***Erasmus*+**

****

***Inside Out***

*January 2020*

**Day 1,**

Monday the 27th January saw the Irish mobility (consisting of three teachers and four students) to embark on a journey eastward through Europe, its destination *Andreja Sladkovica School, Silac*. We landed in Budapest airport, meeting with the other five partner schools, The Netherlands, Slovakia, Portugal, Poland and Turkey. That evening the pupils would be introduced to their host families where they would stay for the coming four nights.

**Day 2,**

Began with a meeting in the Town Hall of Silac. All mobility’s were greeted by traditional Slovakian Singing, dancing and playing of the traditional Slovakian Instrument (Fujara) this was an excellent cultural experience for all involved. Following this the mobility were brought down to the *Andreja Sladkovica School* where all the six participating countries engaged in demonstrating and teaching their respective traditional dances. The Siege of Ennis went down a big treat in the middle of Eastern Europe!!! Following this, we were taken on a tour of the school to witness some Slovakian teaching in action this was a very interesting hour as we all saw the distinct differences and similarities in our teaching classrooms. The remaining part of the day consisted of all students and teachers in class learning about a typical Slovakian wire making art.

**Day 3,**

Began with a meeting in the School where pupils would engage in comparing and contrasting the difference school rules in each school/country. This was extremely interesting to see the comparison and contrast in each different school/country from uniforms to homework policies. Afterward it was time to travel to Banska Stiavnica by bus to engage in a Terra Permonia Excursion –(place to learn, have fun and relax, inspired by the Dutch know-how). It was time then for a beautiful lunch in the city, where we were all able to hear the mesmerising chimes of the city town bell. After lunch, we were off up the mountain to visit a mining museum. This proved to be extremely culturally & educationally informative. The mobility learned all about the history of the mines from the first digs to the closure.

**Day 4,**

Thursday began with an earlier start where all students would present to each other the running of the individual school day, following this they then would compare and contrast the similarities and differences between all the schools. This was a fantastic exercise as again it really gave an in-depth experience into the management of differing schools across Europe. Following this is was off to Silac Military air Base. Here we engaged in an interactive presentation from a working pilot, experienced a flight simulation and had a walking tour of the military base. After Lunch, the mobility travelled to Spania Dolina and partook in an excursion to the Historic School of *Josef Mistrik*, here students learned about the history of the school, its founder and heritage. After this packed day it was back to host families to get ready for the school disco and farewell night after an excellent week of learning. Our Host organised a fantastic night of dancing, local food and a mix of music from differing countries. It truly was a fantastic evening.

**Day 5**

Day five which came around so fast began with a very early start, travelling to Budapest airport together and all departing through different gates and returning to our individual countries. It was clear from the few tears shed in the airport the amazing new friendships that were made and how the learning about different cultures and heritages had truly moved all the students & teachers alike.