

EXCHANGE WITH SWITZERLAND: TEACHERS' VIEW

During the week from March 11th to March 18th the first part of the exchange "Discover Switzerland / Discover the Valencian Community" between the educational centers Institute Hochalpines of Ftan and IES Mediterrania of Benidorm has taken place. The proposed aims have been widely fulfilled, among which we should emphasize the following ones:

- To help to improve the mutual knowledge between Switzerland and the Valencian Community, as well as to establish cultural ties.
- To facilitate communicative situations with native speakers so that the students and their teachers practise foreign languages and improve their linguistic competence in them.
- To favour the learning and the integral personal formation of the students, offering them the opportunity to live an intercultural experience immersed in a different family culture.
- To stimulate innovative initiatives for the improvement of the quality of teaching.

We must also point out that the geographical contrast (Swiss Alps and Spanish beaches) has intensified the experience. We emphasize the cleanliness of the country and the order, specially the organization and punctuality of public transport, the kindness of the people and the safety and tranquility environment that is felt in the streets of this Valley of the Engadina. The exchange will conclude with the visit of the Swiss students to Benidorm during the first week of April.

We are aware of the effort that these activities entail, as well as of their importance for the practice of values like respect, solidarity and tolerance, so necessary in the current world and which enrich us as persons.

Thanks everyone.