

FL FANZINE (2012-13)

Editorial

Another school year is gone! It has been just as any other year. You know, nervous breakdowns, funny situations to remember, excitement, time for learning, time for experiencing, time for anything and for nothing depending on the personal view!

Just to comment and highlight the fact that the number of pupils who have chosen German as the second foreign language to learn at school in the 3rd and 4th course of ESO has grown up to 52 all together, which means a significant increase if we compare it to the previous years. Are we thinking of packing suitcases to emigrate☺? If this is the case, go to this link and have a look at it:

<http://www.realsimple.com/work-life/travel/planning/pack-suitcase-0000000002225/index.html>

Unfortunately no course of German has been offered to pupils of *Batxillerat* due to the free competition among optional subjects offered at that level. Students have preferred to choose some other subjects more connected to their future needs and studies at university. However, some of them will continue learning German privately in order to improve their skills in this language which might be very useful for their professional career in the future.

27 pupils have chosen French as the second foreign language at 1st level (ESO) plus 49 more pupils in the following levels. They reach the number of 76 pupils all together. The figures show an increasing interest in the study of foreign languages in our school.

Activities of the foreign language department

Trip to Dublin (Ireland)

Yes, we did! We were there! Once again a group of *Batxillerat's* students decided to take part in our already well-known trip to Ireland. This interesting experience has been offered for over 10 years and we hope it will survive the pressure against it coming from its - few - detractors. It doesn't seem interesting enough for them to consider all the linguistic benefits and motivation that our pupils gain while experiencing life there, while sharing with Irish families for a few days and just getting to know another European country. As a matter of fact a total of 32 pupils enjoyed their stay in the capital of Ireland in February. They experienced the city and visited the Trinity College, where one of the teachers there gave them a talk – as usual – about general features of that famous university.



The pupils were asked to complete a questionnaire which had been previously arranged by their teachers with the aim of allowing them to communicate with their host families. Actually it was a contest and the winners got a gift as reward.



This photo shows one of the groups at school.

They attended classes with native Irish teachers and were able to interact with them in English.



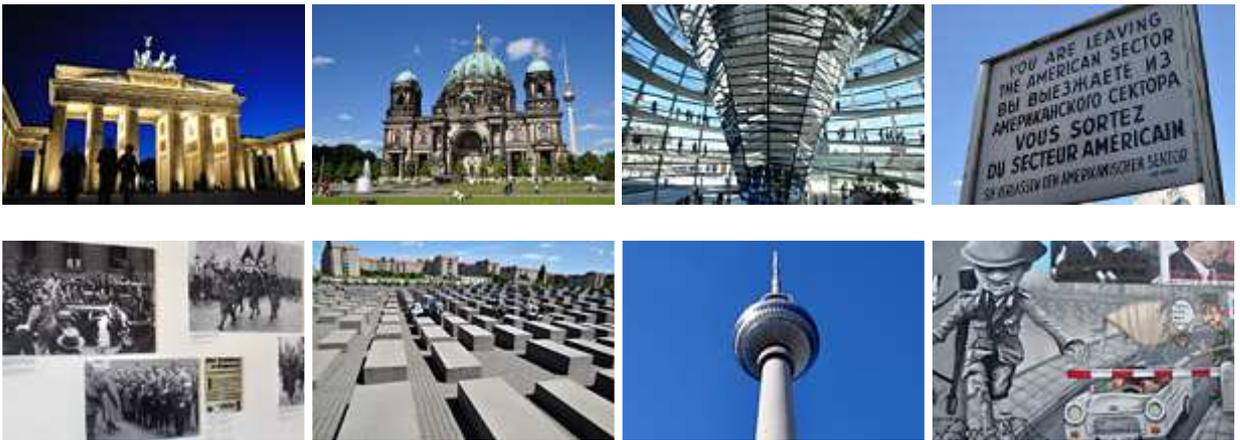
In this picture you can see them having lunch in the school canteen.

We shared the place with Irish pupils.

Did you know that Irish pupils must wear uniforms?

Reise nach Berlin (Trip to Berlin)

Da waren wir auch! (we were also there) As we did two years ago we stayed in the Capital of Germany for five days. It was December and... *natürlich!* we saw snow! It was quite cold but the students of 4th year of ESO had a good time together. We visited the most famous places in town although we should have spent two or three more days to manage to know the city well since it's very big... special visits were: The TV tower (**Fernsehturm**) from where we had an impressive view of the town. Also interesting were the visits to the concentration camp of **Sachsenhausen**, the museum of **Pergamon**, the **Brandenburger Tor** (The Brandenburg Gate), the **Reichstag** (The Parliament), the **Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe** and of course **die Mauer** (the wall).



We learnt something about the history of the country and the Second World War We could state as well some of the differences between the German and the Catalan “way of life” as for example the use of bicycles, the silence and tidiness in the streets.





Views over Berlin from the TV Tower



We paid attention to our guide in *Sachsenhausen*



A newspaper of the war time. No comments!



Here we are in front of the Parliament House.

THE ENGLISH CONTEST THE BIG CHALLENGE



What is The Big Challenge?

The Big Challenge is an English language contest for students between the ages of 11 and 16. It is held every year in May in schools across France, Germany and Spain. In 2012, over 646,000 students with 30,000 teachers from 6,000 schools participated in The Big Challenge. It was created in France in 1999 by a group of English teachers, its main purpose is to motivate students learning languages with an educational yet fun experience.

A new internet tool has been developed: THE BIG CHALLENGE CLUB. The club enables teachers of French, Spanish, German and English to make contact, develop exchanges, plan projects and communicate with classes all over Europe ... it also gives our students the opportunity to find pen pals speaking all these languages.

Our participation this year

109 of our pupils from 1st ESO to 4th ESO have taken part in the contest The Big Challenge. They had to answer a number of questions about the English culture, society and history and also do exercises of vocabulary and grammar.

The pupils who got higher marks were the following ones:

1st ESO: Maria Senabre, Irene Cusiné Neus Montané i Martina Torres 2

2nd ESO: Carles Fernández, Félix Real, Robin Lucas i Elia Casals

3rd ESO: Elisenda Domene, Jeriko Rosetes, Anna Atsarà i Foix Giner.

4th ESO: Ona Alsina, Max Margalef i Pau Senabre

Congratulations!