

Platanos College News

Friday 7th June 2013

Educational visit to RAF Brize Norton

On Wednesday 5th June 2013, Platanos College pupils had the wonderful opportunity to attend an educational trip to the Royal Air Force in Brize Norton, Oxfordshire, jointly organised by the Worshipful Company of Fuellers and RAF Brize Norton.

RAF Brize Norton is the largest station in the Royal Air Force, employing over 6,000 people of many different professions. The visit was an extremely enriching trip and pupils were involved in many different activities from the application of maths and physics to flight navigation to learning the history of the RAF.



**Platanos College
pupils at RAF Brize Norton**



It was an early start for our pupils but it was a very worthwhile trip. Pupils were able to meet members of No. 216 Squadron and learned about the commitment and skills required of a professional pilot and how knowledge gained in school is put into practice in everyday working life.

Attitude Determines Altitude

After an insightful introduction, our pupils had the lucky opportunity to board the Tristar aircraft and fly out to the North Sea for an air-to-air refuelling operation!



Pupils learning the maths and technology behind the operation

Our pupils were treated to a spectacle as the Tristar refuelled several Typhoon jets mid-air at an altitude of 20,000 feet!

The experience really underlined our motto: *“Attitude determines altitude”*.



Typhoon jets refuelling

Our pupil, **Francisca Lopes**, said: *“It was an extremely informative trip and I enjoyed every bit of it. The highlight was being able to meet the pilots and fly over the North Sea and see fighter planes refuel mid-air! It was overwhelming.*

Attitude Determines Altitude

“During the flight we were taught the technology and skills needed to make the operation successful. We used our maths to plan the flight and calculate the fuel required by the planes.

“It was an amazing experience! I think with the right attitude and determination, any job is reachable.”



Lunch at 20,000 ft after a tough morning of flight planning!

Two pupils on the visit had not previously travelled on an aircraft before. It was indeed a very memorable trip for them.

Attitude Determines Altitude