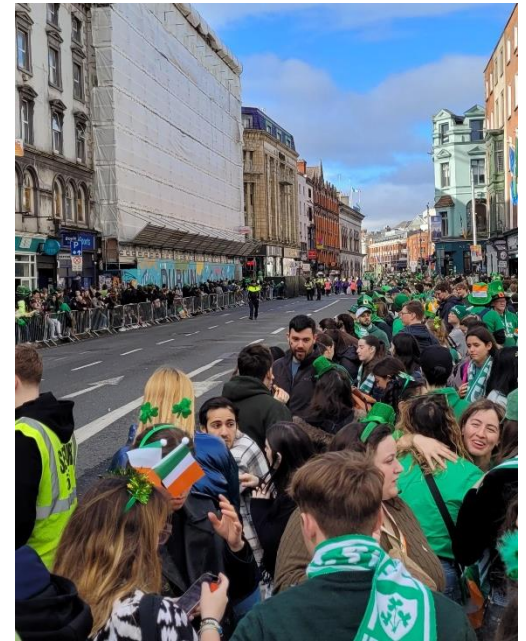


On March 17th everyone was celebrating St Patrick's day. It is a very special day in Ireland as it is a celebration of the Irish culture. The Irish people call it Paddy's day. The Friday before St Patrick's day I went to Dublin with my friends after school to get something green to wear. We got jumpers, make up and headbands. The next day my friends came over to my house for a sleepover so that we could leave early enough the next day to go into Dublin and see the famous



parade. We left the house around 8am the next morning and got the bus into Dublin. It wasn't that busy at the beginning but as it got later there were more and more people. The parade started at 12pm and took about two hours.



My friends and I were really lucky because we got a space right at the front of the barrier so we could see perfectly. We also had good weather. The sun was shining the whole time so it wasn't too cold. Besides the Irish people there were also a lot of people from other countries watching the parade especially many Spanish. In the parade there was a lot of music groups playing the bagpipes, the drums and many wind instruments or groups that were performing dancing while swinging flags. There were also groups of firefighters, the Garda (police) and the Army marching in the parade. The atmosphere during the parade was very good as everyone had a good time and enjoyed watching it. I think if you are in Ireland during St Patrick's day it's an obligation to go and see the parade in Dublin. After the parade was over my friends and I

went to get something to eat and then we got the train back home. It was really a nice day and definitely a good experience.



The day after St Patrick's was a Bank Holiday and we didn't have school. I went to Wicklow with two Spanish friends to do a Cliff walk. In the middle of the walk it started to rain quite heavy so we got soaked on the way back. We walked into the town and had Pizza for dinner. We were all exhausted from all the walking so we went home after we finished our dinner. We had a good time though.



With school we went to Kilmainham jail in Dublin. A women working there was guiding us through the jail and the museum and told us about the history of it. There were men, women and even children imprisoned there mostly for ordinary crimes but some were also political prisoners that were involved in Ireland's struggle for independence from England.

After the jail me and some friends went to Phoenix Park which is the biggest park in Europe. We we're hoping to see the deers which can sometimes be seen in the park. They are not locked in but roam free where ever they want and as the park is huge it's not certain whether you'll see them or not. But we were lucky and we saw lots of them. It was nice to watch them and I liked that they were so near to us.

All in all March was a very busy but nice month and I'm looking forward to my last two month here.

