

## ENGLISH WEEK IN MALAHIDE - IRELAND 23-30 APRIL 2016

♣ 3CAT ♣ 3TUR ♣ 3SCI ♣ 3AFM ♣

### ISTITUTO D'ISTRUZIONE SUPERIORE PRIMIERO

35 students from 3CAT-SCI-TUR-AFM and three teachers of our Istituto d'Istruzione Superiore di Primiero went to Malahide, a picturesque coastal little town near Dublin in Ireland from 23-30 April 2016. We were hosted by local Irish families, we attended a language course at Irish College of English and participated in a lot of different activities like the Irish dances, the excursions, the visits to the local castle built by the Talbot family, who remained in residence until 1975. The **castle** contains the national Portrait Collection of the National Gallery of Ireland.



Students in front of Dublin Castle

For Ireland and **Dublin**, in particular, 2016 is an important year because hundred years ago Dublin was a 400,000-inhabitant city in the British Empire but it was weakened by the great famine. Many Dubliners lived in poverty. On Easter Monday 1916 some nationalist rebels occupied the General Post Office and other public places

in Dublin. An Irish Republic was proclaimed from here and six days later the rebellion was put down and its leaders executed. Only five years later the Republic of Ireland got independence from the United Kingdom. In Dublin we visited the **General Post Office**, in the town centre, which has become a symbol of that event. We also went to the National History Museum, Grafton Street, the Castle and the huge GAA stadium where they play Gaelic football, the national Irish sport.



The General Post Office in Dublin

On Sunday we went on trip to the enchanting **Glendalough** “the valley between two lakes”, and saw the place where St. Kevin, a 6<sup>th</sup> century hermit, lived and prayed in a cave with some of his disciples. Easily accessible from Dublin, Glendalough, is set in a magical landscape. With its round tower in an ancient cemetery, the beautiful lakes and woodlands, Glendalough has an atmosphere of its own. Here Christianity and natural beauty are combined.



Glendalough - St. Kevin's Chapel



Glendalough - round tower at a distance



Glendalough - upper lake

With our popular guide Matthew, a very professional and involving red-hair Irish young man, we also visited the picturesque fishing village of **Howth**, with its breathtaking views on the sea where on sunny days you can see the seals resting on the beach...



Howth - cliffs



Howth - group walking down the hill

Thanks to the warmth and friendliness of our host families and Irish people, the nice atmosphere at the college and the great places we visited, the week was really amazing. We improved our English a little bit and learnt some words of Gaelic: "*Go raibh maith agat Ireland*" - THANK YOU IRELAND!

**(le terze classi dell'Istituto d'Istruzione Superiore di Primiero e l'insegnante referente *Mirca Collese*).**



Howth - group on the beach