Tel: 0115 953 9060 | Email: info@topvalleyacademy.org

## Spanish Exchange Program

In 2013 Top Valley Academy established a pupil exchange link with a school in Caravaca, a modern city with an old and historic centre in the region of Murcia, Southern Spain.

We have established a very warm and close bond with the staff and pupils of 'El Instituto San Juan de la Cruz' school and we now have a full exchange visit programme between our two schools.



In March 2014, Top Valley Academy welcomed 27 Spanish pupils and their teachers for a week long exchange visit. The week, organised by TVA's Señor Straw, began in the Academy where pupils took part in TVA lessons including Science, Mathematics and Dance. The group then visited London's top tourist attractions, the historic city of York and many tourist hotspots in Nottingham City Centre, including the Nottingham caves.

In May 2014, Top Valley Academy flew to Caravaca, Spain, to spend the week with our Spanish friends. Through this educational visit, Top Valley pupils had the opportunity to speak Spanish in real-life, everyday situations as well as joining in with Spanish lessons, having

meals with the families of their partners and understanding the culture and traditions of Caravaca.

Pupils also got the chance to visit the coast at Cartagena, the city of Granada and the Alhambra Palace whilst building upon the bonds they had made with the Spanish students.

"It was an unforgettable experience getting to know their culture and meeting the Spanish students' families. I'd do it again in a heart-beat." Top Valley Academy pupil, Sam, 15.

Following on from the success of this year's exchange, the Spanish exchange scheme will be open to future Year 10 students who choose Spanish as a GCSE option.

Securing a place on the exchange is a reward for all those who work hard, attend well, show a willingness to improve their Spanish, and show the desire to achieve their very best grades in the subject. This year's group of students have been a real credit to Top Valley Academy, and we look forward to giving many other students the opportunity to experience life in Spain over the coming years.



"I'd recommend it to all the years below because it gives you more confidence in Spanish and it can influence you to learn the language." Top Valley Academy pupil, Louis, 15.

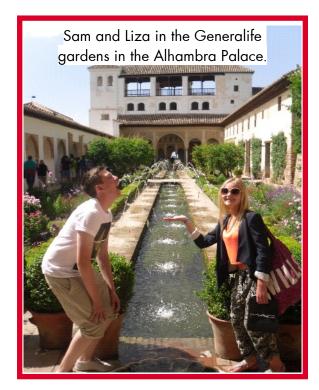
You can see more pictures in the Gallery on the TVA Website!



## Top Valley Academy Spanish Exchange

May 2014

"Absolutely amazing, couldn't have asked for a better time:" - TVA pupil, Chloe, 15.



Top Valley pupils had the opportunity to speak Spanish in real-life, everyday situations as well as joining in with Spanish lessons, having meals with the families of their partners and understanding the culture and traditions of Caravaca.



"To see how much their culture means to them was heartwarming, and trying different foods and seeing what they do in school was a new, enjoyable experience:"

- TVA pupil, Simran, 15. Señor Hallgarth, Señor Brown and Louis on a tour of the Alhambra palace in Granada



"The opportunity to take part in the Spanish Exchange is one of the best things Top Valley can offer any student who wants to develop their language skills in an authentic, real Spanish setting. Visiting Murcia and then receiving Spanish visitors back in Nottingham has led to friendships that could last for many years."

- Mr Brown, Top Valley Academy Principal.



Visit us online at www.topvalleyacademy.org

Twitter: @TopVAcademy