

French exchange with Aurillac (Seniors)

By Mlle Anouck Brenot, Head of French



In October, a group of Year 11 and 12 students went to Aurillac as part of the French exchange programme. They experienced the French education system at Lycée Duclaux. Additionally, they spent a day discovering aspects of the health system in France, with a guided tour of the A&E Department by the Chief of A&E and a visit at the local fire station where they learnt first-hand first aid and rescue. During the two-hour visit, they experienced three emergency calls.

Due to its location, Aurillac saw many events related to the WWII and the French resistance. Pupils spoke to Mr Marchi, a specialist on resistance in the Cantal area. This session was followed by a trip to Murat and a visit of its Musée de la Résistance, led by Mr Cassagne and his brother. Both witnessed the arrest of their father and many more villagers, as retaliation against an anti-Nazi attack. Guiding the group through the streets, they shared tales about how it impacted the village's life up to this day. The visit was sprinkled with many cultural moments, including meeting with Jean-Luc Marcastel, author of medieval fantastic novels and native of Aurillac, the viewing of the new *Astérix au service de sa majesté* (*Astérix and Obélix: God Save Britannia*) and few games of pétanque at the local bowling pitch. Students ended the trip with a visit at the Airbus plant in Toulouse.



Stunning scenery and a trip to the Fire Department