



South Africa Netball Tour 2011

After months of anticipation, 20 girls and three staff left for South Africa Netball Tour 2011 at the beginning of the summer holidays. The tour started in Cape Town, where we visited many sites including Table Mountain, Two Oceans Aquarium, Robben Island, The Cape of Good Hope, Cape Point, Hout Bay, Boulders Beach and many more. We had a guided tour of Langa Township, where we also played our first match. The netball was quite different to what we are normally used to and we really enjoyed the matches. The U14s won 22-13 and the U15s lost 11-23. We spent a day at Goedgedacht Trust, where we coached netball to the girls, had a braai and learnt different songs and dances. We played friendly matches and the U14s won 16-8 and the U15s won 21-2. We had also donated an olive tree to the project and attended the dedication service and plaque unveiling. This really was a very emotional and memorable day and we're sure that the equipment and kit that we left behind will be put to good use. We then moved onto Stellenbosch where we visited the town, had a game of rounders and played some more matches. Against Parel Valle, the U14s won 28-6 and the U15s won 23-15. We also played against Reddam House and the U14s won 29-5 and the U15s won 35-8. We were able to socialise with our opponents afterwards, which was a lot of fun! We were then on the road again, making our way along the Garden Route, staying next in Kynsna. We played York High School, where the U14s won 20-2 and the U15s won 35-4. We also visited an Ostrich Farm, where we were able to sit on an ostrich, have an ostrich massage and stand on ostrich eggs. Our next match was against Outeniqua High School and they gave us some really tough matches. The U14s won 25-18 and the U15s won 28-20. We then stayed in Port Elizabeth, where we were able to go on the beach, shop and play more rounders. Our final match of the tour was against Umzingisi Sports Foundation, where talented girls, from deprived areas are selected to attend the Centre of Excellence. We had a tour of some of their projects and then played the matches. Again, the netball was a different style and although it took time to adjust, the U14s won 16-11 and the U15s won 24-15. Our final stay was at the Kareiga Game Reserve, where despite the torrential rain, we went on three game drives to see some of the Big 5. We also had time to relax in the spa, play games, watch movies and have our final tour presentation evening. The whole tour experience was absolutely fantastic and the girls and teachers thoroughly enjoyed all of the different aspects.

[Click here to see an article about the tour on page 7 of England Netball's 'digimag'!](#)

