

ERASMUS+ ROOTS

ISSUE 4

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ANTALYA



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MEETING IN TURKEY



Surveys

After summer holiday we continued in our project and the first hosting school in the second year was the Turkish school. We flew from Vienna to Istanbul and then to Antalya. As our team changed just few days before our departure, one of our teachers had to travel on a different flight but then we met in Antalya airport. In our second flight from Istanbul we also met the Finnish team and the Spanish team so our group on the plane was bigger. After long travelling we accommodated at the hotel, the students in host families and the next day the meeting started. We were welcomed by the headmaster, Birol Orak and the coordinator and other teachers at their school.

The first part of the meeting was connected with the main topic, jobs, crafts and village life in our countries in the past.



Our students answered a questionnaire prepared by the Turkish school and worked out the results and made presentations. There were 12 questions about typical features of village life included and in our school 34 students answered them. Here are some examples of the questions:

Do people in villages preserve their traditions more than in cities? Would you prefer to live in a village or in a city and why? What changes would you do if you were to live in a village? Do young people want to stay in villages?

On the first day the students from all partner schools presented the results, Filip, Katka and Veronika shared their opinions and opinion of the Czech students with their mates.

Jobs and crafts in the past

During our meeting in Antalya we visited the Antalya Museum, Suna Inan KIRIÇ museum in the old town of Kaleici as well as the Sandland Sculpture Exhibition on the Lara beach about the famous legends in the world.

Antalya museum is one of Turkish largest museums and it is near the Konyaalti beach. We walked through several halls and saw lots of very old statues, subjects such as wine bowls, dishes, mosaics, icons etc. from different periods as well as scenes describing old jobs.

Suna Inan KIRIÇ museum is a bit different. It is much smaller than the Antalya museum but also interesting and cosy. In the 'Hayat' section in the upper floor of the house, we could feel the atmosphere of Antalya in the 19th century, see some old photographs on display and take a look into other exhibition rooms. This hall also includes a timeline with selected events from the history of the city.

Our last visit was to an exhibition of sandy sculptures in Lara beach in the eastern part of the city.



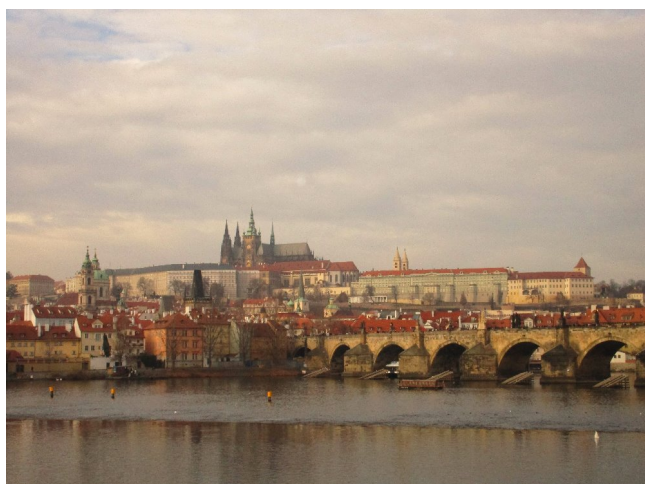
Village life

On the second day of our meeting we visited a wedding celebration in Karaveliler, a village a few kilometres away from Antalya. We could see how the villagers celebrate, how they treat guests, we could taste traditional meals and we could dance. We noticed that men and women mostly stay apart, women sitting at one corner, men at another. It was really interesting to see typical village life in Turkish countryside and realise the differences from other cultures. Nice cultural experience!

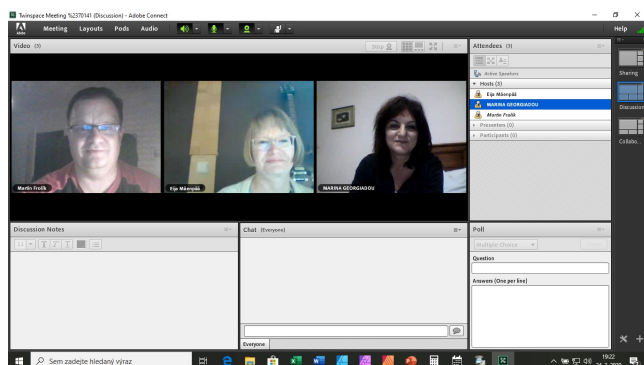


Local activities

In the middle of December we set off for an excursion to our capital, Prague, to see the places listed on UNESCO list of cultural heritage. We walked from Wenceslas Square, through the Powder Tower to the Old Town square where Christmas market was held. There we enjoyed some free time crawling around street stalls with typical Christmas sweets and meals. Later on, we continued past the Astronomical clock and over the Charles Bridge to the Lesser Quarter. We stopped for a while in both banks of the Vltava river, first watching and taking some photos of the Prague Castle, and then in Kampa on the other side of the river. Our last point of the programme was a visit to the Parliament of the Czech Republic where we could learn more about our parliamentary system during a presentation, watch the Parliamentary session for half an hour and finally talk to one of the MPs, Mr. Výborný, leader of the Christian democratic party, who explained the students the work of the Parliament.



e-Twinning



The coordinators from the partner schools met at a video-conference on e-Twinning to discuss the run of the project and talk about local activities and future plans. We also discussed preparations for the meeting in Karviná and uploaded some photos, presentations and other materials on the eTwinning portal

Trips to history - Termessos

About 40 kilometres from Antalya there is an ancient town of Termessos which was founded on a natural platform on top of Güllük Dağı. On Tuesday, October 15th we went for a trip to this interesting place. First we visited a museum where we learned more about typical fauna and flora in this area, afterwards the rest of the partner schools showed their presentations and interviews about jobs and crafts in the past and then we climbed up to the ruins of the amphitheatre.

It is a bit demanding to climb up so besides a lesson of history we had good physical training but we managed! And it is really worth to get up the hill not only to see the ancient theatre but also get a stunning view of the mountains around. On the way up we could see old graves, temples or walls of the ancient town. Termessos is one of the best preserved of the ancient cities of Turkey. The city was founded by the Solims who were mentioned by Homer in the Iliad in connection with the legend of Bellerophon. It is also said that Termessos is the only city that was not conquered by Alexander the Great but this is not fully true.



Meeting town representatives

Sharing good practice with mayors and other representatives of municipalities is a "must" point of the programme. We could meet the Mayor of Muratpaşa, Antalya, Mr. Ümit Uysal and have a talk with him about the project and about the town of Antalya.



National cuisine



At each project meeting we present our typical cuisine and this time it was the same. We gathered at school dining hall and prepared our food. We made garlic spread though it was a bit difficult to find appropriate equipment and we offered salami and some sweets and cookies to our friends. And of course we tasted foreign food, too!

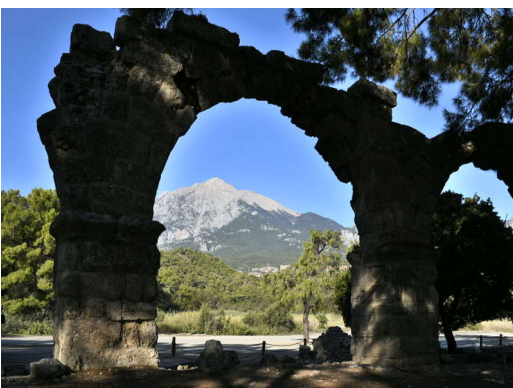
#ErasmusDays

Many European schools and NGOs participate in this activity launched by the European Commission. And as the dates of #ErasmusDays event matched the dates of the meeting in Antalya, we got involved not only in our country, but in Turkey, too. Here is their promotion of the Erasmus+ programme and their project activities.



Trips to history - Phaselis

Sunday whole day excursion to popular places on the Mediterranean coast started in Phaselis, the most important harbour city of eastern Lycia and an important centre of commerce between Greece, Asia, Egypt and Phoenicia. There we could see the ruins of the Aqueduct, harbour, agora or theatre.



My experiences from Turkey

by Martin Frolík

I have been to Antalya so many times! Since 2006 I have visited this city more than ten times, with one exception always for project meetings. I like Antalya from many reasons – nice and friendly atmosphere, tasty food (I like kebab or köfte and I love fresh orange and pomegranate juices sold near the Tower clock), relaxing beaches (both sandy Lara and stony Konyaalti), shopping in bazaar in Kaleici, and the possibility of day trips to beautiful places nearby such as Kursunlu waterfalls, amphitheatres in Aspendos, Termessos or Myra or other ancient places like Phaselis. And of course Blue voyage to sail the sea, enjoy the sun, have a swim from the boat and watch hidden places in the islands around. We were lucky with the weather for our trips, I am happy I could also have a swim in the sea! And food? As usual great! Breakfasts at the hotel, dinner in the village or lunch in Kaleici – really delicious!

The programme was nice and we managed to do all the work we planned for this meeting, this is always important as you do not feel stressed and you can enjoy the time as much as possible. I was also happy that I could meet some of the Turkish students who came to the Czech Republic for my youth project „Breaking Stereotypes“ a year ago! And obviously, getting back to places you have already been to is always touching. So, it was great to be there and hopefully I will be able to come to Antalya soon again.

Kekova, Myra

After Phaselis we stopped in Myra to have a breathtaking view of the rock tombs. Myra used to be one of the six most important cities of ancient Lycia.

While the rock tombs survived, other places became hidden such as the ruins under the water on the shore of Kekova island we saw during Blue voyage.



















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