

## Germany Exchange Programme 2012

From 4<sup>th</sup> August to 14<sup>th</sup> August 2012, 10 YLLSS students and one teacher visited Neustadt in Hainstein, Germany for a 10-day cultural exchange programme. During the journey, our students were paired up with a German Buddy and stayed in a local host family. Students gained amazing experience outside Hong Kong, met new friends all over the world, grew in confidence and built their own independence.



A Chinese proverb states: "Tell me, I'll forget. Show me, I'll remember. Involve me, I'll understand." These words have never been truer as YLLSS students benefit from various overseas exchange programmes. When staying in a foreign country, students learnt how English can be used in real situations. They used English to communicate with their host family every day, and also built up positive interpersonal relationships with their German friends. Furthermore, the overseas living experience provided them with a chance to get deeper insights about German and western culture.

Our students were involved in many special activities during their visit to Germany, including having lessons in a local secondary grammar school, learning German calligraphy, visiting the Baltic Sea, and travelling to famous German cities such as Lubeck and Kiel. Moreover, they were also invited to take part in typical family activities during weekends, including exploring the countryside by bicycle, visiting museums or amusement parks, preparing typical German food, or exploring Sunday markets. During the family day, our students are not just guests, but rather friends and a part of the host family. It is a great way for them to further their knowledge of the local culture and language.



Through this exchange programme, students were offered a chance to increase their cultural awareness and practise their English. They left as young children and have come back as mature students. They are equipped with enthusiasm, better social commitment and global perspectives. For them, it is a unique and invaluable experience.

