

Sustain News By Montmajour





Montmajour students present: SUSTAIN.ME NEEDS YOU



The Erasmus German meeting from May 7th to 13th 2017

Students from five countries, Belgium, France, Germany, Italy and Spain, met in Hamburg for a week to discuss clothes recycling and fair trade.



"Cotton made in Africa" is a small German company which helps the African farmers in the cotton business. Miss Stridde, a member of this company, came to talk about how they do their best to improve their life conditions, educate children in school or employ more women in this field. They have no right to use irrigation, GMOs or the most toxic pesticides. They have a lot of partners who sell clothes with their label, like Asos, Jack&Jones, Tchibo or Otto.

Eloise V. - 1S2





ERASMUS + Editorial staff : Athéna, Eloise, Léonie, Tanguy, Thomas, and Youssra.



The visits of the week!

Fair trade Shops

On Wednesday, we went to a shop named **Marlowe** which sells sustainable clothes, bags and cosmestics for men and women. The clothes are made with recycled materials but also with products which come from organic cotton, for example, and fair trade labels. The prices are more expensive but it's also more sustainable!

Then, we visited other shops like **Tashen-dealer** which does upcycling by using materials which come from a motorbike shop, like tyres, to make bags.

Spenda Bel is a shop held by people who were formerly unemployed. They collect donations. Those who want to buy something need to have a card that says they are a person in





need. There you can buy clothes, electronic stuff, dishes or even books. It's a great place which has existed for 15 years now!

Tanguy A. and Léonie L. - 1S2



The Red Cross

On Thursday, we went to the Red Cross. We visited one of the warehouses where they store all the materials used in case of a disaster, mostly in Germany.

Then we saw another one which





It was really interesting to see concretely what they can do. They also have a clothes shop where everybody can come and buy clothes. You pay 12 euros per kilo and every year they receive about 20 tons of second hand clothes but they only resell less than half. All these clothes come from clothes containers in the street. After this we went to the beach on the Elbe to picnic, it was cool!

Tanguy A. and Léonie L. - 1S2



Canoeing and Workshops



Enjoying Hamburg

On Tuesday, we visited the sustainable neighborhood by canoe. To our mind, that was the best activity of our journey!

During this, we were separated in two groups. While one was drawing in a park next to the river, the others, led by a member of the park's staff, discovered a new way to live thanks to sustainable houses.

The walls of these houses were made with two panels of glass, inside of which were growing algea. These plants use photosynthesis to produce heat and electricity. On the walls, there were some solar panels, in which water was constantly flowing, and heated up.

We had to cross the road while carrying the boats, which was very funny. During this trip, we also had the opportunity to see a little bit of the landscape.

Youssra L.-1L1, Thomas B. and Eloise V. - 1S2



Enjoying workshops!

During our journey, we organized different workshops. We were separated in small groups according to our preferences.

- The up-cycling workshop consisted in recycling old jeans into small bags (for pencils or toothbrushes). Each one of us was asked to bring some jeans with us.
- Others were making badges, with our logo, to distribute and to wear during the week.
- 3. One small group went outside and filmed themselves to make people aware of sustainability. There was also another group of 2nd in Montmajour who made an awesome vine about it called « Men in Green ».
- 4. In the art workshop, we made drawings and constructions to hang up in the school. We wanted to convey the message of sustainability to the German students.
- 5. The French students had prepared presentations to teach younger students about sustainability. Some of the German students came with us to help. We talked about renewable energy, food, water etc.

6. Before our week in Germany, 26 students of each country answered a survey about our clothes and make up. We saw that Germany and France were the biggest consumers of brands which don't detox and use child labour, so are not sustainable!

Athéna H. - 1L1



What did we learn? What did we change in our lives? What is still to be done?

Child Labour Conference

On the second day, Samia Kassid came to talk about child labour, especially in the countries where clothes are produced. She also talked about the working conditions of children and how they were treated in the industry.

Then she presented the children's rights, which are not respected, mostly in Asia and Latin America where there is also a lot of so-called invisible work. Indeed, many children want to work in order to help their family or just to try to live by themselves, but it prevents them from getting an education. These children are even more underpaid than their parents. A law in Ecuador allows children to work from the age of 10. Ms Kassid didn't seem very enthusiastic about it.

In a nutshell, this speech was very interesting and we learnt a lot about the working conditions and the "real price" of our clothes.

Youssra. L-1L1

Business in English

On Friday morning, Mr Fedderson explained to us how we should act if we want to get a job. He showed us how some of the companies recruit their employees in Germany. He even did a "fake" job interview during which he asked questions to a student, to see what was good to change or not.

In my opinion, it was very instructive and interesting to have the advice of an employer on the importance of English and other skills, such as having mastered Excel.



Thomas B. - 1S2



Don't forget to be sustainable in your own life and ...

Happy Holiday!
See you next year!

Drawings and by Léonie L. - IS2

In conclusion...

During this week we learnt a lot of things about clothes like child labour, the danger of chemicals used in clothing but also about sustainable labels.

We did interesting workshops like upcycling jeans or making our own moisturizer. We had a lot of fun making vines and meeting new people. We will definitely stay in contact.



The next meeting will be in Rome and will deal with sustainable tourism.

Tanguy A. and Léonie L.-1 - 1S2



