

## **Art and Enrichment Visit to Venice 27<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> October**



Who would have believed that a group of Northwood College girls could see and do so much and walk so far in four wonderful days in Venice? This party of Art students and Gifted and Talented from Years 9-12, led by the experienced and efficient tour director from Varsity Travel and accompanied by Miss Ballantyne, Mrs Sykes and Miss Harne, filled every moment of their time.

Activities were diverse. One moment we were at the top of the Campanile viewing St Mark's Square and the Doge's Palace with the great bells striking midday and the next we learnt how glass is made and formed in a furnace in Murano. The gondola ride was pure magic and the carnival masks fascinatingly beautiful. Venice is Vivaldi's city and we heard his Four Seasons performed in the Chiesa di San Vidal. We admired the architecture of this beautiful but crumbling, sinking place, from the palaces along the Grand Canal to the old Jewish ghetto. We saw architecture and paintings of the 14-18 Century in the Accademia, and modern art in the Peggy Guggenheim Museum. Whilst doing all these wonderful things we thought about all the literature of Venice and visitors of the past like Lord Byron, Charles Dickens and our great painter, Turner.

Would you believe that there was also plenty of time to have lingering lunches, go shopping, exploring and sampling as many pizzas and gelato as we could eat! A big thank you to the girls, who were delightful company and to all the teachers who made this visit possible.



*Mrs F Sykes  
Co-ordinator of Pupil Learning Needs  
14 November 2008*