

Erasmus Project – Paris 4th May - 10th May

Ross's Diary

Date	Diary Entry
Day 1 – 4 th May 2017	We met in Mrs Dibnah's room as soon as we arrived at school. Left to go to the station in Perth for the 09:57 train and the 6 hrs train journey to Kings Cross in London. On the train we played card games, played on our phones and ate food. When we arrived in London we saw platform 9 ¾ from Harry Potter, very cool. Then we had a short walk to St Pancras station where we had bread and hot chocolate. We finally boarded the Eurostar and departed at 6:01pm for the 2hr train journey through the channel tunnel to the Gare du Nord station in Paris. We had to put our watches forward an hour when we arrived in Paris. We arrived around 9:20pm and met the families we were staying with. Ben, myself, Gaspare(the dad) and Pamella(the mum) took a taxi to their two storey apartment. We met Fabrizio, had something to eat, face-timed our parents and went to bed. I was very tired and a bit homesick.
Day 2 – 5 th May 2017	When I got up in the morning I had toast and Nutella for breakfast, and freshly squeezed apple juice which was delicious. We took the bus to get to the Saint Victor school (Fabrizio's school). It was a very nice school, it is smaller than Craighlowan and the children do not wear a school uniform. We had breakfast at the school, but I couldn't eat anything as I had eaten so much at Fabrizio's house. All the Erasmus students met in the dining hall and the French Pupils sang to us, it was very nice. After this we went to a classroom, and gave a presentation on making our inventions. My presentation was really hard as none of the children spoke English. After the presentations we went back to the dining hall/gym hall and played the game 'Stuck in the Mud', if someone tigs you, you have to crawl under their legs, which was really good fun. Next we went outside, and the pupils sang to us again in Greek, Italian, Romanian and English. When they finished we launched mini hot air balloons by setting fire to a wick, but only one of the balloons worked. One of the lit wicks almost fell onto one of the teachers!!! We then had lunch and played on the amazing stilts, which were really fun. We must get some at Craighlowan. After lunch we went swimming and then went home to Fabrizio's apartment. At night we had dinner with the family, played with Fabrizio's Nintendo Switch and went to bed. It was a great day.
Day 3 – 6 th May 2017	After getting up and having breakfast we took the metro to the Museum of inventors, (arts et metiers). When all the Erasmus students arrived we went in to view all the amazing inventions. My favourite was the space section as I love space. We saw satellites, a space rover, a robot dog and many other exciting inventions. We went to the gift shop and I bought a magnetic construction kit. After the museum we all went for lunch, I had a cheese and ham toastie. Gaspare (the dad) came to meet us and we (Ben, I and Gaspare) took the metro back to the apartment. It turned out it was Fabrizio's birthday and we went to his birthday party. He was turning 10 years old. The party was in a school, we played lots of really cool games such as 'Just Dance'. We had chocolate birthday cake. We went back to the apartment late and spoke to our families and went to bed. Very tiring but another great day.
Day 4 – 7 th May 2017	Today we went to the Louvre. Ben and I took the bus with Gaspare to the Louvre to meet Mrs Dibnah. When we arrived it was slightly raining. When we got inside the Louvre the first thing we went to see was the Mona Lisa. Which was smaller than you would expect

	<p>and there was a huge crowd of people trying to see it. When we finally barged through to the front we took loads and loads of photos. We saw loads of really big paintings and then sculptures of Greek and Egyptian statues which were really cool. We saw a room of old American artefacts like the huge stone face in the film, 'The Night in the Museum'. We went to the gift shop and found everything was really, really expensive. Ben and I bought Fabrizio a Rubiks cube with pictures of 'The Mona Lisa', on it , for his birthday. After the Louvre, we went back to the apartment by bus. We had chicken for dinner, and celebrated Emmanuel Macron becoming the new French President. The family were very happy. We played with Fabrizio and his friend Rafael. We played some music and sang together. We went to bed after talking to our families. Great day.</p>
Day 5 – 8 th May 2017	<p>We went into Paris and met at Pont Neuf, which is the oldest standing bridge across the river Seine in Paris. We saw a lock bridge, with lots of padlocks, We took a boat trip to the Eiffel Tower, saw the Notre Dame Cathedral. On the bridges there were really cool statues of people. When we got off the boat. We went to a café. Just outside of the café we saw a huge parade of royal soldiers on horseback. To celebrate the World War II victory day. We saw the Arc de Triomphe and were going to go up this but unfortunately it was closed. At the Arc de Triomphe we also saw 'The Eternal Flame', the flame of remembrance for all the soldiers who died for France, and the 'Tomb of The Unknown Soldier'. We went to an opera house but it was closed. At night we all went out for some delicious crepes, I had a cheese and ham one followed by a chocolate one, and I got it all over my thumb. After Crepes, Gaspare and Fabrizio took us back to the apartment and we went to bed. What another fantastic day.</p>
Day 6 – 9 th May 2017	<p>Today we went to Monet's garden. We took the Metro. We saw loads of really beautiful flowers, it was the biggest garden I have ever seen and it was really busy as there were loads of people, wanting to see the Garden. We walked round all the flowers, some of the paths were closed unfortunately, so we could not get close to some of the flowers. We saw really cute chickens when we were walking to Monet's house. We went into Monet's house which was really big and filled with his paintings. There were so many people in the house that we almost got lost. We got to see his kitchen, bedroom and office. We then took the 2 minute walk to his lily garden. There was loads of bamboo on one of the islands, which I thought was strange. We saw the famous bridge and all the water lilies in the pond, which he painted in one of his famous pictures. It was really beautiful. At the gift shop we bought gifts for our families. When we got back to the apartment, the family took Ben and I to a small park , where we had Pizza and played on their scooters. When we got back to the apartment, we played the drums and we made a wee band. We also gave each other some gifts to say thankyou for having us. It was great fun. It was a great day.</p>
Day 7 – 10 th May 2017	<p>We woke up and were in a hurry as we needed to get to the station to get our train home. After breakfast we said our goodbyes and the family took us by metro to Gare Du Nord where Mrs Dibnah was waiting for us. We started our 2 hr Eurostar journey back to London St Pancras around 9:15am. After arriving at St Pancras, we walked back to Kings Cross to catch our train back to Perth. On the train we played on our phones, chatted and bought some food and drinks. When we arrived at Perth station, our families were waiting to take us home and I was really excited to see my mum and dad, but very tired too. It was an amazing trip. I really loved it. I am very, very lucky to have been picked to go.</p>