

## Comenius Project

### Our stay in Thonon-Les-Bains/France

On Saturday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, Mr Kreuzkamp, our deputy head teacher, Friederike Diel and I followed the invitation of the Lycée général technologique LA Versoie in Thonon-Les-Bains.

After a nice and easy-going ICE-journey we were picked up in Geneva by Katia Latournerie, our French partner in Comenius matters. As to our hotel in Thonon-Les Bains, L'arc en ciel, it was a good choice (Thank you, Gudrun) – the rooms comfortable and the breakfast buffet more than extensive not to mention its friendly and forthcoming staff.

The first evening we met Katia's two other colleagues, Laura and Claudia, at an open-air restaurant significantly called "Les pieds dans l'eau", being situated on the river bank of the famous Lac Léman (Lake of Geneva) where we spent a joyful summer evening.



That first night I didn't get too much sleep because of an English group of enthusiastic singers who were absolutely determined to give prove of their "skill" in the middle of the night. When they did it again the other night I humbly asked them to stop and lucky me they did.

On Sunday our French colleagues had planned to have a walk in the mountains and although the weather forecast "promised" rain with a possibility of 98 % we all took the risk because there were nearly no clouds to be seen in the sky and the idea of a mountain tour followed by a picknick was rather tempting.



However!! Suddenly the first rain drops were falling but we had already walked too far, so we couldn't but ignore them. When the rain got worse we sought shelter from the rain under the jutting roof of a lonely barn where we all enjoyed a lovely picknick with baguettes (of course!), delicious sausages and cheese of the Savoian region and ..oh, I forgot the red wine! Well, I admit, we liked that!



In the evening Katia invited us all to dinner at her place where we were offered a splendid meal.

The next morning we hurried to the lycée hoping to meet the headmistress to talk about the Comenius project. Above all, we wanted to take a group photo with the head mistress. But she only had time to say "hello" and that was it, so let's call it "Mission Impossible". Later Claudia welcomed us to her German lesson and we could see that some of the students reminded us of our German students in behavior and abilities.



We had a little time to stroll through that spacious school having a look at a well-equipped library where some of the students were working silently. What struck us most, was the huge screen in the entrance hall giving the students manifold information and serving as a reminder not to forget important dates and deadlines.





On Tuesday Friederike and I took the bus to go to Geneva where we had a wonderful day visiting a lot of sights especially in the old city with its pittoresque buildings.

On Wednesday, the day of our departure, Laura was friendly enough to take us back to the main station in Geneva although it was her day off.

Looking back we would like to thank Laura, Katia and Claudia for having taken care of us during our stay in Thonon-les-Bains and we hope that in November it will be finally possible to get a Comenius group photo.



Agnes Haller