

Summer is now officially over and school has started. The enthusiasm and energy of the summer days are now replaced by hard work and school pressure and they slowly fade away. But there are parts of those months that don't disappear which are memories. I am thanking you because you offered me once again the most wonderful summer I could have ever wished for.

Thanks to the course I've not only improved my English (or at least I hope I did), but I also changed as each time I get back from VacStuds. I wouldn't say VacStuds metamorphosed me into someone else, it actually made me discover and develop parts of me I didn't know, and made me accomplish things I would never have thought I was capable of. Thank you so much for this.

I assume you must read this a lot but I also wanted to tell you how grateful I am because thanks to the course I had the chance to meet some amazing people and come together again with some of my best friends (such as Louise who I'll have the pleasure to meet in Nice in a few days). I've never been as much myself as when I was in VacStuds. I love the fact that there is no judgement because we are all the same there; strangers and foreigners gathered in a country that most of us don't really know. We all start all over again and decide exactly how we want to be seen and that is a huge and extraordinary opportunity.

Furthermore, I must thank you for giving me the chance to be an ambassador, it was an interesting experience for me and I hope for the students at the course. It gave me more confidence (which is something I gain from year to year in VacStuds) and if in the beginning I used to feel a bit stressed about how the presentation would actually turn out, in the end I really felt comfortable with it.

As you already know, I've applied for next year and I am really looking forward to VacStuds 2018! It will be my 5th year at VacStuds and the past two years I've had the opportunity to have positions of responsibility which was really helpful building a spirit ready to take initiative, help people, understand people and grow up as a person myself. You might have noticed I signed up to be a prefect. I really hope you will consider me: I feel I can do a great job as a prefect, as I hope I did as a mentor and assistant house captain. If you think I could be a good prefect, I'd love to be one.

I will finish by saying thank you again for allowing me to join this unique course. It means a lot to me. Whatever I do during the year, wherever I go, whoever I meet, there is no such place that I miss as much as Mary Hare School. In this beautiful place full of astonishing people, I've created the best memories ever and lived some days I'll remember all my life.

Benedetta Magni, Monaco 20 September 2017