

REA group visits German School

On 1 December 2016, a group of 26 Richmond in Europe Association members and their guests, some from Richmond U3A, visited the German School London in Ham. Our President, the Mayor, was clearly delighted by his third visit to this island of German education.



After a welcome by the Headmaster, Herr Christian Nitschke, the REA visitors and guests were introduced to our friendly and well-

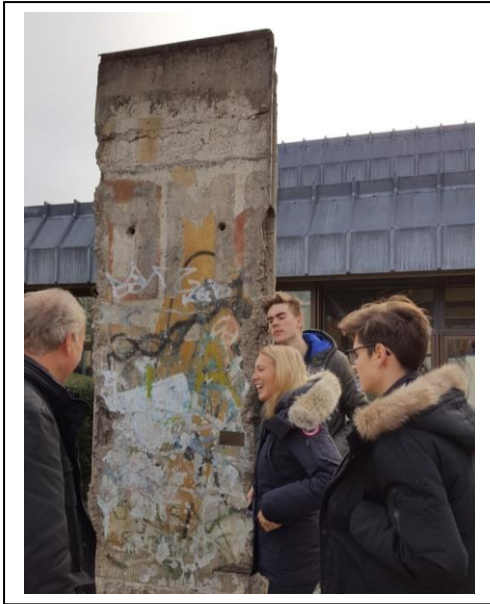


informed student guides Carl Funke, Jonas Nebel, Charlotte von Dewitz, Kara Quast, Leonie Hieker and Niklas Sillertook. They took small groups on tours through the impressively modern and well-equipped premises: doors and gates were opened by fingerprints, which also were used for

bills from the school cafeteria. All the guides were outstandingly bilingual.

Classroom observation of a German lesson by Mrs Ditas Amry (left) showed “anti-authoritarian education” in action, with the 14-year-olds being encouraged to be questioning and critical in their use of the Internet.





Apart from excellent music and sports facilities, the school also boasts a section of the Berlin Wall.

Lunch in the school cafeteria ended for one of the visitors with a three-candle birthday cake, provided by the school. 84 candles were missing, according to REA Chairman Alan Mockford.

The reactions of the REA members were summed by one of them: “I am now even more impressed with German education.”

Alan Mockford commented afterwards: “I have received lots of positive feedback. My only regret is that I could have spent longer looking around the school and chatting to the students. I do hope we can engage further with the school in the future.”