temple as an offering and receive blessings.



## Haji Ali, Mumbai

Haji Ali is both a mosque and a tomb and is also known as a drag. People of all religious backgrounds come here to pray. It was built in 1431 and is situated in the middle of the ocean. Therefore, it is only accessible during low tide from a narrow, 500 yard walkway. Out of respect and tradition, everyone had to cover the head while inside.



## Somaiya School, Mumbai

Our last day in Mumbai we visited the Somaiya School, where Naseem and Rehaan have been going to school this year. Their class welcomed us with a couple traditional songs in their language. After that the students from FMA told them a little bit about going to school in Cambridge and they told us about going to school in Mumbai. We learned they study four languages; Hindi, Sanskrit, English and French. Also, they have 30 students in their class, and not only do they wear uniforms, but they also have the same backpacks! One of the specialist classes they take is gymnastics, so most of them can do splits!

