

Heartbeat



Monday, May 9

Issue 28

Students enjoy fairytale exchange trip to Germany

In Issue 26 of Heartbeat, we learned about the experiences of our Comenius Exchanges students who visited the Netherlands. This issue is the turn of those who travelled to Germany. Robyn Powell (12D) reveals what happened on their trip.

We arrived in Germany at about 9.30pm and got to the Konig-Heinrich-Schule in Fritzlar at 11pm.

Our host families met us there and took us home for a well-earned few hours sleep.

We had to be at the school for 8am the next morning and, considering the time we actually managed to get to bed, waking up at 6am was hard.

When we eventually got to school (which for some of us involved a one-and-a-half hour bus journey!), all the students on the exchange were taken into a large room and introduced to the teachers who would be leading the workshops.

There were three workshops to choose from – Drama, Music and Learning about the Brothers Grimm.

Once you chose a group, you did that for the remainder of the week while in school. I chose the drama group and after we played a quick game where you were given little facts on a sheet (eg: broke their arm, read all the Harry Potter books, etc) and had to find someone who had done them, so we could get to know each other better – we were told what production we would be doing.

We were to be writing and performing our own modernized version of Snow White, one of the tales by the Brothers Grimm. After assigning roles, we spent the rest of the day in groups writing out the play. After school, we went to Fritzlar village, which was close to the school. It was a



small, old-fashioned place filled with shops, making it fun to look around.

On Tuesday, rehearsals began. The teachers leading the workshop had collected the scenes we had written individually and put them together in a script. It was fun to watch the other students acting and getting into their roles. I was the Wicked Stepmother, which was difficult because that part had a lot of lines and we were performing on Thursday night.

Wednesday was pretty much the same, but with a lot more practising as a group. We also started practising our parts on the stage and deciding the stage directions. After school had finished, some of us went back to Fritzlar to look around the shops as we didn't have that much time on Monday. Students who weren't involved in the drama or music spent the day in Kassel,

home of the Grimm brothers' museum, where they researched the brothers' lives.

Thursday was the day of the show. We all had to bring costumes and props in and we did a full dress rehearsal, which got quite a crowd of curious students and teachers who were wondering about the oddly dressed teens dancing around on the stage. The rehearsals went well and at lunch we went home to start making food for our national buffet.

At 5pm, we went back to the school to get ready to do our performance for the parents of students on the exchange trip.

The play was very successful and all the parents enjoyed the performance. It was kind of embarrassing because afterwards people kept coming up to us and complimenting us on our performance.

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Then it was time for the Nation Item. We would have liked more time to prepare and didn't have long to decide what to do, so we gave the audience a lesson in how to speak 'Scouse', as opposed to the other schools, who surprised us by all their music and dancing!

We wrote down a few Scouse sentences and picked out members of the audience to teach them how to say them.

After this, I had to sing a few excerpts of famous Liverpool songs like Ferry Across the Mersey and Hey Jude. Despite the thorough preparation of the other students we were happy to discover our show was very funny and successful!

Afterwards, it was time for the national buffet. It was very interesting to see how people from different countries prepared their food and the amazing diversity of it. Our 'chip butties' went down a treat!

On Friday we had a trip to Frankfurt. First, we went to a surrealist exhibition in an Art Gallery which was very interesting. Afterwards, we were allowed to do as we liked so, of course, we went shopping.

It was interesting to see the German sense of style and what is fashionable over there.

The German students all said that you could tell we were foreign because we 'put so much make up on'.

They don't put as much importance on appearance as we do in Britain, so it was a nice change.

In the evening, there was a party for all the students as everyone except the British visitors were leaving the next morning.



Saturday was a trip to Kassel, another great city for shopping. We spent the day there and bought souvenirs for our family. A few of us also bought presents for our host families. In the evening, we went for a meal with our host students. It was an Italian restaurant and very nice.

On Sunday, our last day, my exchange partner and I went to see the monument of Kassel, which was an impressive building at the top of a hill.

It was quite a hike to get there, but it was well worth it when we did. The view from the top was breathtaking and you could see the whole of Kassel.

When it was time to leave, that evening, I was actually sad to go and I will greatly miss all of the foreign students who I met on the exchange.

Robyn Powell (12D)

Timetable change

As the examination season now approaches, the College is returning to the original timings for the school day. As we have now had six months with our winter and spring arrangements, we thought we would publish those original timings for parents, following discussion at Assemblies this week. These timings will resume from Monday, May 16.

Monday, Tuesday & Friday

Tutorial:	8.45am - 9.10am
Movement:	9.10am - 9.15am
Period 1:	9.15am - 10.25am
Morning Break:	10.25am - 10.45am
Period 2:	10.45am - 11.55am
Lunch:	11.55am - 12.55pm
Period 3:	12.55pm - 2.05pm
Afternoon Break:	2.05pm - 2.20pm
Period 4:	2.20pm - 3.30pm

Wednesday & Thursday

Tutorial:	8.45am - 9.00am
Movement:	9.00am - 9.05am
Period 1:	9.05am - 10.00am
Morning Break:	10.00am - 10.20am
Period 2:	10.20am - 11.15am
Movement:	11.15am - 11.25pm
Period 3:	11.25pm - 12.20pm
Lunch:	12.20pm - 1.15pm
Period 4:	1.15pm - 2.15pm
Afternoon Break:	2.15pm - 2.30pm
Period 5:	2.30pm - 3.30pm

Art exhibition

There is a preview showing of the Identity And A Sense Of Place art exhibition at 5pm tomorrow in Burlington House, Crosby Road North, Waterloo.

The exhibition, which features 2D and 3D work by Y12 BTEC students from the College, will be open daily from 9am to 7pm until May 20.

Students worked alongside international artist, Lubaina Himid MBE, at the Crosby Plaza cinema throughout March to create stunning pieces of work which represent what it means to be a young citizen of Liverpool, or something they could associate with generally.



The week in brief

SVP meet in Nazareth House at 3.30pm tomorrow and their Feed the Homeless initiative continues on Wednesday.

There is a Mass for Y11 at St Peter & Paul's Church on Thursday and the Year 13 Leavers' Ball takes place from 7.30pm on Friday at Formby Hall Golf Club.