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**SMALL TOWNS, NEW CHALLENGES**

The Second international meeting for ‘Erasmus +’ ‘Small towns, new challenges’ took place between the 25th and 28th of March 2019 in the town of Razlog, Bulgaria. It had been organized from The Primary School ‘Yane Sandanski’.

The Spanish delegation from C.E.I.P. ‘Nuestra Señora De La Cabeza’ was represented by the teachers Miguel Ángel Izquierdo Cortés and Silvia Cerezuela Recover, and the students Mohamed Amine Zamana, Alejandro Fernández Martínez and Andrea Pérez Motos.

The Italian delegation from Instituto Comprensivo Santo Stefano di Camastra was represented by the teachers Rosalia Santa Cicero and Gaetana Coronati, and the students Vito Di Salvo, Carmelo Galati and Giuseppe Villanti.

The Polish delegation from Szkoła Podstawowa im. ks. ‘Prałata Józefa Bigusa’ was represented by the teachers Lidia Len and Katarzyna Winklas, and the students Izabela Sarnowska and Mikołaj Kowalski.

The Spanish delegation from Centro ‘San Viator, Sopuerta’ was represented by the teachers Naia Garcia and Teresa Enriquez , and the students Leizuri Garay Delgado, Gaizka Bilbao Del Pozo and Miren Amets Garitaonaindia.

The Portuguese delegation from Agrupamiento de Escolas De Alvide was represented by the teachers António Santos, Amândio Filipe Santos and Luísa Dores and the students Íris Araújo Rodrigues, Euclides Edgar Fernando de Pina and Inês Alexandra Tavares Ramos.

On Sunday, the 24th of March 2019, a transport for everybody from the airport in Sofia to the hotel and host families in Razlog was organized. Every teacher was welcomed and accommodated in the hotel, whereas the students were accommodated in their host families. In the day of departure, a transport to the airport in Sofia was also organized for every foreign participant.

On the 25th of March the workshop opening took place in the Primary school of ‘Yane Sandanski’ with the participation of the hosting school and the foreign representatives. The principal of the hosting school, Mr. Georgi Trenchev and the project coordinator, Mr. Miguel Cortez welcomed everybody. After this event, an excursion around the town was organized for the foreign students, in order to see the important sights in Razlog. They visited the Historical Museum of Razlog, the center and some parks. The students enjoyed their first lunch in the school lunch room. In the meantime, the teachers had lunch in the hotel restaurant. All days long, the students had breakfast and lunch in the school lunch room. In the afternoon an excursion for everybody to the symbolic church in Dobursko ‘St. Theodore Tyron and St. Theodore Stratilates’ and Guesthouse ‘Deshka’ was organized. At the guesthouse, with the hosts’ help the students made the traditional ‘pusheta’ which are used for the traditional Bulgarian dance ‘horo’. They dressed in traditional Bulgarian costumes, sang and danced to traditional Bulgarian music. The hosts showed how the delicious ‘banitsa’ and old school candies were prepared. The teachers had their dinner in ‘The Turkish Bath’ restaurant, while the students stayed and dined in their host families.

On the 26th of March the students did different activities, which included: learning how to dance the traditional ‘horo’, painting pitchers in scratching manner, painting folklore motives on utensils and playing traditional games. After the workshop, the teachers visited Pirin Golf Club and had lunch in ‘Ribarnika’ restaurant. In the afternoon, everybody visited the Visitors center in Pirin National Park in the town of Bansko. They had to know about the preserved beauty, the variety of wildlife and plants within the park, the highest peaks, as well as the tourism developing environment. The guests saw the biggest and toughest ski slopes for ski lovers, and the students could not resist to the fascination of snow and played with it untill the end of the day. After the activities, the students went to their host families, and the techers had their dinner in the traditional restaurant ‘Bohemi’.

On the 27th of March, every participant was taken to the Rila Monastery, situated in the mountain of Rila. They had to know about the Bulgarian orthodox religion and the history of the monastery. A lunch for everybody together was organized in the city of Blagoevgrad. In the afternoon, everybody had the possibility to meet its most important sights.

On the 28th of March the students did activities, which include: introducing the weaving craft, playing traditional games, hand making different school tools with Bulgarian ornaments in the manners of ‘shevitsa’ and the Bulgarian flag. Both students and teachers had lunch at school. In the afternoon they visited the pellet fabric ‘Pirin Pellet’. The guest learned about the biofuels and renewable energy sources. After seeing the whole pellet elaboration process, the guest had been welcomed with drinks and food from the hosts and every student received a small gift from them. Everybody dined in the traditional restaurant ‘Slantchevata mehana’, where the closing ceremony took place.

The delegations had committed and agreed upon the following:

- Greetings and gift exchange. Each delegation made a presentation of the project activities.

- Each delegation presented its work on the recipe book. There had been made suggestions about the development, coverage, layout, size, copies, printing, and costs of the book. It had been decided that it would be in circulation with 2000 pieces worth 5 euros each. The circulation is distributed as follows: Italy – 350, Spain, Sopuerta – 350, Portugal – 300, Poland – 400, Bulgaria – 200, Spain, Maria – 400.

- The work on Etwinning, monitoring and analysis had been discussed. Suggestions were made to improve work. All project activities should be uploaded to Etwinning.

- An analysis had been made on each partner school’s work in the mini-company field – organizational chart and different suggestions from others.

- The developed mobility instruments had been discussed. The representatives of the Bulgarian school presented a protocol about the different mobilities – management, activities, data, and final memory.

- An assessment had been made. The Italian delegation presented a protocol about the results from the research and the assessment form.

- The next international meeting will take place in Poland between the 20th and 25th of May 2019. Their coordinator received the necessary activities before and meanwhile the activities in Poland.

Further project activities were outlined. Different suggestions about the project improvement had been made.

- The tasks and responsibilities will be fulfilled as shown in the application form.

- All schools will continue to carry out local project activities in line with the tasks.

Razlog, the 28th of March 2019