



AFS Exchange Programme

4D ARIANNA MANAVELLA (謝旻雅) From Italy

大家好, my name is Arianna Manavella(謝旻雅), I'm 16 years old and I was an AFS exchange student in Madam Lau Kam Lung Secondary School of MFBM in the year of 2016/2017.

I'm a pretty active, outgoing, curious, talkative and energetic person! I love joining different activities and making new friends. I love sports and eating. I practise classic dance in Italy and I hope that in the future I can find a job related to it or generally to sports.

I come from a small town called Barge, located in the north of Italy, with just about 7,000 inhabitants, so when I first discovered that Hong Kong had more than 7 million people living in such a small area, I was shocked! Me and my family at the peak

In Italy I live with my dad, my mom, my elder sister and my little dog. But here in Hong Kong, I have a younger sister, mom and dad; they are my second family and Hong Kong is literally my second home.

I'm really glad that I've been a student in Madam Lau Kam Lung Secondary School of MFBM, because I've learned many things, grown a lot, did unforgettable experiences and most important I met beautiful people.

I made new friends that I know will last a life time and they helped me understanding the world through "new eyes".

Studying in a girls' school, particularly in class 4D for one academic year, had certainly been a different but amazing experience. I'll always remember the day of my birthday, because when I first arrived in the class, I found lots of treats and candies on my desk! I'm so grateful I had such good and great classmates.

Going on an exchange year, does not just mean learning a new language or meeting new people, but also gaining a rich understanding of another culture and coming to a better understand of your own culture.

If I have to talk about Hong Kong's culture, I have to spend some words about the food! I literally love it!

From Pineapple bun, dim sum, egg tart, gong cha (bubble tea), to all the kinds of boiled vegetables that my mom used to cook for me! And of course, I can't not mention about my

beloved durian (even if the smell is definitely not one of the best...)

And if you are asking yourself how many kg I gained this year, well, I will not tell you (too many!!)

我愛香港 :

Firstly, because I love the transportation system here (so well organized!), secondly, Hong Kong's people are unique, with all the different cultures mixed together you always see and meet new persons, and finally, it's really amazing to see the traditional and the modern world at the same time and in the same place!

The thing I love doing the most here in Hong Kong is going hiking; better in one of my favourite places: Sai Kung! I really fell in love the first time I went there (even if is pretty far from Yuen Long), but I enjoy the silence and the priceless. I also love going around Mong Kok at Ladies Market, because there I can buy really cheap things (even if most of them are useless!) And also, taking a ride on the traditional "Ding Ding" in Hong Kong Island is a thing that I like doing a lot!

To conclude, I wanted to say a big 多謝 to all the teachers in this school that always helped me in any situation, to my crazy classmates that I'll never forget, to my host family that opened their doors to me and loved me like a second daughter and finally to all the people I met this year, that made these (nearly) 10 months special and unforgettable.

Of course I'll be sad at the moment of the departure, since will be in less than two months. But I really treasured gold memories in this exchange year, so I'll always smile while thinking about the good time spent in this splendid city!

