**The importance of teamwork**

Several projects have motivated me to work with other colleagues, helping or supporting them in certain activities and have made me realize that peer work is much more productive and much more fun. Some of these projects were the participation in the photonics club, the practical classes of Physics and the mobility to Poland under the Erasmus project.

**Photonics in pairs:**

In my school I had the opportunity to participate in the Photonics club where, in small groups, we had to organize science exhibitions and to make experiments. This work with the lights aroused the interest of young and adult people in science and technology and made us realize that teamwork makes ours activities more dynamic and more interesting.

We had the precious help of the Photonics Explorer Kit for the success of this experience. But to use it, we had to do inquiries. And that’s when teamwork was indispensable because with the help of other colleagues it was much faster and more productive. In addition, the older students helped other students, in the experiences with light, showing them in a fun way the charm of physics.

 **Together we better understand physics**

During the physics classes, many times it’s necessary to use graphic calculators in some physics experiments, for example, plotting graphs. The use of the calculators promoted the development of discussions with our peers, because we were forced to make decisions about, for example, which graph is the best. In addition, they helped me to correct some errors that I made in the calculator, facilitating quite a lot the work done in the experiments.

**Discovering Countries in groups has more charm.**

In the mobility to Poland we developed our capacity to work in team. For example, there was a day when we visited the Early Medieval slavic Town in Wólka Bielecka, we were divided into groups with people from various countries. Each group had activities to perform such as throwing at a target, building pieces of clay, or even making frames with recycled paper. For this we needed the help of these colleagues so that the result was to our liking.

And in the end, we were taught a typical dance of that time and we had to join in groups of 3 people and learn this same choreography. Those who learned it faster and danced better would have a prize. And all the groups helped each other, creating strategies to win the challenge.

In addition, the Polish students helped us a lot in the Polish Culture workshops helping us to understand many of the Polish customs and explained to us some of the monuments and the stories associated with them. This has also happened to our colleagues from other countries. Through this teamwork, we have strengthened our recent friendships and learned more about the cultures of other countries

In conclusion, with these activities I realized that teamwork will be very important in our future, especially when we have a job. In addition, I learned that working in pairs is fun and makes it easier to accomplish our goals. Working alone wouldn’t be so attractive.

Inês Batista, 12th grade