



Hello, my name is Natalie.

I have been here in Ireland for already two months now and the time is going very fast. I think that's because I feel very welcomed and comfortable with my host family and therefore I haven't been homesick yet. I like spending time with them and I really appreciate what they do for me. A few weeks ago I climbed the Sugar Loaf Mountain in Wicklow together with my host dad. Climbing the mountain is one of the most popular outdoor activities to do in Wicklow. It was really exhausting but as I got to the top I knew it was worth it. You have a stunning view of Irelands landscapes from the top. It took us about 1 hour to get to the top of the 500 metre high mountain and we were very lucky with the weather. It was a sunny day but still very windy. After that my host dad brought me up to the Guinness Lake, which lies in Wicklow mountains.



During the mid term break I did some very nice things. For example the first weekend of the break, the German girl I met at the airport came to my house and she stayed here for 2 nights. We planned a few things we wanted to do on this weekend and so we went to Dublin and walked around the streets, visited temple bar, the national museum of Ireland, went shopping and took pictures of the sea. We also baked Pancakes what was really funny and watched a film together. After the weekend I was really tired but I had a great time.



On Halloween two of my friends stayed over at my house. One of the girls is French and we go to the same school but unfortunately we barely have classes together so we only see each other at lunchtime and at the weekends. But over the last few weeks we really got to know each other and are close friends now. The other girl is Spanish and she's the host sister of the French girl. So most of the time we meet as a group of three and I love that we're all from different countries because therefore we have to communicate in English and I can also learn a few sentences in French and Spanish. We baked a spider made of pastry and Nutella what was really delicious and dressed up with our self made costumes. After that we watched a horror movie "Scream" and we were all really scared but it was also really funny.



Before Halloween my host family did a pumpkin carving competition where everyone had to carve their own pumpkin around the kitchen table and afterwards everyone had a vote for the pumpkin they liked the most. We placed the pumpkins, which all turned out really well, in front of the door next to all the other Halloween decoration we had. It was a really good Halloween and since it originated in Ireland, it is definitely more celebrated here than in Germany and I really enjoyed it.