

Irene Ramiro Artero
1º B Bach.
6 April – 16 April

EXCHANGE DIARY

Saturday 5 April

Tomorrow is the day. I have already prepared everything. We have waited for this trip since February, when the Dutch people were here. I'm looking forward to see them. Tomorrow, at this hour, I will be in another house, with an other family and in other country, but with my friends! It's amazing!

Sunday 6 April

We met at school at 6:15 in the morning and we went gone to the Barajas airport. I arrived at Schiphol airport (Amsterdam) at 11.25. The flight was good. We are in Holland! I can't believe it yet! We arrived at Almere centre station and my Dutch family came to pick me up and they take me home. It's very big, there are three floors and my bedroom is on the third.

In the afternoon we went to a skate park and we met with all the people of the exchange, I missed them and then we were together again. Then we went to my prost family's house, where my partner Anne had prepared a welcome party.



Monday 7 April

Today has been the first day in the "Baken Park Lyceum". It's a fantastic school! All is new, the classes are big, there are a lot of lockers, all the corridors are decorated with drawings, students works...it's very nice.

At 11:00 we took our bikes and we went for a cycling tour through Almere. We've seen the lake, and the Almere centre. We've eaten some free ice creams, delicious! At 2:00 in Spain we're usually having lunch, but here, at 12:00 we've already had it! We went to "Omroep Flevoland", it's like a zoo where there are exotic animals.

In the afternoon we stayed at home with my family and at 7:00 we were having dinner. We've finished we went to the centre, to a very famous bar in Almere: Le Baron.

Tuesday 8 April



In the morning we had our usual morning briefing all the Alcorcón group, to talk with Angelica and Javier. Then we had international lessons and cultural workshops. I had science experiments with Ismael. It's very interesting. Later I had streetdance with Paula, Silvia and Lucia. The teacher was Melvin, and he taught us a very funny choreography. In the afternoon we went to Amsterdam. Although it was raining, we could visit some of the

important places like the red-light district or the Dam square. I liked the buildings very much, all the houses are very narrow and the canals are very beautiful. Like almost all the days, we went to Le Baron and there we met with the Lleida's people and Rubi's people. They are very nice.

Wednesday 9 April



Today we've had an excursion. We've been to Arnhem. It's a very small town with a traditional villages and some actors show you the routines of the a old Dutch country side. It's a very beautiful place with mills. Very typical!

In the afternoon part of the group went to a boat-restaurant with a view to the sea where we had some salad and sweet crêpes.

Thursday 10 April

Today at school we've done activities like on Tuesday, but this time I had biology (a little bit bored) and salsa dance. I liked this class a lot! And at the end of the lesson I danced with the teacher! It was really fun! At 14:00 we saw a movie: Juno. It was in English with Dutch subtitles, but I understood enough to follow the plot. I spent the afternoon at home connected in the computer to hotmail and I've talked with my family and friends. In the evening we went to Le Baron, as usual.

Friday 11 April

In the morning we had an excursion to Haarlem. We visited the Frans Hals Museum. I didn't like it very much, because the guide only showed us rooms of the house and we could only see a few paintings. But the town was very beautiful.

Later we went to a very big beach (Zandvoort). I liked it a lot, because normally I don't go to the beach in spring. This excursion gave us to talk with Lleida' s people. Now we are very friends! In the evening we had a International Party where all the countries made a performance. The Alcorcón group danced "Chiqui-Chiqui". Until twelve o'clock, we stayed in the school dancing. It was a very complete day.



Saturday 12 April

We spent the morning in Amsterdam. We could see more places of Amsterdam, more bridges, canals and beautiful narrow streets. I bought some gifts and souvenirs for my family like cheese, clogs or stroopwafels, typical delicious cookies!

We came back to Almere at half past five.

At night we went to NOX, the best disco in Almere. It's very nice, the music it's good and it's fairly big. I've enjoyed this day very much.

Sunday 13 April

We've already been in Holland for one week. The days are passing very quickly! I got up late, at 2 p.m more or less. In the afternoon I went to a Dutch girl's house for dinner her family and my family together. In the evening at about eight, we went to Delaram' s house (Ismael' s partner) where we met all the group and some people from Lleida. It's been very fun.

Monday 14 April

In the morning I was ill. I had a head-ache and at ten o'clock I went back home to sleep. I haven't been to the City-Hall for the debate.

In the afternoon I felt better, and after dinner, we went to Le Baron and other new bar: Anno. I like these evenings very much because we can talk with ours friends from Lleida and Rubi.

Tuesday 15 April

The last day...



We are very sad. We don't want the exchange to finish. We took the bus to Amsterdam at 8:45. we went to Nemo. It's a science museum, like CosmoCaixa in Madrid, but this is more for kids. I liked it, but I would have preferred to go to Ana Frank's house or Van Gogh's Museum. Later we got on a boat trip along the canals all groups together. It's been perfect! In the afternoon we all met in my house, and had a party, but this time it was a farewell party.

The most difficult has been to say goodbye to the Dutch and Lleida people. I'm going to miss them a lot.

Wednesday 16 April

I'm writing from Madrid, we are here again.

The exchange has finished. I'm really sad.

I'll never forget these wonderful days.