

## Beatles Story Museum.

My exchange partner, Ines, knew lots of Beatles songs. In fact they sang them at the Welcome Concert. I found out that the Beatles were all from Liverpool and started off by performing concerts in Germany. I liked listening to the music.

Abi Rogers



## Ready Estable Cook Event

Mr Charruau organised the cooking event. First we went shopping for the ingredients at Sainsbury's. It was interesting to see the differing cooking talents from different countries. I liked the Spanish tortillas and also the spicy chorizo.

Molly Chamley



## DART Gallery - practical art session for Finnish and DACA students

Miss Jackman allowed us to view the DART gallery (both the shop area and the resource centre upstairs) I was surprised at how big it was thinking it was only a small shop from the outside.

There were some wonderful artistic pieces on display in the shop – There are some good artists at DACA. We made postcards to give to our exchange partners and also to send home.

Miss Richards



## HELSINKI, FINLAND May 23 – 27, 2011

### My Stay with my exchange partner

I stayed with Jessie.

For breakfast I ate rice crispies and pizza and drank fresh orange juice.

We went to Helsinki to a concert.

I found that everything is upstairs in the houses and they love saunas

Sam Fleming

### Swimming and Saunas

The outdoor lakeside swimming and sauna was a great experience and something I had never done before. The water was very cold and a big shock after being in the sauna. It seemed part of a healthy lifestyle in Finland.

Ethan Riley

### Helsinki European Exchange Welcome Concert

It was fun and we all enjoyed the concert. The acts were excellent and it was very well-organised. DACA created a video and gave a short musical performance. There were songs, musical recitals, juggling acts, joint singing and a rock band. Europe's got talent!

John Quin

### Our Day in Helsinki

I went with my exchange partner, Marleena, and we all had a really good day. We tried new foods and visited different sights. We visited the birthplace of Sibelius (Finland's most famous composer) the Ataneum art museum, Helsinki cathedral and the President's residential area.

### Baseball Match

In Finland we went to see a Finnish baseball match (or in Finnish Pesapallo). It was quite hard to understand and spectators take the match very seriously. It was an interesting experience and fascinating to see the cultural differences between our countries.

Alfie O'Rourke

*Thanks to Mr Turner and Miss Smith for making our trip special.*

*Thanks to all DACA staff involved including Mr Pugh, Mr Charruau, Ms Richards, Ms Smith, Mr A Turner.*

*Merci aux profs du 'Collège Joliot Curie', surtout Melle Emilie Farges, Cecile, Maria et Evelyn.*

*Gracias a Conservatorio Profesional de Musica Xan Viano, especialmente Senoritas Sabariz y Garcia*

*Kiitos School of Harkavehmas, especially Jarkko Hemminki*

*Thanks to all staff at Abbey Middle School especially Ms Goodsell.*





# DACA *International*

## Darwen Aldridge Community Academy

**DACA continues to extend its reputation on an international scale. In this magazine pupils who have been involved in exchanges with our partner schools in France, Spain and Finland and in Pershore, Worcestershire write about their experiences.**

**PARIS, FRANCE**

Collège Joliot Curie, Paris hosted pupils from DACA, Abbey Middle School (UK) and School of Harkavehmas (FINLAND) from December 1st – 7th 2010

The exchanges were formed in September with pupils corresponding via letter and email with their French partners. After this it was time for 25 year 8 pupils to visit their partners in Paris. As well as staying with their French partners’ families, DACA pupils experienced many delights that wonderful Paris has to offer. Here are some reports on the visit.

**Planes, Trains & Metro! Darwen to Paris**

We went to airport by coach and then got the plane- Manchester airport was very big but the flight was very short . The underground trains in Paris were great though you have to be quick or you miss them.

Robin Ellison



**At school College Joliot Curie**

**We were able to visit our exchange partner’s lessons. My exchange partner is called Lucy and her favourite lesson is English.**

The best lesson was English where we mimed and played language games in circles with Miss Farges, (the English teacher at College Joliot Curie)

The school in Paris was very different to the one in England. Each lesson lasts 30 minutes and they have breaks in the morning, at dinner and in the afternoon. After eating lunch they have an hour to go to clubs and use the library. They are very good at English and have pen friends in America too.

They finish school late and this changes – One day may finish at 4pm another day may finish at 6pm.

Ella McLeod

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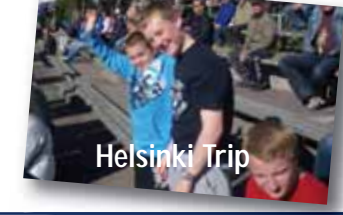
Ewood Park Visit

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Beatles Story Museum

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Helsinki Trip



UK



France

Comenius European Exchange Programme



Finland



Spain

## Paris European Exchange Welcome Concert

**We went to a Town Hall in Fontenay (Paris) and watched our French exchange partners do role-plays and songs in English.**

DACA pupils sang songs and read paragraphs about famous French people. There was an animated cartoon video created by our Finnish partners. All the Paris parents were there and even the mayor making the evening a special celebration for the different countries involved.

Mr Charruau



## Montmartre

When I went to Paris one of the places I visited was Montmartre – it was very big. First we took the metro underground train to a place called Pigalle and we walked up a billion steps to the top. It was a fantastic view- I saw the whole of Paris and took loads of photos.

Emily Aspden



## Cité de la Musique music workshop

On the 3rd December 2010 in the afternoon we went to 'Cité de la Musique'. It was a good afternoon – we were placed into 2 groups and the best part was playing the instruments. My favourite instrument was the drums. Also whilst we were there we went round and looked at instruments through time.

Georgia Cooper

## Day in Paris

In Paris I really liked staying with my partner and it was fun to visit the Eiffel Tower and to see the Mona Lisa - It was a really good experience.

Adam McPhee



## DARWEN, UK

May 23 – 27, 2011

Darwen Aldridge Community Academy welcomed pupils from Collège Joliot Curie, Paris (FRANCE), Conservatorio Profesional de Musica Xan Viano (SPAIN), School of Harkavehmas (FINLAND) and Abbey Middle School(UK) from March 16th – 22nd 2011.

## My Stay with my exchange partner in Darwen

I did a French exchange with my partner called Tanya Early (she lives in Paris and has Scottish relations) She stayed for 5 nights. We ate some traditional English meals. On the Saturday evening we ate Indian and Chinese meals and invited 2 other French students and their hosts. Tanya enjoyed visiting Liverpool including the Beatles museums. We enjoyed meeting each other and will be staying with each other again in the future.

Megan Nowell

## Entrepreneurship team -building event

**The international exchange programme was a great way to learn about different cultures and people. Mr Midgley and Miss McNeil led the entrepreneurial team-building event which took place in DACA's drama theatre.**

It was a great way to get to know some of the other exchange pupils from the different countries – We were in groups involving different pupils from different countries.

One activity involved us drawing chickens which we sold for 'money'. Another included building a tall structure made out of anything we could find without it falling over.

This was a great experience and I would love to do it again as I'm sure our French partners would too.

Saskia-Mae Kuczer

## DACA European Welcome Concert

The welcome concert involved pupils from all DACA partner school countries (Spain, France, Finland, and Abbey Middle School Worcestershire). It took place in DACA's impressive drama studio and it was wonderful to see so many parents present.

Mr Loughran introduced the concert thanking all the international teachers, pupils and parents of participating DACA pupils for their great efforts in making the exchange happen.

Spanish students gave wonderful piano, oboe and violin recitals whilst our French partners sang songs in English together. Finland had produced an excellent 'fly on the wall' video of their school near Helsinki. Charlotte Noble sang a piece from 'Les Miserables' and Miss Smith guided us in our samba performance. Miss Coy organised our excellent dance partners for a demonstration.

It was a great way to start the exchange week here at DACA.

Mr Pugh



## Visit to Imperial War Museum

The Imperial War Museum was close to Old Trafford.

It was very big and I liked the big hall where the cinema reels were shown all round you.

There were lots of interactive features around the museum. We did these with our French partners who understood them well with some help from us. We also were able to see a demonstration of the soldiers uniform and were able to wear the caps.

It was interesting to find about other countries' involvement in the wars especially as we are visiting/learning about those countries with the Exchange Programme.

Kelsey Gudgeon



## Old Trafford Stadium visit

**I enjoyed the Old Trafford visit. We visited the changing rooms and saw all the shirts.**

We saw where Becks met his wife Posh and were also able to line up and walk out of the tunnel. The stadium was very big. The museum visit was excellent as I was able to see lots of trophies and information about clubs from all over the world.

My exchange partner, Solal, thought it was excellent.

Oliver McHugh



## Blackburn FC Ewood Park

We all went on a coach to Ewood Park.

Our guide for the day, Catherine, split us into 2 groups – We were able to explore the ground, changing rooms, the tunnel, the stands. We took photos and then made them into a DVD. The most interesting part was being able to interview one of Blackburn's French players in French and have photos in the press box and of course seeing all of Blackburn's trophies – I didn't know there were so many!

Miles Beckingham-Burgess

