



NEWSLETTER 7

A week in Finland - THURSDAY

An Italian Student writes about her experience

The travel was quite tiring and long. When we arrived to Vasa our hosts were waiting for us and they took us at their houses. The landscape was completely white: there was the snow everywhere!

Wednesday 24

In the morning we went to school and we had the presentations of the sound level and of the soundscapes.

At 11 a.m. we had lunch in the canteen; then we met our groups to continue the workshop which we had started yesterday. I worked in the art room with my new friends and I "painted" the sound: it was exciting and relaxing. Imma and I also created a mobile with wood and pottery. We had a lot of fun during this activity.

At 3 p.m. we met the other groups in the gym hall and we discussed about our different works. Then I came home with Fanny. We had dinner with her family and two hosts.

At 6 p.m. we went on foot to the gym next to her house and we had a spinning lesson: I really enjoyed it even though it was a bit tiring.

At 7 p.m. we got home and we stayed with her parents, who are really kind and welcoming.

Finally I went to bed early because I was so tired!

By Antonella Cieri, Italy

Teachers' meeting

The teachers met this morning to speak about the City Rings project. They talked about the activities that have been carried out so far and they also dealt with what the teachers and students will do next year.

The project has been going really well since the first meeting was held in Bergen in September 2015. The students have taken part in very interesting activities in Vaasa and their work has been really good!

2016 and 2017 will be hectic years, too. Several new issues will be studied by the students and their teachers, such as sound and science, sound and law, sound planning in the city and sound changes in history. Besides, in about a year, another multinational meeting will take place. Indeed the students from our six countries will meet and work in Waregem in March 2017.

School in Finland

This morning our students attended two classes at Vasa övningsskola. It is always very interesting to do so when you go to another country as the way the pupils are taught can be so different from the way they are taught in your country.



Actually the foreign teachers and students often notice that the Finnish students are quite independent. There are various places where they can work on their own and they are sometimes given tasks that they have to fulfill without their teachers.

Quite a lot of students also said that the school is rather quiet. You seldom hear anybody shouting or running in the corridors, as a result the school sounds really peaceful.

Eureka!

Do plants enjoy music? Does it have an effect on their growth? In the 1970s experiments were carried out to know if music would have an effect on plants. Find out whether playing rock music makes your plants stronger by visiting the following website:

http://www.dovesong.com/positive_music/plant_experiments.asp

Sound art

Amie Slavin is a British artist who works in the audio medium. She says that 'a sound can trigger a million mind images' and 'can make her audience laugh, cry and think.'

To know more about her, visit her website:

<http://www.amieslavin.co.uk>

In a word

HUM /hʌm/ (n)

A low, steady continuous sound.

The hum of insects

Sign language

One of Tuesday's workshops was about sign language, a language which chiefly uses manual communication and body language to convey meaning, as opposed to acoustically conveyed sound patterns.

No doubt you will find what word is spelt here:



To learn more:

<http://www.lifeprint.com/asl101/pages-layout/concepts.htm>

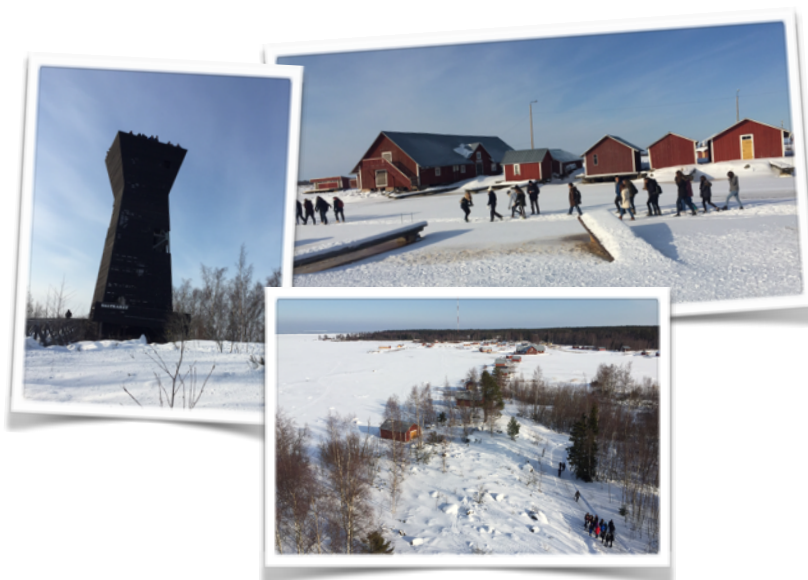
The Kvarken Archipelago

At midday we took buses to go to the Natural Heritage Sight of the Kvarken Archipelago. In summer, one can see lots of small islands, but in the middle of winter, it looks like a huge ocean of snow. A fabulous landscape!



In 2006, parts of the Kvarken Archipelago were added as an extension to the World Heritage Site of the High Coast (located on the western shore of the Gulf of Bothnia) in Sweden, because it is "continuously rising from the sea in a process of rapid glacio-isostatic uplift, whereby the land, previously weighed down under the weight of a glacier, lifts at rates that are among the highest in the world.

To learn more about this fantastic place, you can visit the following site: <http://www.kvarkenworldheritage.fi/visit-kvarken/>



Ice-Hockey

Tonight some of the students and teachers attended a match of ice-hockey that was won by the local team (4-0)!

