



Robin  
From Palgrave to  
France

*Paris is beautiful but Nice is nice and a lot warmer*

I'm currently writing my final Beaver Tale five and a half weeks before my return to Canada. Lately, I've been studying for the exams that I'm expected to take while trying to fill my agenda with all the things I want to do before I leave.

Just recently, I got back from a bus tour of Europe that I did with several other exchange students. Starting in Paris, we travelled to Germany, the Czech Republic, Austria, Italy and Switzerland. This was my very first trip to Paris too. I was originally invited to Paris in March because I won a contest hosted by a Parisian art college but I didn't go. I learned a lot about the history of the places we went to and the people I met on the trip. Being an exchange student in France means a chance to learn all about Europe as a whole too. I think half of the stuff I learned about France and Europe came from my history and geography class here.

Earlier last month, I went to a huge over-night Rotary conference where every single Rotary exchange student currently in France was present (more than 400 kids!). After meeting some people who spoke at least 4 languages fluently, it motivated me to learn more languages too. We spent the weekend in a beautiful town called Annecy, which was a 2018 Winter Olympics candidate (it's in the Alps). I also gave my first Rotary speech at a district conference in the city of Nice, a city which I discovered to be just as beautiful as Paris, but warmer.

I have a school agenda where you can tear off the corners of the pages after each day has passed. You can see how many days of the school year are left by looking at the pages that haven't been torn off yet. It gets smaller and smaller each day. Time is going by so fast that every time I look at something, I have to remember that I may never see it again, like the beach by our house, or the cafe in front of the opera where I go every Wednesday afternoon with my friends. Most of the kids in my class have kind of forgotten that I'm leaving this summer. It's

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really sad to know that they were expecting me to stay for the rest of high school but I can't. I had so many good memories with my school friends!

This year has been such an amazing journey, and it's all thanks to the Rotary and my host families who made it possible!

Merci beaucoup!

*Robin*