

# Join the European Class at the Stiftsgymnasium Xanten and experience a European community

# Come to Xanten and get into touch with Europe!

## What is the idea of a European Class?

The *Stiftsgymnasium Xanten* has been awarded the title of a *European School* by the federal state of North-Rhine Westphalia. This means that we put special emphasis on teaching the European idea and on passing on to our students what being a member of the European confederation of states means.

Thus we have introduced a European Class at our school in summer 2009. This is a way of putting the European idea into practice and giving both our students and students from other European countries the chance to experience this idea in everyday life. We want to initiate cultural exchange between young people from different European countries, to give students from abroad the opportunity to get to know our way of living and learning as well as contributing to the development of our students and our school.

The European Class is a class in our year 10, i.e. for students who have been at our school for 6 years and are 16 years old. This year the European class consists of 23 students, 14 from our own school and 8 coming from other European and non-European countries. Those students stay with two German students, who also attend the European class, for half a year each. We are going to continue this project next year and we welcome applications from foreign students aged 15-17.

The language spoken in this European class is English in all subjects. This requires that students joining this class must have an advanced command of the English language. German students entering year 10 have been studying English for 5 years.

Furthermore we want to give students from abroad the chance to learn German as a Foreign Language for 3 lessons a week within a small group of students. This means that we also invite students who have not yet begun to learn German. Furthermore, by accepting that English will be the dominant world language for the foreseeable future, we offer the possibility to study for one year in a mainly English-speaking environment.

We are looking for students who are interested in such a project.

# **Make Europe work!**

If you are interested or need further information please contact: **stiftsgymnasium.xanten@t-online.de** 

### Where is Xanten?

Germany consists of 16 federal states. Our town is situated in the federal state of North-Rhine Westphalia, i.e. in the northwest of Germany, at the Lower Rhine and close to the Dutch border. Düsseldorf, which is the capital of North-Rhine Westphalia, is not far away and Düsseldorf Airport, national motorways and major railway lines are easily accessible. Xanten, which has about 20,000 inhabitants, is a well-known destination for tourists within our region. It is especially famous for its history as a Roman settlement and presents this history in an archaeological park and a very modern Roman museum.

For further information see: www.xanten.de

### Who attends our school?

At the age of six, German children start attending primary schools and after four years they continue their education, according to their abilities, at different kinds of secondary schools. Attending a "Gymnasium" requires the recommendation of primary school teachers and allows students, after 8 years, to achieve the qualification of studying at a university. In Germany we call this qualification "Abitur".

About 1,100 students aged from 10 to 19 attend the Stiftsgymnasium Xanten.

### For further information see: www.ssgxanten.de

### Costs

The fee for one year in the European Class will be about € 800,-. This amount includes a symbolic contribution to the costs for accommodation and food, which are covered by a German host family. Our host families agree to integrate their guest into their family lives. The fee also contributes to the costs for health, liability and accident insurances. These insurances will be provided by our school. Textbooks for all subjects will also be provided by the school. The journey to Germany and back to the respective home country will have to be organised and paid for individually by the students. They will also need pocket money to pay for freetime activities, to buy school materials, etc.

# **Lessons in the European Class**

all students	lessons	<b>European students</b>	German students
	a week		
Mathematics	3	German as a	While the European
English	3	Foreign Language:	students study
Sports	3	3 lessons a week.	German as a Foreign
History	3		Language, all German
Biology	3	Geography:	students have lessons
Arts	3	3 lessons a week.	in German and in
Religious Education	3		their second foreign
		We also offer	language or in a second Science. Some
		learning Spanish	German students will
		as a new Foreign	also continue studying
		Language.	Latin.
		Zungunge.	Danii.