

## Reflection on Samuel Clear's Presentation – Year 11 Reflection Day Morning

Written by Jessica Martin

Samuel Clear had a strong mission in mind; to walk around the world, exploring and creating unity in as many places as he could. Sam has travelled to countless locations, experiencing different conditions of living. He was met with adversity and racism whilst travelling and was constantly challenged to push on with his journey after wanting to quit several times. Sam's struggles included the racial injustice he suffered, the language barrier as the majority of countries he went to were non-English speaking, a lack of food and water, finding a place to sleep and stay for the night, and many more.

His presentation that stretched over a two-hour period was both exciting and energetic, and included lots of activities – getting everyone in the audience intrigued and involved. It was surprising to see everyone so involved as due to border restrictions because of COVID-19, Sam was unable to be at SFX in person and the presentation occurred through Zoom. Nonetheless of the many technical complications that occurred, Sam reached in-depth into his memories over 12 years ago to share his experiences and difficulties throughout his journey, providing everyone in the audience a new perspective on faith and the hardships others suffer.

A standout for me in the presentation was how engaged everyone was whilst Sam shared a story from his time in Panama, where he spoke about seeing how poor, and lacking in resources and housing a family was, compared to the rest of the town, due to being excluded from the community. He talked about how difficult it was to visualise the adversity a family had been facing for 6 months, still shone from everyone else in that community as the father of the family, Adolfo, hadn't been born in that community and was subsequently excluded. It certainly made me reflect on the importance of community and inclusion.

The presentation was informative, engaging, and an enjoyable way to reflect on unity. Sam Clear ensured everyone was getting involved and enjoying the talk. It was a positive change from the usual setup on a reflection day at SFX, and even though it only went for 2 hours compared to a usual full day, it surprised everyone coming into the presentation who had a negative outlook on the morning, by leaving them some inspiration and hope in what has been a challenging year.