

Euro Disney 2008

A review by Jake Onyett, Jack Clarke and Gareth Trotman

We arrived at Whitchurch Upper School at 8.30, all packed and ready to go. The weather was awful as we all clambered onto the bus, trying to avoid a soaking! There were 37 pupils and 5 members of staff. We waved our parents goodbye and started on our trip to Paris! After a stop in the services at Reading, we made our way to Dover.

The ferry was due to leave at 2.15, but Alwyn, our bus driver informed us that because of a strike, there might be a delay. After a three hour delay we were finally able to get on the ferry. The journey was terrible as the conditions were bad. The rough crossing was one that many of us want to forget, but when we got to Calais, we forgot all about it and got very excited about getting to Eurodisney. Lots of people asked us before the trip "Why are you going to France to celebrate St David's day?" – the answer is that Eurodisney hold a Welsh Festival over the March 1st weekend. There were many other Cardiff schools going too!

At mid-day, we finally arrived. Although some of us hadn't slept very much, we were wide awake as the bus dropped us just outside the park. Mrs Batten spoke to us about things we should and shouldn't do then handed us our hopper passes which meant that we could go from one park to the other as we chose. A group of us went straight into the Main Park. It was really busy and there was a great atmosphere there. The first character we saw was Minnie Mouse, dressed in her Welsh ladies costume!

As we were by now starving, we went on the hunt for something to eat – the chocolate fudge ice cream and waffles with whipped creams were scrumptious! Then it was time to explore. We entered the Walt Disney studios and ahead of us was what we'd been waiting to see – the brand new Tower of Terror. Jake wasn't sure about going into it but we persuaded him!!

At the entrance to the Tower there's a really spooky library where you watch a film Dan, Nick and Rhys tricked Jake into thinking that the floor had moved down suddenly and he grabbed onto anything he could, waiting for the floor to fall. Everyone laughed at him and it was only when the doors opened that he realised he'd been tricked! We all enjoyed the rest of the day immensely, watching the parade, queuing up for rides and obviously doing some shopping!

On the first night , we stayed at our hotel. We sampled a French evening meal, then were allowed to socialise with each other for a few hours before the teachers told us to get some much needed sleep!

The next morning, we had croissants and French bread for breakfast before going for a full day at the park. Mr Bowen and Mrs Williams couldn't get off the bus quick enough as they wanted to try the Tower of Terror for themselves! We went immediately to the Rocking Roller Coaster and Space Mountain – they were tremendous.

There were signs all around the park referring to the St Davids celebration and some of us went to watch the Gwalia Singers (from Swansea) perform. It was a proud moment when they sang Hen Wlad fy Nhadau and the Welsh people in the audience stood up for it. Many young children could be seen queuing up to remove Merlin's sword from the stone.

Having been on as many rides as we could possibly fit in, we still wanted more! After a quick stop in our hotel, to change, we went back to the park for one last time. Some wanted to take a look at the Welsh stalls which sold all sort of things from rugby shirts to lovespoons to welsh tartan! We tried to convince Mr Evans to buy a Welsh kilt but he didn't want to!!

The Park was even more exciting at night and there were less queues . Some of us went back and fore on our favourite ride, whilst others wanted a final go on everything!

Everyone was very tired by now and so fell asleep as soon as we got back. It was an early start on Monday to catch the ferry at 2.00. Luckily, it was a far calmer crossing this time, making it an easier experience for everyone.

The journey back to school went quite quickly. We were able to watch dvds on the coach and the staff were really pleased that Adam had brought the Live Eight dvd!

Everyone agreed that it had been a really enjoyable trip and Mrs Batten congratulated us for our behaviour. Penwythnos bendigedig!!