

An Eggs-ellent Day:

Today started like any other day so far on our trip, with a dorm inspection. It was a close decision between the main girls' room and the boys' room, but the main girls' room *just* won (we think the strange 'windy' aroma coming from the boys' room might have had something to do with it...). The girls all cheered when they were presented with Henry the Hoover.

The children are getting used to their RYG routine now, settling down for a yummy breakfast before getting stuck into their chores. We wonder if this might influence how the children clean up after themselves once they return home! After chores we had today's briefing: groups A and C went climbing, abseiling and on the via farata (which is Latin for *Iron Path*); group D explored the mine and group B was the final group to tackle the mountain.

After a grueling hike uphill (on recovering legs), A and C arrived at a beautiful crag full of rock faces to climb and abseil down. Once we had arrived and were all harnessed up, the children had the opportunity to complete a small training route with the instructor, before the real climbing began ... The children had to work together as a team to belay the climbers. They were guiding each other through the route and making sure that they were safe and happy when abseiling down.

The via farata was our second activity and saw the children grappling across a gorge. They used their newly-acquired skills to clip themselves to metal railings, traversing across narrow edges and rock faces. At one point, we even went underneath a waterfall! Every child in both groups plucked up the courage to not only crush the starter and main route, but also conquer the advanced route too.

Group B tackled the mountain today, and much like the other groups they had to find both the mental and physical strength to summit. Despite all of the obstacles placed before them, such as steep inclines and bad weather, the team absolutely smashed it and got to enjoy the wonderful views from the summit. They not only pushed themselves to their limits but Mr Cole too, who now has some additional decoration to his eyelid.

Group D had their turn exploring the mine, and enjoyed adventuring through the chambers. They waded through knee-deep water and used their head torches to navigate these unique surroundings. The children can't wait to share with you what they've learned - there was even a boat ride involved!

After an adventure-filled day, the children tucked into a delicious dinner. Today's menu: soup, bangers and mash (with vegetarian options) and caramel crumble. It was lovely to see every child enjoying their well-deserved food. After dinner and free time, we spent our evening exploring the best ways to protect an egg. The children designed their protective contraptions and then went head-to-head in a competition to see which team could protect their egg the most when it was dropped from a high ladder. The winner was picked by our very own Mr Carey, who judged fairly, with great prowess and a little help from Miss Conn.

As I write this, the children have just finished sharing their funny moments, thank-yous, and drinking a hot chocolate before bed. It is definitely easier to sleep now with such a full week of activities. Photo dump below!

Mr Carey and Miss Conn







