

ITALY'S TURN

by Federica Bacchini, 21

The fourth meeting of the Comenius project "Bridges" was held in Italy. From the 1st to the 5th of May students from Sweden, Poland, Germany, Romania and Greece came here to our school.

Some of our families gave hospitality to these boys and girls and mine was one of them. I hosted Lorena, a girl who lives in Romania.

1ST MAY - SUNDAY:

5.45 pm: Mr. Mineri phoned us and said that the Romanian girls were coming to Treviglio station after a long day in Milan with their teachers.

6.00 pm: We finally met them and I was very excited to meet Lorena. My mum and I gave a lift to two of her teachers to take them to the Verri hotel in Caravaggio.

7.30 pm: Lorena was very hungry, so we immediately prepared dinner; she had told me that when she came to Italy, she wanted to try our cuisine, so we ate spaghetti with tomato sauce and tiramisù.

9.00 pm: We went out with some friends of mine and we ate a good ice-cream, then we had a walk in Caravaggio and finally we went home.

2ND MAY - MONDAY:

6.45 am: We got up and we had milk and biscuits for breakfast.

8.00 am: We arrived at school on foot and we participated in a very beautiful welcome party where some Italian students played the Italian national anthem and other international songs.

9.00 am: The foreign students were given a guided tour of our school and the Italian students attended their lessons regularly.

10.00 am: We did Rio Abierto taught by Mr. Belotti. It is a kind of sport where you can relax your body and we enjoyed ourselves very much.

12.00: After some refreshments, we went for a walk in the old town of Caravaggio. We saw the Town Hall square, the square with the church of St. Fermo and Rustico, the Sanctuary avenue with St. Bernardino's church and then we went back to school.

2.00 p.m.: Lorena and I went home where my mum prepared Lasagne.

3.00 p.m.: Lorena, two friends of mine, my mum and I went to Cremona. We saw



the cathedral and the baptistery and then we went to the top of the Torrazzo, the tallest bell tower in Europe. We ate an ice-cream because Lorena likes sweets very much. After that,



we also went to the Po river and we quickly took some photos because it was starting to rain.

8.00 p.m.: We arrived home and Lorena and I prepared dinner together. We had Casoncelli alla Bergamasca for dinner and for dessert we opened a Colomba (“Easter dove” in English), a traditional Easter cake in Italy.

3RD MAY - TUESDAY:

7.45 am: After we had woken up and had breakfast, we went to school where a coach was waiting for the foreign students and the students of 2A and 2F to take them to Montisola, a place near Lake Iseo.

5.30 pm: I went to school to pick up Lorena, who came back from Montisola and with my friend Ludovica and her guest Karolina we went to the Sanctuary of Caravaggio. There we visited the big church telling them something about the past of this place.

7.00 pm: Before having dinner, I introduced Lorena to my grandmothers and to my grandfather and they were very happy to meet this nice girl.

8.00 pm: We had tricolour pasta (pasta with pesto, plain pasta, and pasta with tomato sauce) for dinner and then we started to get ready to go to Sale&Brasa.

9.00 pm: We arrived there and we had a good time with a lot of friends from our school and their guests until 11.00 o'clock.



4TH MAY - WEDNESDAY:

8.00 am: We went to school and in the first two hours we played Bingo in our classroom with Mrs. Spatari. There were lots of prizes and it was a very good way to get to know each other well.

10.00 am: All the students gave their presentations about singers/bands from each foreign country who sing in English.

12.00: We went to the Town Hall where the mayor of Caravaggio and the school head teacher spoke to the foreign students and teachers welcoming them to our town: Caravaggio.

1.45 pm: After we had eaten at the station of Caravaggio, we caught the train which took us to Bergamo. We went to the upper town on foot, and after this tiring walk, a guide told us something interesting about the town of Bergamo.



6.50 p.m.: We took the train and we arrived in Treviglio accompanied by Mr. Mineri.

8.00 p.m.: We ate pizza, an Italian traditional dish that Lorena wanted to try very soon!

5TH MAY - THURSDAY:

5.00 am: We woke up!

6.00 am: We went to the car park opposite the school where two coaches took the foreign students and teachers and the students of 2G and 2I to Venice.

10.00 am: We arrived in Venice and we took the ferry boat to St Mark's square. We saw this square, the bridge of Sighs, the



Rialto bridge and the church of Santi Giovanni e Paolo.

2.00 pm: We took the ferry boat again and we visited Murano island, famous for its glass making. There, each one could visit a glass furnace and see how they work with glass, buy some souvenirs,

have an ice-cream or simply have a walk.

4.30 pm: We took our coach that took us back home after a very nice day together.

8.30 pm: We arrived home and we were very tired, we said goodbye to Lorena, who was very sad.



6TH MAY - FRIDAY:

5.30 am: We woke up to take Lorena and other Romanian people to the airport in Orio al Serio.

During the week we took lots of pictures as memories and during all the trips I had the opportunity of getting to know and speaking to other foreign students, from the Greeks to the Germans, from the Swedes to the Poles and from the Romanians to the Italians!!

I think that this was a very beautiful experience that our teachers gave us. In this way we managed to improve our English and practise what we have been studying in these past two years.

Now I think we are more fluent than before and I hope that there will be other similar experiences in the next years.

So, saying thanks to all the teachers isn't enough: fantastic organization, original trips and a great deal of goodwill.

Federica Bacchini 2I