Three days in London 2010- A combined report by Lukas, Nils, Maren and others of 10b

The great trip started in the evening of Monday, 15th at 8:45 p.m. .We drove through the night and we tried to sleep. But I think I only slept for one minute because the bus was a bit too small for me.

The next morning we reached Calais harbour at 4:20 a.m. There we had to get up and out for the passport control. Then we saw "our" ferry leave and we had to wait for nearly 2 hours for the next one. (We hadn't been told that the departure times had changed.)

Crossing the Channel was not very exciting. Only the view to the White Cliffs of Dover, that some of us were enjoying from one of the outer decks, was awesome.

From Dover we went by bus on country roads to Greenwich Park.

The first thing we did was walking to the Royal Greenwich Observatory. From there we had a great view, because it is on a hill. We saw the Millenium Dome, the River Thames and the Docklands with its big buildings.

From there we walked through the Thomas Tunnel and took the DLR to the City. We looked at the Tower of London first. We had some free time, so my friends and I looked at Tower Bridge. It was great to walk across it.

Then we went by tube to Westminster Station in front of Big Ben and had a look at it and even listened to the sound of the bell that you can hear every quarter of an hour. The members of the group could make the decision if they wanted to spend their time in Westminster Abbey or at one of the shopping streets of London. So most of our group decided to visit the shopping street and just a handful visited the church. After that we went back to the coach and drove to a meeting point where we met our host families. Unfortunately an accident had happened on that way, so we needed to take turns and search for another way to the parking ground where the host families were already waiting for us. Finally we were introduced to them, were driven to their house and went to bed soon. We had very nice hosts: a mother with her daughter. The food was all right, but the only bad thing was M.'s snoring, which was as loud as the British tanks in Augustdorf.

On the second day we did a sightseeing tour with an Austrian tour guide. It was very informative and we saw Trafalgar Square and Buckingham Palace with the Changing of the Guard. After a short lunch break we met all the group again at Mme. Tussaud's. It was absolutely mind-blowing, you haven't seen the difference between a wax figure and a real human being. Me and some of my friend went through there pretty quickly, because we needed the time to get to Camden Market. I think this place was made by God father. At the end of the day we wanted to go back to our hosts, but caused by a black out in all London the tubes weren't able to run and some of the 9<sup>th</sup> classes needed to take a walk to the bus and so we had a delay of 2 hours.

On the last day we had to get up quite a bit earlier because the baggage had to be put onto the coach. Later we got splitted: One group went to the London Eye and flew with it, went shopping in Oxford Street and Piccadilly Circus and later visited the National History Museum. The other group visited the National Gallery of Art where they had an interesting look at famous paintings and later we went to the London Dungeon. It is not as horrible as it was promised, it is more a badly played trip through the brutal side of London in the past centuries. If you go to London, do not go in there it is a waste of time.

The only funny thing was when 2 boys bought a rubber hand which looked like it had been ripped out of your arm. So they made fun with the people in our environment while throwing the hand away and shouting...

At the end of this day we all were wet and tired. So we all were happy to be on the bus again and able to sleep, so the journey back was not as exhausting as imagined.

The next morning at 7 o'clock we arrived at the car park in Augustdorf and were picked up by our own families.

All in all it was an absolutely amazing trip with a lot of exciting moments and I bet everyone would be happy and would be ready to go on a trip to London for one more time.