

we had a Guided Tour through Cambridge, visited some churches, sat down in them with a guide telling us about Cambridge, the importance of the English language and

we split in 2 groups. One of them, in went to Ely, a village near Cambridge. visited another church (how boring!), but had some free time – of course, we went while we were walking around in Ely, but it had its free day.

we would have had our free day on the night. On that evening some guys stayed in. That is why we had to have a look at college in Cambridge, as a punishment, because we had not done anything wrong. It was the first and, I believe, the first college was founded then it got boring, because they were the same, and, by the way, it was Katrin's birthday and we had planned to celebrate it! I

it was the best day! We were punting – one of the punters was a handsome young guy and I had my eye on him! Besides, the punter was holding his staff and we floated around till he helped us.

The Fitzwilliam museum was not that interesting for most of us.

It was, finally, our free day – and what did we do? Shopping, of course, before going to the cinema.

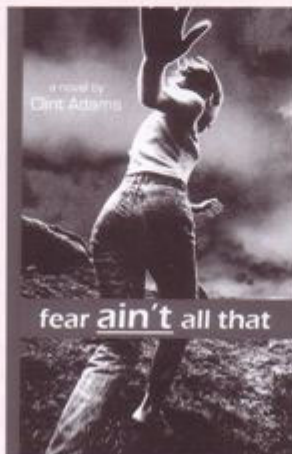
We planned that we could choose between two films, because of bad organisation, one of them ('Lyrics and Lyrics') was not played anymore and the other one ('The Illusionist') would have started at 8 o'clock, that was too late.

We watched 'Becoming Jane', a love drama, based on Jane Austen. It was quite difficult to understand. The first part of the film was boring, but towards the end nearly every girl cried, because it was so dramatic.

When we were in Stratford, Shakespeare's birthplace, at the beginning, the excursion was cancelled. The bus, too, had had an accident in London, so we had to wait for two hours in London until the bus had been repaired. The trip was o.k., but the best thing was the visit to the clock tower, in which wax figures are also displayed, and we also enjoyed looking at the peacocks in the park!

It was a great trip, not totally perfect, but it was a great experience of what English life is like!

US-Author Clint Adams lectures on his books in the Stiftsgymnasium Admont



Christian Schwab, 8. B: A Student's Comment on an Author's Visit

Last Friday we had the great chance to talk to Clint Adams, the author of "My Watch Doesn't Tell Time" etc – books concerning e.b. (epidermolysis bullosa - butterfly disease)

We already had a discussion about the book and the illness in school; nevertheless I hadn't any particular expectancies of Clint, but after listening for a few minutes I was impressed by his stories and his personality. It really was a great pleasure to listen to him, he's a very communicative person who loves speaking about any topic you like to.

Clint isn't shy in any way, contrarily, he answered every question and told us a lot of his experiences, his life and how to become an author. Moreover he loves to laugh and this enables him to influence and capture his audience, to share his views and make people think – for example about "Schmetterlingskinder".

What I liked best was his attitude concerning fear – "something unnatural and created by oneself"

ENGLISCH

and the connections to the 'butterfly kids' – the "To Do List" which makes you remember the important things in life, and furthermore his story about the woman who divided her faith in three parts: one believing in herself, the other in God and the third in medicine.

"THINK POSITIVE and don't worry too much", in my opinion that's the right way to create your life; seeing the good things isn't always easy, but bothering frequently doesn't form a pleasant life – and that's the way of thinking Miguel, the 'butterfly kid' in Clint's book practises. He knows that his life expectancy is only about twenty years because of his disease and he tries to do best in these years.

And we all should take this as a fine example for ourselves! We undoubtedly have better living circumstances than these kids and yet we complain about things that are insignificant – seen from an objective perspective and compared to serious problems like e.b.

Think positive, life's hard enough anyway!

Clint Adams: To everyone I was lucky enough to meet at the Stiftsgymnasium Admont

Things happen when you BELIEVE. Many people say that things happen when you put your faith in God, but I'm sure He's thrilled when we put this same belief in OURSELVES. My experience at Admont helped me do this when I needed it most...believe in myself, believe in what I'm doing. My positive experience at Admont motivated me to continue.

Thank you, to ALL the students that gave me your attention. I received so many intelligent and thoughtful questions (auf Englisch); they all made me think. Thanks, too, for the German lessons. You taught me much, and I'll always be grateful.

Talking about fear and overcoming it, seems to be



my "thing." But, without the belief and support of one person in particular, Frau Barbara Waldner, I wouldn't have been invited to Admont. Thanks for having me there. Being able to meet students that have the desire to read, and communicate in English, is a pleasure.

I went to Admont with a mission; not to have the students remember me, not necessarily to have them read my books, but more than all else, to have them look into their own lives, the way they see themselves AND to try to be more aware of fear...to maybe question, "Does fear originate from within us? Or does it mostly come to us from the outside?" Only they know the answer. Only they know how they will now react to fears, once they arise in the future.

Thank you, to each student that gave me your attention. Thank you, to all the teachers for having allowed me to speak to your students. Thank you, to your headmaster for allowing me to speak at Admont. Collectively, you changed my life a little. Helping someone to believe a little bit more, in my opinion, is the greatest gift anyone can give.

Maybe I'll see you all once more. So, until next time...

Always believe,

Clint Adams