

ERASMUS+ ROOTS

ISSUE 5

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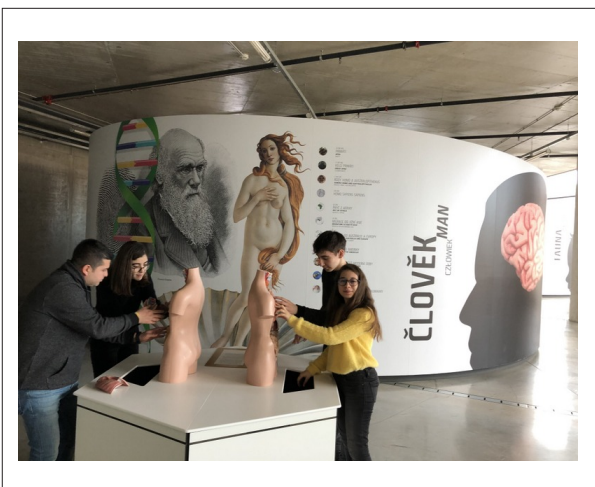
KARVINÁ



MARCH 2020



MEETING IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC



Presentations

The fifth meeting of our Roots project was planned for the beginning of March to the coordinating Czech school in Karviná. Unfortunately the pandemic started to spread all across Europe and the Italian and Cypriot school had to cancel their flights due to the epidemic situation in their countries. So, we could welcome the students and teachers from Turkey, Finland and Spain only.



On the first day, before coming to school, we gathered in the Regional library in Karviná where all the partners showed presentations about their schools, towns and countries and the Czech students also presented the education system in the country. The meeting started, sadly we did not know yet that this would be the last meeting of our Erasmus+ project.



Dances and music in the past

The main topic of the meeting in Karviná was music and dances in the time of our grandparents. All schools prepared presentations about traditional musical instruments, types of music which are common in their countries and dances popular not only with their grandparents! We also played a Kahoot music quiz with questions on well known songs from films and musicals.

In the second half of the meeting we also worked on project posters about favourite music and dances but the most important workshop was held in the schools gym.

Unfortunately we could not see the presentations from the Italian and Cypriot students but they sent us their work and it is on the web now!



Learning traditional dances



We showed our presentations about typical music and dances in the times of our grandparents but we also learned to dance! For our workshop we invited the folk group Vonička and they taught us how to dance some traditional dances of our region.

We also learned about some folk musical instruments and about traditional costumes. We also invited folk dancers and singers to our farewell ceremony where they showed us some of their public performances.



Excursion to Olomouc

Our Saturday whole day trip started with a visit to **Svatý Kopeček**, a pilgrimage place about 8 kilometres from Olomouc. The bus brought us up the hill where we first took some photos in front of the Basilica of the visit of Virgin Mary and then went inside to see beautiful pieces of art. It was quite good to stay inside for a longer time as it was really windy outside.

After the visit to the Basilica we continued to **Olomouc**, which is the sixth largest city in the Czech Republic and after Prague the second biggest cultural preserved area in the country. Like Prague, Olomouc also has an astronomical clock in the city centre and belongs to the most popular places in the Czech Republic.



Sightseeing the town

In our project we also visited some UNESCO World Heritage sights. The nearest one to Karviná is in Olomouc, therefore we chose this city as a destination for our cultural - historical excursion. This famous place is The Holy Trinity Column in the Upper Square. It is a 35 metres high Baroque monument which was built between 1716 and 1754 to celebrate Catholic church and faith and show feelings of gratitude for ending a plague which hit Moravia between 1713 and 1715. We also visited St. Wenceslas Cathedral, the museum and passed by popular Baroque fountains and churches as well as some University buildings. And while the students spent some free time in the city centre, the teachers had lunch in a stylish restaurant where they could taste a traditional ripened soft cheese called tvarůžky.

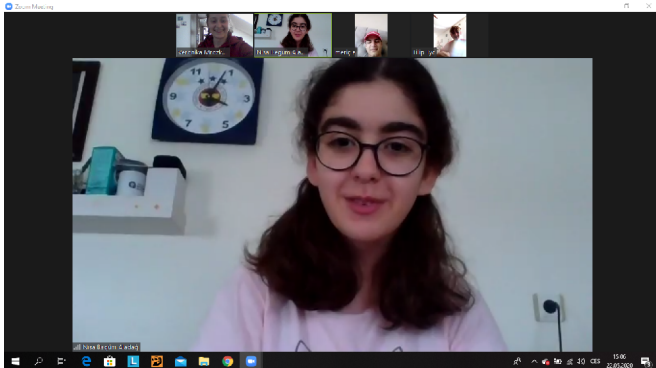


Virtual meeting

The corona virus pandemic changed our plans with the last meeting of our project. We were supposed to meet in the Spanish school at the beginning of April, unfortunately the schools closed, the borders closed, our lives got limited and we had to stay in our homes for several weeks. As not all partners agreed on prolongation of the project period for another half a year, we had to plan the rest of the activities virtually.

We worked on presentations, filmed some tongue twisters, wrote essays about our ideas of a future Europe and arranged virtual meetings. The teachers met as usual on eTwinning video conferences and the students decided for an online meeting through Zoom.

We still have three months till the official end of the project and there is no doubt that there will be a few more online meetings arranged both by the teachers and students. See you soon again!



e-Twinning



The next two videoconferences of leaders from the partner countries were held in April and May. We all met again virtually and discussed the plans for the next months and prepared the work which would be done online in May and June. It was nice to meet at least virtually and hopefully we will meet again in some future projects!

Excursions

Science centre

Our first excursion was to Ostrava, to the Science and Technology Centre which can be found in the area of the former industrial part of the city. And in the afternoon, when the students were enjoying sightseeing, the teachers visited a performance of a famous musical "Cats" composed by Andrew Lloyd Webber in the Moravian-Silesian National Theatre. Wonderful experience!



Marlenka

Marlenka is a chocolate company owned by an Armenian man who escaped the war in Karabakh and settled in the Czech Republic. Here he started to produce and sell his famous honey-caramel cake. We could see how the cake and other sweets are made and we also tasted some of them during the presentation of the history of the Marlenka company.



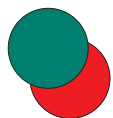
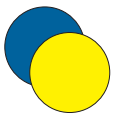
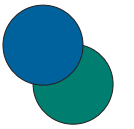
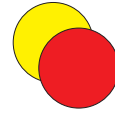
Meeting town representatives

During our meeting in Karviná we were also welcomed by Mr. Bizoň, the deputy mayor of the town in the Chateau in the centre of Karviná. We shared our experience from the previous mobilities and discussed the history of the town and the region.











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