

# Heartbeat



Monday, April 23

Issue 27

## Comenius students show they are Hungary to learn

*Back in November, staff and students at the College played host to pupils from Italy and Hungary as part of the Comenius project.*

*Last month, a number of Sixth Form students took part in the return leg of the initiative.*

*In this, the first of two special reports, we discover how RE's Mrs Connor and her students fared as they travelled to Hungary to meet up with some old friends.*

### Monday

This was the first day in school and everybody was very excited to see each other. First, the Deputy Headmaster, Mr Laszlo Masa, opened the week by welcoming us. We then watched a slideshow about famous or interesting bridges from around the world.

During the following workshop, we built two bridges from pasta and glue. We had to build two kinds of bridges; a beautiful one and a stronger one.

There was a competition to see which group could build the strongest bridge. It was a fun task to help us work together and communicate with students from other countries.

After that, we took part in a sightseeing tour of the city and we also climbed the Water Tower. We were then given a test with a lot of questions that took us on a tour of the highlights of Szeged.

### Tuesday

We visited the capital city of Hungary, Budapest. We got off the bus in Heroes' Square where we saw statues of all the important and interesting information about the history of the city. Then we went to a Turkish-style spa.

Later, we visited the Castle of Buda, which has a wonderful view of Pest and



the River Danube.

In the city centre, we had two free hours where we could buy presents and have lunch. Finally, we went home and there was a lively atmosphere on the bus.

### Wednesday

We were in school all day and got to know lots of new people as we were in mixed groups so we could talk to students from different countries.

The topic was Bridges in Communication. One group dealt with verbal communication and we learnt about famous proverbs to do with water.

The other workshop was about non-verbal communication, in which we discovered how people from all over the world communicate through customs.

The last workshop was a very interesting musical experience. We learnt to play a traditional musical instrument called the Jew's Harp. It can be found all over Europe and is used in folk music.

### Thursday

We spent the day in the Kisunagi National Park. We walked in the fresh air and listened to the sounds of the birds and insects.

We enjoyed the view and took many beautiful pictures of the forest and the river. We were tired after the long walk in the warm weather. After that, a group went to the Aqua Park where they relaxed after the exhausting week.

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Everybody had a good time and the slides were amazing. The other group spent their time in Anna Spa, famous for its thermal water.

**Friday**

Our week in Hungary was over. We said our farewells and made for home. Sarah O'Reilly (12D) summed up the feelings of the group by saying: "It was a great experience and privilege to see how people in another country live and be welcomed in to their homes. It also gave me the chance to think about my own life and how lucky I am. We had a really fun time and I would definitely do it again."

**Next week**



*...our students in Italy*

## E-Safety Week

This week, staff and students will focus on E-Safety, writes *History's Mr Gardiner*.

As the use of modern technology to communicate using mobile phones or social networking sites such as Facebook and Twitter becomes more common, it is very important everyone in the College is made aware of the potential dangers of being online.

The week is designed to help pupils recognise that not everyone is who they claim to be online, that information or pictures they send can be seen by anyone and to understand the consequences of cyber bullying.

The week will incorporate PSHE lessons, information posters and useful tips on the flat screens throughout College. In lessons, we will focus on cyber bullying, Internet privacy and understanding the risks online and how to keep safe. It is hoped, using this information, all pupils will discover how they should look after themselves and their friends online. Posters and useful tips on the College flat screens will give students handy hints on how to keep themselves safe and report abuse. The most important piece of advice the students will receive is how to report any E-Safety-related issue inside or outside of College.

Firstly, pupils will be directed to the 'CEOP Report Abuse Button', which can be found at the bottom left hand corner of the school website. This button will take pupils to a website regulated by the Police. Here, pupils will be able to report anything they have come across online that they are concerned about. Secondly, pupils will be reminded they can also speak in confidence to Mrs Doherty, Mrs Wallis or Mr Burke, the College Child Protection Officers, form tutors or teachers. It is hoped E-Safety week will remind students how to be safe online, to be aware of the dangers and how to deal with them.

## News in brief

There is a College Sports Council meeting at 10.30am today. Tomorrow, there are a number of students involved in an Olympic Art Project and on Thursday and Friday, the Mission Impossible Maths Challenge takes place.

## Year 8 Netball team finish runners-up



Congratulations to the Y8 Netball team who finished runners-up in the Merseyside Games. Team coach, Mrs Williams, said the girls could be 'extremely proud' of their excellent achievements throughout this academic year