



Sustain News By Montmajour

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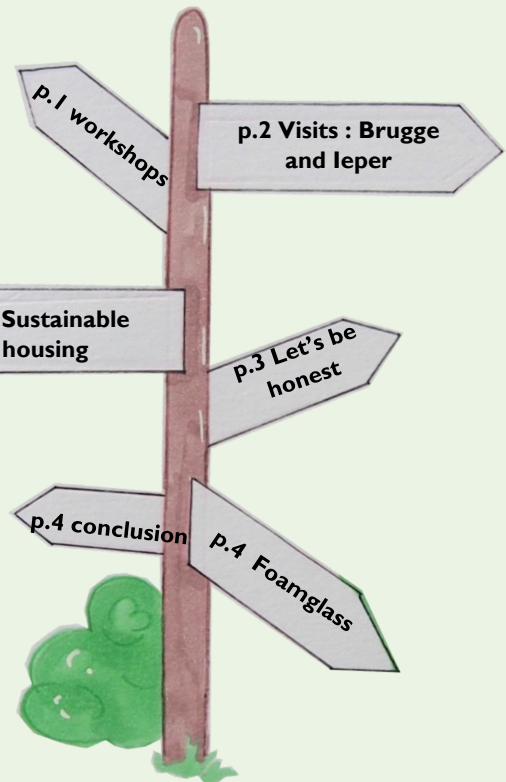
Montmajour students present : *Sustain.me STILL needs YOU!*



The Erasmus Belgian meeting from February 5th to 23th 2018

Students from five countries, Belgium, France, Germany, Italy and Spain, met in De Panne for a week to discuss sustainable architecture

On our way to De Panne! Train stop in Lille



Workshops : learning and cartoons

On Tuesday and Friday, we did workshops. All the students drew something based on sustainability. Then they'll be uploaded on eTwinning and displayed in each high school.

We also taught other students some of our knowledge about sustainability, on different subjects like clothes, water, housing waste, we enjoyed it very much!

Athéna H. & Youssra - TL



ERASMUS +

Editorial staff : Athéna, Eloise, Léonie, Tanguy, Thomas, Théo, Youssra, Morgane, Léa, Ernest, Deborah, Jeanne and Corentin.



Brugge and Ieper, major places of Belgian History

Brugge, the Belgian Venice

On the Wednesday evening, we visited the Old Bruges. It's a very beautiful city where all the houses and buildings were constructed during the Middle Ages. It's called the Venice of the North owing to the fact that there are a lot of canals. We learnt that a long time ago, when only men went to war, many women were single and couldn't be married, they didn't have any husbands or were widows : we called them « Begijntjes ». They lived together in



the « Begijnhof », where men weren't allowed to go. Then, we went to see a few houses called « Godhuis » which were given to the poor by the rich : it was a way for them to go to heaven because the poor had to pray for their benefactors. We also saw an ancient hospital and the biggest house of the city : the townhouse of the Gruuthuus family which was the wealthiest family of Bruges. They had the monopoly over beer in the city and they became rich thanks to that. Their townhouse was just next to the church. Finally, we went to the central square of the city : De Markt and had one hour free time.

Léonie L. & Eloïse V. - TS2

Ieper, a story of violence

On Thursday 22th we went to Ypres where many battles took place during the first World War. Although the city was totally destroyed during the war, it looks like a Flemish city from the 15th century. Actually, everything is less than hundred years old (1918-2018). We saw the Menin Gate which is a huge building on which more than 54,000 names are written. All the names belong to Commonwealth soldiers (Australia, Ireland, Canada, South Africa...) who died in Flanders' Fields. We then went to a museum which was on the battlefield of Paschendaele. A comparison was made between the different nationalities and their uniforms. We could see many objects, from water flasks and gas masks to amputation saws and bullet-removing tongs. Ypres was the first battle field on which toxic gases were used, and they were very deadly and killed a huge number of people. We then saw a lot of weapons like bombs and bullets.

We visited reconstructed dugouts, and the ceiling was really low and the space very restricted. In the end, we went into a reconstruction of some trenches, which was an upsetting experience, as we could see how and where soldiers used to live.

At the end of the day, we visited Tyne Cot graveyard in which thousands of soldiers who sacrificed their lives for freedom are buried. This graveyard is



the biggest Commonwealth graveyard.

Tangy A. & Thomas B. - TS2



Conferences

Letsbeonest (HNST) : a radically different denim

Tom Duhoux presented his latest project to us : his own jeans brand, HNST meaning Honest. Last year they collected 6003 old jeans. They separated jeans which could be worn again from those which were worn out. With the latter they made fibers that can be re-used to create new sustainable jeans. Owing to the fact that they can't make jeans with only old fibers, they had to find another type of fiber to add. They wanted organic fibers but, unfortunately,



none of the organic fibers were good enough (growing too far away from Belgium, not resistant enough...) so they decided to use TENCEL © fibers which are made with recycled paper. Then, they made yarn and wanted to find a factory which can weave their jeans in a more traditional and respectful way and color them with indigo without using chemicals. So, they found an Italian factory which responded to all of these criteria.

They also found ways to change the color of the jeans without using chemicals (by using lasers and ozone sprays for example). Now their jeans (not only pants but also jackets and skirts) can be ordered on their website called « Let's be honest », so they will only produce the right number of jeans to avoid unsustainable stocks. For all other parts of the jeans (rivets, pockets, brand logo), they found sustainable alternatives. Finally, for each pair of jeans the customers can see every production step of the item : who created it, made it, where...

Léonie L. & Eloise V. - TS2

Sustainable Housing

On Tuesday Pieter Flamand did a presentation about sustainable housing. He explained to us what sustainable housing is and why it is so important.

Sustainable housing is a new way of building your house in more economical and long lasting way.

It is a very important topic for our future. It reduces the impact of man on earth and allows for better life conditions. The materials used in sustainable housing are less toxic for both humans and nature.

Furthermore, those materials come from more accessible resources that can be used

without consequences on the environment, "Because we need the planet !" Pieter Flamand, Erasmus conference.

On Friday morning, we attended a presentation on co-housing by Rika and Jo. Co-housing consists in many families living together in the same neighborhood sharing garden, parking space and a common house. That house is used for guests or meetings. They also have a room for workshops, a common kitchen with vegetarian meals only, and even cars to share, depending on the number of inhabitants and budget.

The common garden can have spaces for kids and grown-ups for example: a park, or a place to rest and meet. It is a sustainable way of living. To reduce their water consumption, they share washing-machines, which are disposed in the common house. Being together is more family-friendly, with all generations included.

Each family also has their own privacy, they all have a house, or a flat near to each other, of course there are rules to cohabit peacefully but they are free to live the way they want.

Yousra L. et Athéna H. - TL1



Solar Car

During the week we have seen a solar car. It looks like a formula 1 car but it works with solar energy. The solar panels are on the roof, and the car was built with carbon fiber. Twenty-five engineers worked on this project for a timespan of 1,5 years. This car was built for a contest, the Bridgestone World Solar Challenge in Australia, and the Belgian Solar Team won bronze.

But we think this car and the race they made are not very sustainable because the engineers wanted a fast car. It can drive very fast (max 120 km/h; average 90 km/h) This car cost more than 1 million dollars.

Deborah G. - 1S2



Visits and workshops.

Insulation with Foamglass

During the week in De Panne, we visited a plant which recycles glass, called Foamglas. It is divided in two parts:

- The first part sorts the different types of glass, and crushes it into cullet, which is then sent to the second plant.
- The second part melts the cullet and turns it into usable foam glass.

First, the glass picked up from the bottle banks is stored and covered from the rain so it doesn't get wet. It

is then crushed into small pieces and sorted by colour in machines that use UV light sensors to check the color. If the glass piece is not transparent or not of the right colour, it can cause problems in the production of bottles for example. If it's the case the clients will complain, and the bottle is thrown away, which is not sustainable.



Then, the cullet is transported into the second plant, where they add sand and iron to it, and melt it at a temperature of 1250°C. 1-millimeter thick glass is then produced and it is crushed into very fine powder. Then they add carbon to the crushed glass and they put it in an oven at 800°C to "bake" it. It can be compared to bread because they use a small quantity of matter, which then inflates like bread. It forms dry air bubbles that create space in the melted cullet which allows for a very good insulation. The foam glass is exported and used to insulate floors, walls and roofs of hospitals, shopping malls and car parks for example.

Tanguy A. & Thomas B. - TS2



Don't ever forget to be sustainable



To conclude the whole project!

There it is, the end of our project. Even if this last week was the final meeting, we had a great time in Belgium, just as the others. It was interesting to discover new ways to build a home, and it made us realise we have to change drastically our way of life in Europe, sharing, common spaces, cars, washing machines...

On a more historical level, we didn't only learn not to forget the Great War but we also discovered it through a different point of view.

That week was also the moment to do a recap about what we've done the last two years and what it has changed in our lives. To be continued...

Léonie L. & Eloise V. - TS2

