Tuesday 2nd February

I get up at seven o’clock. I don’t feel so tired. It might be because yesterday I went to sleep so early. I remember it was a nice day, we had dinner and we got to bed almost at nine pm. So I can’t be tired.
I have plenty of expectations for the new day and so I jump out of my bed.
My friend is still sleeping and therefore I do my best not to make a noise. I’m going to have a shower as usual in the morning after getting up. My host family said I will get a cold if I do this but I don’t think so. It’s too cold outside but I wear a heavy coat and I will get my hair dry before going out. Our host family is calling us. It must be about a quarter past seven and breakfast is ready.
We have a cup of milk, some toasted bread with a chocolate cream and a cup of orange juice. My friend says he usually eats less but I think this is not too much.
We speak with our host family and our tutor, Sandra, gives us some other advice.
We have to take the eight o’clock bus to the city centre. It’s ten to eight, we are a bit late and so we quickly go out to reach the bus stop.
Time is really cruel. There is a freezing wind that sweeps the road. Fortunately the bus stop is in front of Donaghmede Shopping Centre and we have a short walk under the cold temperature.
We don’t have to wait a lot and we jump onto the 29A bus. I’m freezing and I feel very happy to enter a warmer place. The way will take half an hour. It is taking us near the meeting point, the Spire.
It is impossible not to see it, it’s the highest monumental building of the city.
People are not so friendly here on the buses. They are ever lost in their thoughts and they don’t ask permission before sitting near someone.
We can see the high Spire, we have to get off and move quickly. Our school lesson starts at nine am and we have a ten minute walk to get to school. The school is in a small and high building and our class is on a very high floor.
We enter our class perfectly in time and we find some classmates and the teacher already here. Lesson will last until a quarter past twelve, when there will be lunch time. I really enjoy the lesson. We improve our English speaking between small groups and we do some games in English. At half past ten we have a short fifteen minute break to have something like an apple or a snack.
At about twelve past midday we are having lunch. I have my packed lunch: a small sandwich with ham and salad, some popcorn and an apple. I think it’s a really little food and so we ask our teacher for permission and go out to Tesco’s supermarket to buy some more.
At two pm our guide is meeting us in front of the school. In the afternoon we are seeing Dublin City Gallery, the Hugh Lane, and the Trinity College.
The sky is really cloudy and I think it’s going to rain. Cold wind is the common condition. I start to think I will finish all my tissues by the weekend. I will have to buy some more next days.
It’s two pm and we all meet in front of the school. Our lead will guide us to the Hugh Lane.
We have a twenty minutes’ walk around Dublin’s crowded streets. There are a lot of strange people in Dublin. All of them are always in a hurry, and so are we.
In a short time we arrive at the City Gallery. It seems to have been a short walk, perhaps because my attention was always caught by new places and the attention not to lose the group.
The Hugh Lane is a nice building and the white columns outside and in the entry make me think of old architecture.
We have to put our blue bags into a large box. There is a problem, how can we identify them? I remember I have still my identification badge. It will be perfect for the issue.
The lead will show us some very important paintings and then we can go sightseeing by ourselves.

I’m really caught by a beautiful large decorated window. The lead gives us some more information about the pictures’ story and subject. We can also see Francis Bacon’s Studio reproduction.
Now we take our bags and then we have another short walk to the Trinity College. I didn’t expect to find so a beautiful structure. We have some free time to see Trinity College park, only fifteen minutes because we are going to see the Old Library and the Book of Kells here.
But at the desk they say we can see only a copy of the famous book because it has been taken away for a show. We can visit the first and the second floor of the building.
On the first floor I can see an exhibition about the Book of Kells and the old skill of writing. It’s very small and so I don’t take so much time here. I reach the second floor and a smell of old wood hits me.
Here is the old library, a collection with plenty of old books. The place is really large and I can see a lot of busts of famous philosophers. I take a good time admiring the structure.
The fixed meeting point was just outside and from here the lead guides us to the Spire again.
It must be half past five or six o’clock pm and we have to go back home. The weather won’t be better and so we hurry up to take the 29A bus to our host family.
There is a bus every twenty minutes and so we don’t have to wait long. The windows are all steamy and so we must pay more attention to get off at the right stop. The way takes about half an hour and then we see our stop. We can’t miss the stop because there is a big McDonald at about fifty metres on the road.
Just off we can feel the never-ending freezing wind. It’s very cold and so we walk straight home quickly.
It must be about a quarter to seven. Dinner is ready and so we have only about five minutes to get ready.
For dinner we have some breaded fish with jumped potatoes and vegetables. I enjoy it and we spend a few time speaking with the host family members. They ask us about the day we have spent in Dublin, what we have seen and our impressions about. I really enjoy the time I spent today.
It’s about nine pm and I’m already in bed. To bed early also today but tomorrow we will have to do and see a lot and so it’s better to have a hot milk with my friend and get a rest.