

GENERAL REPORT ON THE MEETING IN BARCELONA

From 10th to 14th February 2014

- **Monday 10th February:**

In the morning we welcomed all the delegations and we started off with the Opening Ceremony at the end of which, the two music schools, Romania and Greece, delighted us with some nice music. Afterwards, the host students showed the international students around the Túrbulaschool. We had lunch together at school and we continued with “Our Musicians’ Workshop” in which we all got to know an important musician from each country. All the Comenius group worked in internationally mixed groups in order to make sure that they all had the chance to speak in English and share all the information. The last activity was to create a visual poem from the feelings that the music from one of the musicians awakened. After the workshop, students had a free evening and the teachers meeting took place.

- **Tuesday 11th February:**

Our meeting point was always the school at the Comenius hall. We met in the morning and we split up in internationally mixed groups with two students who were their guides during this day. Tuesday was the day to discover Roman and Medieval Barcelona. After lunch we visited the “Palau de la MúsicaCatalana” (“The Palace of the Catalan Music”) where we could all enjoy the breathtaking setting while listening to the stunning music coming out from the Music Palace pipe organ. Afterwards, we were all received by the major in theSantAdriàBesòs Town Hall, and finally we came back school to carry out the last activity of this day: a traditional Catalan dance workshop, in which we all learnt how to dance both a traditional stick dance and a traditional square dance, with the objective to dance this Catalan square dance on the last day. We all enjoyed dancing together.

- **Wednesday 12th February:**

Our meeting point was at the Comenius hall again. Wednesday was Gaudi’s day. We began with a workshop in order to get to know his personality. We made internationally mixed groups and in each group there were two Túrbulas students in charge of telling the others about Gaudí. After this activity, we set off around in order to observe and enjoy Gaudi’s landmark’s: the Park Güell, the SagradaFamília, Pedrera and Casa Batlló (the two last ones from the outside). In the afternoon we all had free time. In the evening we could enjoy the astonishing performance carried out by the host students. The performance was based on music from the 70’s and 80’s. We also did the karaoke activity that all the other countries had

prepared in advance. So we alternated both performances and karaokes, on which all of us in internationally mixed groups took part.

- **Thursday 13th February:**

We met in the school early in the morning in order to head to Monistrol, a town by Montserrat mountains, because we had to take the rack railway which took us to the monastery. Once there, we made internationally mixed groups in which one Túbula student would be their guide. We all had a very nice stroll around the monastery and we waited until one o'clock when the choirboys perform "Salve Regina" and "El Virolai". Afterwards we took the rack railway back to Monistrol and it was time for a traditional Catalan lunch. After lunch, we went back to Barcelona and we stopped by the seaside in order to enjoy altogether the beautiful view from the Barceloneta shore. We had some free time and at nine o'clock we all met again at school in order to have dinner altogether, including all the delegations, the parents, the school staff... We would like to acknowledge all the families in bringing all the homemade food which was shared by all of us. We would like to highlight the friendly atmosphere we could all feel during the Farewell Party. After dinner, each delegation showed a traditional dance they had prepared, and then they taught all of us how to dance it and we could all participate. At the end of the party, all our Comenius friends could enjoy and grasp the atmosphere of our traditional culture because we were so fortunate to have the "CollaGegantera de SantAdrià de Besòs". They could witness a performance by the "gegants", the big and the small giants, and even the international delegations had the opportunity to carry one of the big giants and the two small ones, and make them dance. In order to round off the Farewell Party, a disco-party was organized and in this way they could say goodbye to each other.

- **Friday 14th February:**

Friday was the leaving day, so during the whole day all the delegations were leaving and it was time to hand out the Attendance Certificates.

STRONG POINTS – FEEDBACK FROM THE ALL THE DELEGATIONS

- The Opening Ceremony: it was very interesting and it was well-prepared. They considered it was a good idea to ask the two music schools, Greece and Romania, to prepare a short performance. Poland also highlighted the fact that our Comenius Anthem was played as background music during the ceremony.

- The tour around the school guided by the host students has been highly appreciated. In this way the delegations mentioned that they could learn about the school and our education system.
- It has been highly appreciated the fact our students became the guides during all the tours in Barcelona and, most importantly, the fact that the students and teachers were grouped in internationally mixed groups. Thus, some teachers could also help the students.
- The first lunch at school was a really good idea as students started bonding very quickly as they had the chance to dance together. It was a nice ice-breaker activity.
- Workshops (Musicians' workshop, Gaudí's workshop and Traditional Dance workshop):
 - o There was a great involvement by both students and teachers as they were planned to be in internationally mixed groups and everyone had to speak in English
 - o It was a chance to find out more about the music from each of the countries
 - o It has been appreciated the fact that we all listened to the different pieces by all the musicians
 - o Poland mentioned the visual poem as a very interesting activity
 - o As for the dance workshop, it was a nice opportunity to dance traditional Catalan dances. It was fun and dynamic.
 - o As for Gaudí's workshop, some countries mentioned that the activity done at the hall before the tour around the city was very good in order to get to know the personality and it helped to better understand the landmarks that we visited.
- Tour around Roman and Medieval Barcelona:
 - o It was a great opportunity to get to know the old city
- Gaudí's tour:
 - o It has been highly appreciated as it was a great chance to find out more about the city and his landmarks
- Visit "The Music Palace":
 - o Everyone was amazed by the beauty inside this stunning building.
 - o Some delegations mention the great opportunity to enjoy the music coming out from the organ in the Music Palace.

- Visit the Town Hall and reception by the Mayor:
 - o Hungary and Romania point out the importance of this reception

- As for the teachers' dinner, all the delegations would like to thank the Headmaster for such a tasty and lovely Catalan traditional dinner.

- Pop Rock concert and karaoke from the 70's and 80's:
 - o All the delegations congratulated the Catalan students on their involvement and their stunning performances.
 - o Some delegations mention that the karaokes were a great opportunity to sing together

- Trip to Montserrat:
 - o Everybody was excited and touched by the breathtaking views and the moving performance by the choirboys. All the delegations grasped the importance of this place for all the Catalans.
 - o All the delegations enjoyed the chance to eat traditional food in a traditional Catalan restaurant called "masia"

- The seaside visit:
 - o It was a great chance for students to enjoy the seaside in La Barceloneta, they played and had lots of fun
 - o For some of them it was the first time to taste the sea

- Farewell Party:
 - o It was a good idea that all the families brought some traditional food and in this way all the delegations could taste different foods
 - o Some delegations point out the fact that it was a nice time to share our traditional dances and dance together.

- Host families:
 - o All the delegations would like to thank the Catalan families for their warm welcome and hosting.
 - o All the delegations would like to thank all the families for all the food during the Farewell Party

WEAK POINTS – FEEDBACK FROM ALL THE DELEGATIONS

- Poland mentions the fact that the content of the tour around Barcelona was difficult to understand by their students.
- Italy mentions that it would have been appreciated to have a bit of free time for them to explore the city.
- Hungary mentions that it would have been a good idea to reschedule the programme and have a whole afternoon by the sea. They also mention that we could have used more public transport in order to get from one place to the other.
- Greece mentions that it would have been better singing karaokes from downstairs. They also mention the fact of meeting in the morning at school from 9 onwards. They also mention the visit to the Town Hall as avoidable but necessary.