

2018-1-ES01-KA229-049997_3

SMALL TOWNS, NEW CHALLENGES

The fourth international meeting of the Erasmus+ project „Small towns...new challenges” took place in Cascais, Portugal from the 21st to the 26th October 2019. It was organized by the Alvide Group of Schools.

The Spanish delegation from C.E.I.P. Nuestra Señora De La Cabeza was represented by the teachers Miguel Angel Izquierdo, Adela Pérez, Cati Martínez and Mari Trini Cortés; the students were Aarón Fajardo Martínez, Santiago Martínez Pérez, Mario Pérez Fajardo and María del Carmen Martínez Reche.

The Italian delegation from Istituto Comprensivo Santo Stefano di Camastra was represented by the teachers Rosalia Santa Cicero and Maria Anna Tardio; the students were Andrea Noto, Lorenzo Maria Ciardo and Ramona Fasolo.

The Bulgarian delegation from Nachalno Uchilishte Yane Sandanski was represented by the teachers Georgi Trenchev and Mariana Georgiewa Kardzieva; the students were Lyusi Kartalova, Vyara Pahova and Ibrahim Seryov.

The Polish delegation from Szkoła Podstawowa im. ks. 'Prażmota Józefa Bigusa' was represented by the teachers Katarzyna Winklas and Anna Nowicka; the students were Tymon Sternik, Amelia Nienalowska and Franciszek Krok.

The Spanish delegation from Centro San Viator was represented by the teachers: Naia Garcia Francisco and Andrea Jurjo; the students were Andrea Capetillo, Kentzi Dominguez and Aintzane Cantalapiedra.

On Monday, 21th October 2019, all the participants (except for the Polish delegation, who came on Sunday) were transferred to the hotel and welcomed by the teachers and the host families. The students went to their host families' houses. On the departure day, 26th October, the host families took the students to the hotel and both students and teachers were transferred to the airport.

On Tuesday, 22nd October, all the participants gathered at the Alvide Group of Schools' headquarters for the opening ceremony - the Director Felipe Santos welcomed all the delegations; Representatives from the parish of Alcabideche were present. After the ceremony, both students and teachers had a guided tour around the headquarters. After getting to know the facilities, the first coordination meeting held up and the traditional exchange of gifts took place. The students went to Prof. Manuel Gaião primary school to take part in ice-breaker activities with the Portuguese students. As Alvide Group of Schools is constituted by several schools with buildings apart from each other, after the meeting teachers continued the guided tour by bus, getting to know the facilities of the three primary schools. At Prof. Manuel Gaião primary school, the Portuguese students welcomed the teachers with traditional children's songs. Lunch took place at the school canteen, where a traditional Portuguese dish was served. After lunch it was possible to visit Quinta

do Pisão, a pedagogical farm. There, all the delegations took part on a peddypaper activity. After the visit, the students were picked up by the host families and spent the evening with them. The teachers went for a welcome dinner to a local restaurant in Malveira da Serra, a nearby village.

On Wednesday, 23rd October, all the participants went to the local market of Cascais in order to participate in the book and manufactured products selling. The municipality provided a place to present the products and the students made teams to go around the market and try to sell these products using the English language to communicate. The precious help from the parents association of the school was felt, as some of the parents helped in this activity. Besides the international recipe book created by all partners of the project, Portugal chose its inaugural sale of its mini company's products to be on this mobility. The products the mini company is producing are ginger biscuits and several kinds of pumpkin jam. From the creation of the logo, to the cooking and the labelling of the products, all these small steps were taken by the "mini" entrepreneurs of the mini company.

After this activity, the students went to Marechal Carmona's park, accompanied by portuguese teachers and parents, so a moment to relax was possible for them. Teachers from all delegations had their second coordination meeting at Cascais public library, "Casa da Horta". Matters such as the organization of the host families and the passage of the required information from the host countries were discussed, in order to perfect future events; the date of the last mobility was changed, so the mobility in María - Almeria is now from the 11th to the 16th of May. Ended the coordination meeting, the teachers went to meet the students at "Conde Castro Guimarães" museum, a small villa at the top of Cascais, next to the park where the students came firstly. The entire group had a guided tour to get to know the rich history of that family and its home. Around lunch time, the group walked through Cascais, back to its centre and had lunch at a restaurant nearby. After lunch the delegations took the private bus in order to go to DNA facilities. DNA is a municipality project related to entrepreneurship, where start up companies can be helped and advised at its embrionary stage. It also has school projects, where students with ages from six to 14 years old work in projects that can teach them to have an entrepreneur mind and give them tools to later be able to set projects in motion. The students attended a cooking workshop to learn how to produce the traditional cookie from Cascais called "Areias de Cascais"; the teacher attended a lecture regarding the functioning of DNA at schools.

After the trip, the Parents' Farewell Snack took place at Prof. Manuel Gaião primary school. In the end families took their hosted students home. The teachers went to the hotel.

On Thursday, 24th October, the group gathered at Cascais, the departure point for a day as a real tourist – going to Lisbon for the day on a touristic bus with audio guide tour, getting to know the beautiful seaside along the way. Half the way, the bus stopped at Belém, so teachers and students could get to try Pasteis de Belém, a traditional pastry, and walk freely around the place – here, it was possilbe to see several monuments: Jerónimo's monastery, Belém tower, the "Padrão dos Descobrimentos", a monument related to the portuguese maritime expansion or Belém's Cultural Centre. Resuming the trip, the bus went to Parque das Nações (the original area of the 98's Expo) and there the group had lunch at the Oceanarium's restauarant, as after lunch we all would have a visit arranged to get to know this magical place. On the way back, the bus was going to pass by Sintra, which wasn't possible due to the traffic. Arrived at school, the students were picked up by the host families and the teachers went to the hotel.

On Friday, 25th October, the last day for the mobility activities, the day started with the evaluation meeting for teachers, while the students were at Prof. Manuel Gaião primary school for a workshop on portuguese traditional games. On this meeting, the activities held by each country related to the project were presented: each country showed what activities were developed and their results. The

certificates from the mobility were delivered to each partner of the project. The tasks and responsibilities for each partner remain the same. All schools will continue to develop their local activities (related to the mini company and the project) and post all evidences on eTwinning space.

The forth mobility in Cascais - Portugal ended with a farewell dinner at a restaurant in Carcavelos' beach. The Portuguese teachers brought all the teachers back to the hotel and farewell took place on that night because all delegations had flights early in the morning or even during dawn.