

# Escola Básica e Secundária Miguel Torga, students participation in the Comenius meeting in Hungary



*The best experience of our lives*

**12th November 2012**

We arrived at the airport at four a.m. , three of us came from Bragança and one came from Braga. The teachers stayed near Porto and arrived almost at the same time as we did. We were rather sleepy and also tired, but really enthusiastic about the trip.

First we travelled from Porto to Lisbon and then from Lisbon to Budapest. We landed in Budapest at 15.30, local time. Our first impression was that it is a big city with a lot of monuments and tall buildings. It was quite dark when we travelled from the airport to Bicske, the small town where the hotel and the school are located.

At the hotel, a very traditional place, we met some Slovenian students and soon we became friends: we started by playing cards with them and then we had dinner at the same table and we were able to talk about our countries and our likes and dislikes. We also tried to communicate with the Italian students, but they were very shy.

As we were so tired, we had been travelling for many hours, we went to bed early!



**13<sup>th</sup> November 2012**

Early in the morning we went to school on foot, joining all the other foreign students and teachers - Danish, German, Italian, Polish and Slovenian - guided by the Hungarian coordinator, teacher Éva Pató.

At school we were received and welcomed by the school headmaster and then by all the students in the school and everyone was very happy to have guests from other countries. We attended lessons: the first was a Maths lesson with our teachers, some Danish girls and one of their teachers and the second was an English lesson taught by the Slovenian coordinator, teacher Andrej Kavcic. Besides the Hungarian students and teacher, one of their teachers and our English teacher, there were also some Italian students in the class with us. Teacher Mili attended a Physical Education class with some other students and teachers.

We had lunch in the school canteen, typical food from Hungary, and afterwards, while our coordinator was in a project meeting, we went on a town rally with teacher Mili together with some Italian and Danish students. Later we visited the community centre where the show was going to take place.

We had dinner all together in the hotel and we talked with our friends that we found very nice and talkative.





**14<sup>th</sup> November 2012**

Show time day!

In the morning we walked to the community centre and practised our traditional dances. After lunch at school, all groups went to the hotel to get ready for the show.

At the beginning of the show everyone was very happy and enthusiastic. The costumes were very traditional and different from each other. All dances were very happy and lively, each one with its own style. The "Caretos" were hidden and people got scared when we appeared trying to frighten everyone. The "Pauliteiras de Miranda" were a success!

When all the participants had presented their dances, everyone danced together. Each country taught its own dance and at the end there was a flash mob. We enjoyed ourselves a lot and it was an amazing experience, different from everything else that we had experienced till that moment.

At night we again had dinner all together and all the people from the school who were involved in the project, including the school headmaster, were there too. It was a very pleasant moment and we think that music and dance bring people together because after the show everyone started talking to each other as if they were old friends.



**15<sup>th</sup> November 2012**

Day trip to the capital city of Hungary, Budapest!

As we saw the first day, it's a beautiful city with the river Danube, the bridges, and the monumental buildings, like the Parliament, Saint Stephen's church or Matthias Church.

We started by visiting the Statue of Liberty and then we headed to the city market where we bought some souvenirs. Then we went on a trip in the river by ferry boat where we took some wonderful pictures of Budapest's sights. We also had the opportunity to visit the city centre. We had lunch there and went shopping in the main commercial area, where the Advent market was being installed.

At the end of the afternoon we were tired but we had our last dinner in Hungary waiting for us in the hotel. We were a bit sad because we had to say goodbye to our friends, whom we will miss a lot. We had a great time together with all the people that were in the hotel and having dinner with us and we even were invited to sing a song, "A little Peace", by Nicole, along with teacher Éva and teacher Andrej. Everyone applauded our participation, but we were a bit shy because we didn't know the lyrics very well!

That night was very difficult to say goodbye to all our friends and we were really sad that we had to come back home!



## 16<sup>th</sup> November

We arrived at Ferihegy airport at 9 a.m. We travelled with the Danish group and had to wait for two hours for our check in. Then it was another hour and a half for boarding time and when inside the plane we were informed that due to air traffic, we had to wait one hour more. We were very tired and just wanted to sleep, but we couldn't. The cabin crew were very nice to us and started talking and asking questions about our stay in Hungary. After taking off, they asked us if we wanted to see the cockpit and during the flight we were taken there and could see how it is to be in the command of a plane.

We had a delicious lunch and before falling asleep it was still possible to see the Alps covered by snow and above the clouds, which looked like "a sea of cotton"!



At 8p.m our plane from Lisbon landed in Francisco Sá Carneiro airport and we could come home to relax after so exciting days spent with different but at the same time very similar people!

### **The Students:**

Ana Madalena Amado

Anaísa Fernandes

Mariana Garcia

Patrícia Dias