



# COMENIUS' PROJECT

## „BRING OUTDOORS INSIDE“

### PAST - PRESENT - FUTURE



2014

## **Collaborators:**

***St. Saviour's CEVC Nursery and Infant School***

***Bölets förskola***

***Scoala Gimnaziala Baiculesti***

***Acarlar Anaokulu***

***Colegio Educación Primaria El Chaparral***

***ЦДГ 55/CDG 55***

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“Nothing is lost, nothing is created, everything is transformed.”(Antoine Lavoisier)

## FOREWORD

“Bring outdoors inside” is an experience that can hardly be described in words, it must be experienced. My words are simple, the images and results tell its story.

At the beginning I was worried regarding some questions

How can a school in a rural area institutionally develop?

How could children take advantage of new modern activities?

We excitedly took a road we didn't know much about, but the key seemed to be the Comenius Programme.

We read, we informed ourselves (we express thanks to the National Agency and to all friends who helped us), we were all eager to find out how Comenius would be, but above all we all worked hard and seriously.

As for me Comenius represented the possibility to professionally enrich myself. Discovering new teaching methodologies, the possibility of applying the pedagogical knowledge, all these led to the enrichment of my professional experience opening new horizons full of resources.

The experience within the “Bring outdoors inside” project was beyond all expectations. The idea that the thematic activities will keep us busy all the time seemed to be false. The programme was not hard and besides our activities, we managed to know each other very well. Thus from partners we became friends. Our e-mail, facebook and sometimes

phone conversations are and I believe they will still be a living proof for that.

I met wonderful people from England, Bulgaria, Romania, Spain, Sweden and Turkey. They gave me confidence that we can be a family in which nationality, color, gender or religion don't matter.

I visited places I thought I would never see. I developed the competence of communicating in a foreign language.

The project gave the teacher, pupils, parents and authorities the possibility to get in touch with elements of culture and civilization, traditions specific to several countries.

Thinking of the acquired memories I would anytime like to go back to the exciting activities and thus continue!

Everything we did was unique! Unfortunately all things come to an end, every end brings both happiness and sadness. It's difficult to break from those with whom you spent two eventful years, in which we shared opinions, feelings and gradually formed a team in which each of us had a well-defined role.

Nevertheless we hope we will keep on talking, maybe meeting again (October 2014 a new start), this project being the beginning of such partnerships, every end being a new beginning!

Cosmin Mazilescu

## BULGARIA

“Somewhere Over the rainbow blue birds fly  
And the dreams that you dare to  
dream really do come true”

### **Göteborg as seen by Bulgarians**

Fresh air, crystal clear, filled our lungs the moment we got off the plane. We felt the beating of our hearts. We were excited. All around was bright green.

Sweden’s second largest city Göteborg, the terminal of Comenius mobility project, was awaiting for us, and so were our colleagues from the partner countries all united by a common objective to reveal Nature’s beauty exerting positive energy and ennobling influence on us, to realize its importance and the necessity of keeping and preserving it for future generations.

As Gunilla kindly reminded us to fasten the back seat belts in her Volvo car, our destination was clear – we were going to the heart of Volvo motor works. And not only that.

Our Swedish colleagues offered a splendid possibility to catch and mingle with the spirit of this Nordic city situated on the west coast at the mouth of Jotta river in Kattegat, north sea.

Today’s Göteborg was founded by royal charter in 1624 by King Gustavus II Adolphus. The building of the city was supposed to demonstrate to neighbouring Denmark, and to the world not only the myth and significance of Sweden but a new architectural style and skillful building as well. “Gustaf Adolf’s” Square, Kungspors avenyen, “Jota platz” – the culture centre of Göteborg, City theatre, The University with its beautiful “Vasa” park, the port – the largest among the Nordic countries – are but a small number of the cultural establishments that our hosts took us to. We daresay those are ingenious traces of the past where sculpture and nature intermingle in oneness. High living standard shows everywhere, refinement and

perfect traffic organization in the city centre, including numerous bicycles, walk ways.

Here we are at Universeum – the biggest science center in Scandinavia – several storeyed, covering some 8000 m<sup>2</sup> and sheltering flora and fauna of whole Scandinavia. An amazing opportunity for the kids to get acquainted with the country and nature – I can't help mentioning Carl Linaeus – the Swedish king of flowers, and Linnaeus tradition, if so be called the feeling for nature, existing up to our days. Then we started a long tour to discover the marvelous Universeum world.

We matched how children are encouraged to study and think in their individual capacity by means of interactive educational games.

In fact, teaching children under school age to think independently, is one of the methods used by Sweden to sustain its long lasting tradition for constantly introducing educational innovations.

That is what we observed at the Kindergartens we visited and at a school, by the quietness, harmony of non-standard colours and successful relations between managing and teaching staff, students and parents. There were a large parking lot in the school yard, and very many bikes of those who had come here. Inside there were study rooms for the children to practice their knowledge acquired, so as to be able later in real life to cope with challenges – cooking, experiments, attempts arts, foreign languages etc. There were boards, exhibited children's creative works, pictures, posters – probably to keep feeling of belonging alive, as well as the idea that imagination and nature together could endow us with profound happiness.

The school borders on a forest where in children are taken on programme to care for it and keep it in good condition.

We also went for a walk in the forest with the kids and teachers from the Kindergarten. We followed the traffic and behavior rules, relaxed in silence watching how kids studied while playing, we all had lunch in the open.

Back in the yard, we took part in a quite similar to Bulgarian Midsummer Day, we wreathed flowers into garlands, there were

traditional dances connected with ancient traditional customs, the power of herbs, flowers, games and songs.

We were impressed by the ease in a teacher – student relation, by the simplicity of teaching close to nature, how nature becomes a part of their personality!

Besides we were convinced that equality in education is guaranteed for all. We saw that proper environment was provided for disabled children.

With the concept that disability cannot change children's rights, they are the same as any children's rights.

In Sweden, Thanks to our Swedish colleagues, we witnessed a policy of positive attitude to immigrants those who successfully adopt the rules of Swedish educational system – with their labour and diligence become reliable partners of teachers and students.

We have strongly impressed by the concern towards teacher –Here are rooms set up for relaxation where teachers can relax and rest. There are modern technologies facilitating the process of teaching – interactive boards, tablets for each teacher, copiers printers, access to internet, rich library offering the possibility for individual work.

We came to know a Swedish proverb “Respect is glue for all separate persons in society” And the opposite, “An offence injures without exception, each rudeness makes all the society ill”.

Ten words of primary importance for Swedes: Confidence, responsibility, freedom, honesty, loyalty, apology, understanding, care, awareness, modesty. These all come to show that Swedish society is founded on a solid ground of natural respect and support. Adding the ability successfully to preserve and manage its human, natural and economic resources, Sweden is becoming one of the most developed country in Europe.

Somewhere over the rainbow... Goteborg...for sure it is our Kindred place. We are all unanimous about it. Nature dominates, a man is as tough we get humble when facing enormity and depth. And unconsciously become a part of the charm and an aesthetics of a world built up by the participants in this wonderful project.



We are thankful to our Swedish colleagues the hearty welcome!

We are thankful to to all our friend for the successful partnership.

So long!!!

## **Autumn in Romania – warm colors, warm feelings**

Nursery 55 ‘Veselina’ in Sofia is a respected partner in ‘Bring Outdoors Inside’ project after Comenius programme. The work of the team of the team following the project till October 2013 was positively evaluated at the 4<sup>th</sup> working meeting hold October 20-25, in Romania.

The Bulgarian team was welcomed. Despite the small hour of our arrival in Bucharest our hosts offered us a cordial reception and took us in their own cars to Curtea Ardeș. Our first impressions were that we came to a very beautiful, tidy, neat and quiet place. The beautiful autumn colors contributed to our high spirits.

The school in Romania is a good example of the continuity in generations of teachers. The old photos on the walls in the corridors of the building dating back to 1910 speak for the long school history.

On entering the school yard, our attention was drawn by plastic arts made from used tires, bottles and other plastic things and natural materials – earth, flowers, stones, pieces of wood and branches. In the kindergarten, as well as in all school room there were pieces of art made from natural materials. The children exhibited their skill to create beauty out of seeds, leaves and other autumn materials. We were strongly impressed by teaching staff and the Headmaster Ileana Bodesco to teach the students how to live in harmony with nature and to master regional traditional skills – pottery making and wood carving, and the habituate to ecological thinking. That was evident at the school’s daily round but also at the concert hold in the House of culture in Curtea de Ardeș.

The teachers efforts are not isolated activities they are strongly supported by the Major of the town and the whole community. We were convinced that keeping nature clear and recycling is priority for Dacia motor works, and that is a long – term strategy.

Seeing the awesome Carpathian Mountains we witnessed how Romanian respect and keep Nature clean. An one day trip to Vidraru dam, the hudro-electric power plant. Transfagarshan and the Old river valley left unforgettable memories. Stunning views, happy faces of our partners from all participating countries, all were imprinted in numerous photos, and in our hearts.

We were impressed by the Museum of traditional Popular art in Golesti by the neat and beautiful estate and the school there. We noticed a lot of similarities with the Bulgarian from the time of the national revival – arrangement, facilities and methods of teaching.

The traditional natural materials to be used in construction and customs of the people could be seen in many houses in different regions and in the museum set up in the open.

Five days of our stay in Romania flew quickly, as they were full of emotions, excellent impressions and friendly relations. We keep wonderful memories of the project organization, the great hospitality and friendly smiles of our Romanian colleagues.

Bath is a city famous with its mineral hot springs during the centuries. Queen Ann rediscovered its hot springs and that's the new beginning of city as one of the famous British pa resorts.

Today Bath city is one of the most preserved towns in Britain with a heritage of Georgian architecture crafted from Bath Stone. Today Bath is a calm place, sophisticated and flourishing, quiet and magnificent the city has an atmosphere of sophistication in which people can again relive the embodiment of the good life from the eighteenth century, while they can enjoy the taste of today's way of life in Bath selling antiques, shopping and eating in the restaurants.

Many famous icons of the English literature lived there like a Jane Austen, Charles Dickens and Mary Shelley. The city is describe

in novels and many films and television programmes have been filmed using its architecture as the backdrop. In now days Bath Is one of the most visited British towns because of the beautiful architecture, because of its rich cultural life, the many festivals and museums.

In 1987 the city was selected by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site, recognising its international cultural significance

After seven hours long trip from Bulgaria by plane and bus finally we arrived in Bath, England. On the next day after our arriving we saw the whole magnificence of the city, we were touched by the spirit of the city by a tour of the largest cathedral in the city Famous as Bath Abbey. We visited all parts of the cathedral, we reached to the highest parts of the towers and its parts, where we had a spectacular view of the city, it was an extraordinary experience. We also saw and touched one of the oldest clock In town, and all the bells of the Abbey

In Bath we faced typical English weather - windy, rainy, it was changing every hour - sometimes the sun rises, then a strong wind, then rain, then is quiet, but not for long. Our trip to this city was the second project mobility from 8 to 13 March 2013 In old English tradition in the beginning of March is Mothering Sunday, it is a Christian holiday. On this day, we had a free time, all English colleagues went to visit their mothers. We and colleagues from other countries visited the nearby town of Bristol, which is the best city to live in the UK. University of Bristol, many good shops and active local people make it a very vibrant city with streets full of people and lovely atmosphere, changing with the requirements of the coming XXI century.

The real project work was in two days, we met with British colleagues in their St. Saviour's CEVC Nursery and Infant School. Meeting all English colleagues and visiting their St. Saviour's CEVC Nursery and Infant School=

We were lucky to have the opportunity to visit the nursery in Bath. The organisation of the teaching process in England is very different from ours and we were really happy to see how it works.

Children are free to play or study in study hall or in the yard of the nursery, which is extremely large. In front of every study hall there is an enclosed space in which children can choose what and how to study by playing games.

Presentations of the partners from our last mobility in Spain passed spontaneously and naturally.

All partners shared our experience how and what we did it, how we got to the final results, how we worked on the tasks in the project. In Bath we discussed about effectiveness of separate collection of waste and recycling. We shared the experience of other countries. We exchanged presents from recycled materials, made by children.

In the nursery we had the opportunity to visit and participate a lesson to five-year old children. The participants of the Project made a presentation of the educational system in their country.

Our visit in Bath was at the same time as the Dance Festival of all schools and nurseries in the city, of which we were guests.

Five days of our stay in Bath flew quickly, as they were full of emotions, excellent impressions and friendly relations. We keep wonderful memories of the project organization, the great hospitality and friendly smiles of our English colleagues.

At the time of the another work meeting four teachers from nursery "Veselina" K. Milusheva, R. Stoyanova, M. Petrovska G. Barzeva had the pleasure to meet the most sunny and radiant people, our partners from Turkey. This week was very special for us. Our whole stay was a real pleasure and excitement for the whole group. Warmth and friendly behavior of our colleagues from Aydin predispose us to feel cozy and comfortable, get to know each other and unite about the idea of the future of our planet.

## Aydin

When we were there all children were in vacation, but we still could feel children's presence. The active participation of young children in the implementation of individual project tasks Comenius introduced a new perspective on our future work. During our stay there we had an opportunity to visit two Nurseries, in which we felt the industrious of our colleagues to give their children warm, creative atmosphere to work and study. Colleagues from Turkey showed us many traditions of their country, they didn't leave us for a moment doing nothing, and we participants from the project were included in various demonstrations and games. They told us how they love to work in their garden, and how they planted different spices and vegetables there. We were impressed from collegial relationship between teachers from two different kindergartens. We visited two kindergartens, each of them had its own style of work, but in both seemed that focus their attention on the children! Although the children were in vacation, their photos were everywhere in their classrooms! Support that our colleagues receive from local Municipality is impressive. I hope their efforts are valued on their merits! We were impressed by posters with the emotional state of children for every day! Considering the emotional status of the child, our colleagues had discovered the key to the child's soul, and after they have this key they effective work with the individual as a person! Our colleagues presented their ideas and expressed their good intentions for the common future of our planet. The use of the simple but effective working methods we accepted as successful and fruitful. Caring for the environment, our good friendship and cooperation will be a good reason to continue our work in the future. If we are united will be stronger and we can prove to the world that even the small things we do with children may be crucial to saving our planet.

We keep wonderful memories of the project organization, the great hospitality and friendly smiles of our Turkish colleagues.

## Spain

Our first project trip was between 23<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> of November 2012 in Spain, where our host were the pupils and the teachers of Colegio Educación Primaria El Chaparral in Mijas.

Spain is byword the place of sunshine, olive trees, bullfight, football and a plenty of positive feelings.

This was my first visit to the land of the Flamenco and the reason for it was our participation in Project Comensky in Mijas and Fuengirola. The visit turned into a quest of knowing Costa del Sol. We were lucky and the weather was fantastic. After the long trip from Germany at last we arrived in sunny Malaga! The sun was shining and the palms were “waiving” at us under the gentle breeze.

The spirits were high and all our weariness disappeared. One hour after our landing at Malaga we arrived in Fuengirola. The hotel was almost on the beach and the size of the room, the terrace and the view were breath-taking. After our meeting with our Turkish and Spanish friends we went for an evening walk in Fuengirola. The town was neat and clean with no ugly buildings in sight. There were a lot of flats for foreigners and locals not living in the town. I was impressed with the greenery everywhere.

There is a number of resort towns forming Costa del Sol- the first, after Malaga is called Benalmadena and the border between Benalmadena and the next town called Toremolinos is actually a line on the pavement. This continues through Fuengirola and Estepona all the way to the famous Marabeia.

The most exciting event was on the next day – we were about to meet all our partners and colleagues for the next two years.

Our experience in Malaga and Andalucía will not be completed without testing the crunchy churros which are eaten dipped in chocolate.

Our Spanish hosts spare no effort to get us liking Spain. Our schedule was packed with visits of the beach, walks in the beautiful

parks of Benamadena and tours in gorgeous Malaga. Malaga is well known as the birth place of Picasso. In the museum of Picasso we were impressed with the big collection of pictures. The museum attracts visitors from every corner of the world. There is around 250 works of Picasso, donated from his wife and his son. The atmosphere is amazing and the artworks are masterpieces.

After the visit in the museum we had the opportunity to meet our Spanish partners and their families at an informal meeting in one of the most famous wine houses. After the lunch we went to visit an old Moor fortress, situated on the hills around the town. The view of the town from the fortress is amazing and give the wonderful weather –the site was even more breath taking. Our guide was the deputy head teacher of the school, who told us everything about the fortress, its history and its secrets. We visit all the levels and the remains of the Moor Castle.

Our next day was dedicated to our work on the Project, meeting all our partners from the all 6 countries and visiting the school of our Spanish hosts. We were driven to the school by our Spanish colleagues in their personal cars. Our day started with meeting our polite and positive Spanish colleagues. We were pleasantly surprised with the level of preparation of our Spanish colleagues! Everyone had done their bit for our salutation. Everyone brought something home made at the reception. It was mystery for me when they found the time to prepare all this lovely things- after all they spent the whole previous day with us!

Our kind hosts and ourselves were very excited, because this collaboration will create a friendship. The participants of the Project from all countries met and greeted by the Head teacher of the school Vanesa Cabaliero. After the visit of all of the class rooms we sat in the teacher’s room where every country made a presentation. All of the presentations were applauded by the partners. On this meeting we drafted the schedule of **our first mobility**.

The meeting was followed by typical Spanish lunch, home made by our Spanish colleagues. The pupils in the school are from

different nationalities and they greeted us in our languages. It was really nice to hear our language from all this kids

We were lucky to have the opportunity to visit the nursery in Mihas. The organisation of the teaching process is very different from ours and we were really happy to see how it works.

On the last day of our visit in Spain we have the opportunity to visit the Mihas council house. We felt really special, after we were met in the main hall of the council house.

This **first mobility** left us with great memories of sunshine, good friends and fantastic experience.



ENGLAND

# Bulgaria NEWSLETTER

*As written by  
Pat and  
Sophie!*

**ST SAVIOUR'S CHURCH OF  
ENGLAND NURSERY AND  
INFANT SCHOOL**

March, 2014

*"Sharing the love of learning,  
caring and achieving"*



The Boyana 11<sup>th</sup> Century Church



Replica of the Fresco in the Museum of History



*We loved finding out about Bulgarian history and the trip to the 11<sup>th</sup> Century church was a highlight. Seeing the frescos with our own eyes felt extremely special and the passion that the guide spoke with will stay with us forever.*

The children of Veselina Kindergarten were amazing. They greeted us with such confident and happy faces and we thoroughly enjoyed seeing them at work and play. We found their talents for singing, dancing and



gymnastics extraordinary and it was obvious that they enjoyed what they were doing very much!

**Bringing the Outside Inside!**  
*Using recycled resources to benefit the environment and enrich the children's surroundings.*



Children from Romania sharing their message of looking after and caring for our planet.



# COMENIUS NEWS



ST SAVIOUR'S INFANT  
SCHOOL, BATH, UK

**ROMANIA,  
NOVEMBER 2013**

“Bringing the outdoors  
inside!”



“What initially struck me about Romania was the strikingly authentic and natural scenery. It portrays itself to be rich in culture and history, which was brought to life with Marius’ stories on the car journeys! We were lucky enough to explore the amazing sights of Transylvania, including the power plant, Lake Vidaru, the Iron Man, the beautiful mountains and the snowy mountain top that surprised us all at the end of the tunnel!!!” **Catherine**

**Catherine and Ed from St Saviour’s Infant School in Bath represented the UK on the Romanian mobility. We were both struck by the warmth of our welcome and the great care and attention taken by our Romanian hosts. We saw so many interesting sights and met a wealth of lovely people. Thank-you from both of us. We hope to be good ambassadors for your country!**



“I was thrilled to cross the Carpathians and visit Transylvania, both places that I have read about, but never thought I would be lucky enough to visit... It's another group photo!” **Ed**



“It is such a privilege to have expert local guides when visiting a new country. Here we are exploring delicious local food in an open air market. The cheeses were particularly good!” **Ed**



“The traditional buildings were very beautiful. I love the roofed balconies and spotted them all over the country; lovely places to pass the time and enjoy the view. Bringing the outdoors inside!” **Ed**



“During our visit we were also able to have guided visits of the traditional places of worship.

Beautiful buildings with intricate designs and rich with historical value.

I was so pleased to be able to bring back a hand carved wooden cross, from the crafts within the school visit, which now has pride of place in our school hall.”

**Catherine**



“The Dacia car factory was fascinating, producing a car every minute!” **Ed**



# Spain NEWSLETTER

*As written by  
Grace!*

**ST SAVIOUR'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND  
NURSERY AND INFANT SCHOOL**

November, 2013

*"Sharing the love of learning, caring  
and achieving"*





The Buddhist Temple



Plaza de Toros in Mijas



*I loved visiting such a variety of culturally interesting places. The Buddhist temple overlooking the sea was so beautiful and the Picasso Museum inspiring. It was great to visit the bull fighting ring and also to explore the castle in Malaga.*



I felt so welcomed by all the children and staff at the school. It was a privilege to see the children during their learning time and experience their classroom. I really enjoyed a presentation that a group of children did for us about their school and local area. It was a great start to the project and I was so happy to be a part of it.

*Bringing the Outside  
Inside!*

*Together we decided the  
logo for the project.*

A fantastic Comenius  
display welcomes you at  
the school in the main  
entrance.



# Turkey NEWSLETTER

*ST SAVIOUR'S CHURCH OF  
ENGLAND NURSERY AND INFANT  
SCHOOL*

March, 2014

*"Sharing the love of learning,  
caring and achieving"*



We visited Ephesus-an ancient Greek city, and later a major Roman city.



This is my favourite picture of the trip! It is the Library of Celsus.



We met the rest of the Comenius gang from Sweden, Bulgaria, Spain and Romania. We shared ideas on how to 'bring the outside inside'.

Some children came to sing some 'nature' songs to us. We really appreciated the effort the children had made coming to visit and sing to us during their holiday.



We enjoyed visiting different schools and looking in classrooms. Here is the central hall and dining area.





This is one of the schools we visited, from the outside. It was just as beautiful inside as it was outside. There is a lovely playground and conservation area.

We enjoyed sampling some of the local cuisines. They were all absolutely delicious!!



We enjoyed all of it so much, we couldn't fit it all in this newsletter!

**By: Joanna, Sara and Tina**

## SPAIN

### BATH:

We were really surprised when we discovered the magnificent library in St. Saviour's School, which was hidden behind a colourful curtain. Once there, we could imagine children reading books on the sofa or in the tepee. It was spectacular.



When we went around the different classrooms, not only could we appreciate the open spaces but also the efficient distribution; every class had its specific “working corner”. In this picture we notice the computer corner at the back of the classroom. On the right side there is a teaching assistant who is helping a student with his reading

and finally, in the forefront, we can observe how children are playing with clay.



The decoration at the school was very important and it sent a strong message. The students' works were spread all over the walls. There is no doubt pupils can feel how important they are.

### **ROMANIA:**

When we arrived to Baiculesti School, we were speechless when we discovered the "Comenius logo" in front of the school. There was the magnifying glass made of grass and beautiful flowers.



Then there was the “Comenius room”. It was such a stunning view. The room was decorated with all our flags, which were hanging on the wall on the left side. Also, the amazing handmade tree in the corner of the room really drew our attention. We had the chance to hang our best wishes on the branches. Finally, at the other end of the room, we could see a display with all the project activities that have been working on since the project started.





There was a surprise show waiting for us when we arrived at the Culture Centre, which was prepared mainly by teachers, students and their families. The show started with some pupils who held our countries flags while we were listening to our national anthems. Watching some students sing and dance a traditional dance from our countries was a very special moment. To conclude, children performed a role play and a wide range of ballroom dancing.

It is plain to see that cooperation and teamwork are essential in order to achieve such amazing results. These words are the key not only in schools but also in our Comenius project.



### **TURKEY:**

Acarlar Anaokulu is located in Aydin's outskirts. There is a splendid gardening area by the school's entrance, where pupils are taught different things such as planting, gardening, Mathematics and so on.

Sevilay told us that the garden is really relevant to the teaching and learning process due to the fact most of the children come from rural areas. Obviously, the use of outdoor spaces and nature at school offers many advantages such as the promotion of physical, emotional and mental balance by connecting with the environment or encouraging students to engage all their senses and increasing their observation skills.



When we come in to the kindergarden, we could understand the great effort made by Sevillay in order to have a beautiful school with limited resources, the human resources are vital. The classrooms were quite big and they had appealing decorations.

In this picture we are in the main hall and it was really funny when we started playing with the children. They were smiling all the time and they were really happy with us.



## **SWEDEN:**

In Bölets Förskola we witnessed what outdoor learning was really about, no matter the weather. We were lucky enough to enjoy the sunshine in the forest. Here we are, posing for the picture with two of the stars of the day: the students.



We love these two photos because they show the get together at the school. It was a very special day for us, since we had a little bit of everything: they showed us around the Primary school, and they made us think, dance, sing, create, and enjoy at their own school. Watching the kids move about the school and enjoy themselves was great, but the final show was something we will all remember.



Sweden was the last stop of the journey, so getting together for dinner was a must. What we would have never expected was the way it all took place: on a boat, sailing around the small islands surrounding Gothenburg on a lovely spring afternoon while enjoying the quality of the traditional seafood and the even better company. It was all great.



### **BULGARIA:**

We love this photo because it's special for us. We can see most of the people we met in Bulgaria in it, and it shows the good atmosphere between all members of the group.

In this picture, children are wearing traditional dresses from our different countries. We loved them and we also loved hearing them

speaking words in our own languages, their songs, the gifts, etc, and the enthusiasm they showed in everything they did was what we liked the most. It was very emotional!



We had the chance to visit the different classrooms, we noticed the different groupings in the class. In every group, pupils were working on amazing handcrafts which were made with recycled materials such as plastic bottles, newspapers, tree leaves and so on. Not only were they working in a relaxed and peaceful way, but they were also happy and learning at the same time.





After having a pleasant lunch, we were invited to an amazing show. It was prepared by the whole Educational community where pupils were the main leading role. Pupils danced and sang traditional songs which were really wonderful.

In view of this, we should bear in mind that, as teachers, we should promote the participation of the Educational community in the pupils' teaching- learning process. The purpose of this kind of activities are built to support the school curriculum and to advance pupils' learning objectives.



\*\*\*\*\*

Choose the best time of our experience in every country it is a difficult work. We have shared many good times!

The Spanish team would like to thank all our friends for the effort you have put and love that you have shown in every mobility. There is a great deal work behind every activity. You made us all feel like home. Thanks again.

## SWEDEN

### Turkey

We loved the weather in Turkey, the whole trip it was so sunny and hot. You made us feel very welcome in your city and at your Kindergarten. We liked that you all worked so closely together with the children. The lunch and dinner was unforgettable and you made such good food for us. We had a wonderful time with everyone.



You took us to wonderful places and ruins with great views. The trip to the ocean was so nice, and the last dinner at the hotel was fantastic.



## Romania

When we had our mobility in Romania it was autumn and the nature around us was so beautiful and colourful. At Baiculesti School the children had made such wonderful works that showed the autumn and gave us lots of inspiration.



The bus ride up to the mountains was a lovely experience although Gunilla thought it was a bit steep : )



We were very impressed by the last show and that the children had learned songs in our language. The whole show was amazing and we felt very thankful to be your special guests at the theatre.



## **Bulgaria**

You had so many wonderful activities planned for us. We especially remember the trip to the ski resort. On the way there we stopped to see the spectacular monastery.





We thought it was such a great activity that every country got to plant a tree at the Kindergarten. Our project “Bring Outdoors Inside” will live on and the trees will be a symbol and a memory.



**The Comenius project has given us new friends and colleagues. We will always remember the time we spent together. Lots of love to you all.**

**Team Sweden!**

## **Most Beautiful Impressions**

### **Spain**

The first trip was special because it was our very first meeting together. We felt very welcome in Spain and was excited about the program activities and visiting the school. We had a tour around the school and we liked it very much. It was nice to meet all the children and teachers and everyone was so interested in getting to know us. We liked that the children's drawings and other work was on display around the school for everyone to see.



We had a wonderful lunch at school and one afternoon we got to see the Flamenco. It was such a wonderful experience to see it live at the beautiful stage at your school. Special thanks to the teachers that danced and sang for us. We liked it a lot, it was beautiful.



## England

We especially remember the long walk up the stairs of Bath Abbey. The view from up there was spectacular.



We loved the visit to your school and especially the nursery where we stayed a while and played games with the children. We think it was interesting to learn about your outdoor teaching. We also very much liked your outside environment where the children played with creative materials and that you had a special teacher that came to be with them during the break between classes.







## ROMANIA

### SPAIN

#### The Multilateral Comenius Project *Bring Outdoors Inside*

*A wonderful challenge! I was excited at the thought that everything we were supposed to do within the project had to be done in an original way, but according to the European standards. However, after I was informed regarding the meaning of such a partnership, I became more and more curious and this determined me to enroll in the project team at school. My admission to this team represented a great joy.*

And there we were starting a long way full of work and responsibilities, but also of endless professional satisfactions and

beautiful memories of our partners who eventually became true friends.

I recall the first meeting in Spain, in Malaga, Cala de Mijas, Colegio EL CHAPARRAL. There I was about to meet wonderful persons with whom I talked about the educational systems in the other countries, the learning methods applied at primary and preschool level, the human resources and the materials available to each one, but also about history, culture and civilization.

The teaching staff at Colegio EL CHAPARRAL welcomed us warmly wishing to share with us as much information as possible regarding the Spanish school within the European context and also regarding the Spanish history, culture and civilization.

After the first day of thematic discussions regarding the activities of the project, the knowing of the characteristics of every country, the environment problems within European context, but also the solutions for these problems, I realized that we had already become real partners in solving a situation that the entire planet faces, namely the pollution.

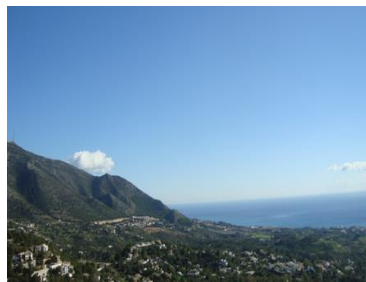
Our friends from Spain offered us unforgettable moments through the various activities that we did together, workshops at school, the choosing of the logo for the project, but also the differences between the six European countries, Spain, Turkey, England, Sweden, Bulgaria and Romania and the way we should approach the problems of the environment by means of appealing activities with the children.

Being back in my country, I have enthusiastically undertaken a lot of interesting activities with my class pupils, but also other pupils in school.

All targets that we had were successfully reached, the children became more responsible regarding the protection of the environment, by means of recycling and reusing of the packages, by making decorative or practical objects.

At the end of these two years, I can happily say that *Bring Outdoors Inside* has been a really beautiful professional challenge that I would repeat and relive with great joy! (Corina Simion)

The first reunion of extraordinary people in a magnificent region, in an interesting project.



There are students of different nationalities and Jessica's mother is Romanian.

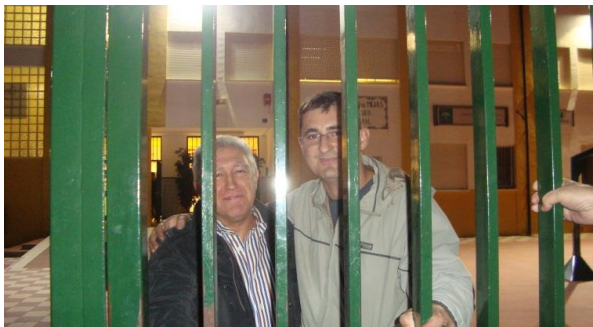


According to the result of the vote, Spain's logo is chosen.



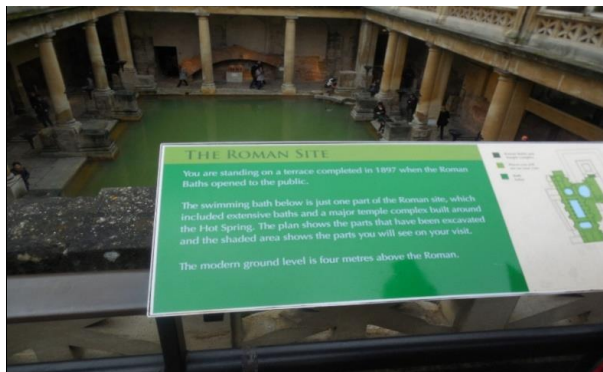


The school has impeccable amenities and an efficient security system.



England

Bath, a city on the course of the river Avon, famed for The Roman Site that dates back to the year 43 B.C, built by the Romans due to the existence of thermal water in the region.



The city has a specific architectural style



The school is in service of the Larkhall region ,a mixed community that still preserves rural flavour. The place where the school is located offers a special sight over the city of Bath.



Several aspects about the educational system of England have been explained by our friend, Ed. Children enter the educational system starting with the Nursery and Infant school and practice is very important. We noticed student centered learning and the desire to make children learn following their intrinsic, but also extrinsic motivation. Teachers are helped by an assistant in the classroom.



The break offers interesting and useful means of spending time.

## Turkey

Turkey was an amazing experience. This project offered us the opportunity to meet a different civilization, with unknown rules for us, but exotic and fascinating. We also had the chance to learn as much as we could about Turkish educational system, about their cultural and economic values, but one of the most important aspects was that we became friends. (Dorel Pătru)



I participated along with the children at a special painting workshop, where we were presented the EBRU art, a traditional form of decorative art specific in Turkey.

EBRU art is distinguished by a special quality: uniqueness. Even if we could direct the colour on the water surface using certain objects, we will not know exactly how the drawing will look, we will only be able to evaluate how it may look and know what it would look like.

First, you have to prepare water in a tray, then splatter it with paint and, when the paint drops settle, you start your creative work. The most awaited moment in Ebru art is marbling, meaning the imprinting of the drops on paper or canvas. In Ebru art the balance between water and colour must be perfect. Specialists say that if one element receives greater importance, then the other elements will feel offended. The materials used in Ebru art are considered live elements, from the rose stem brush to the cow liver paint.

Water painting, develops imagination and creativity, patience, artistic sense and the interest for art, painting and beauty.



Children and teachers created unique works, their very own works of art, they learned how to use materials specific to the EBRU technique, different styles of EBRU and relaxed in a space especially created for them, spending time in a creative and amusing way, learning work techniques different from the ones they were used to at kindergarten or school.(Cristina Georgescu)



Teachers in Turkey are loved by children and they have special relationship



The interpretation of the results of the questionnaires applied to the parents confirms the interest in the project.



The Nursery School is surrounded by plants sowed by children and teachers during the project.



Local authorities fully encourage the activities of the Nursery School and praise teachers.



## Bulgaria

For the team of Romania, the school of Bulgaria was, is and will be an institution with the help of which we will accomplish many interesting things. Our partnership will last forever!



One of the most enjoyable experiences lived by me occurred in Bulgaria during the meeting held from the 22nd to the 28th of March by the partners of the multilateral Comenius project „Bring Outdoors Inside”.

There were many pleasant and interesting aspects worth mentioning, but I will now talk about what impressed me the most. Since the early hours of activities undergone with the project partners at the „Veselina” Kindergarten I realized how well organized preschool activities of the facility are. Materials made by children exposed in the kindergarten rooms made me understand how much teachers worked with the children, as well as the dedication of the teaching staff of this institution. I noticed how each group, according to the age of the children, worked on the specific activities of our project, thus forming habits to protect the environment by using recycled materials.

At the end of the activity day, preschoolers held a show in honour of the guests. Naturalness, the way the show was presented, the way in which they expressed themselves, the lightness of movement, of speech, the pleasure with which they played their parts, showed that they are schooled in a careful way, forming in these children harmonious personalities. It is known that education, especially during early childhood, defines later adult behaviour. The educational system

of the neighbouring country proved highly receptive to modern concepts on the role of educational institutions in the formation and personal development of the young and it manages to put it into practice with beautiful results.

On Wednesday morning, when the teams participating in the project met again at the „Veselina” Kindergarten in the lobby we were greeted by the lady kindergarten teachers accompanied by a girl dressed in the Bulgarian national costume. The girl was part of the youngest preschoolers group, Tania’s activity group and was therefore no older than four. What impressed me was the fact that the little one smiled all the time, let herself be embraced, took photos with all the guests and finally recited a poem without the slightest hesitance.

In the schools in which I undergo my activities I worked with a number of twelve kindergarten teachers and I wanted to realise a project through which to implement activities through which we could put greater emphasis on personal and interpersonal relations of the preschoolers, elements necessary in the forming of a harmonious personality.(Elena Ionita)

People all over the world should behave responsibly with the environment in order to preserve the ecological equilibrium.This is what the Comenius Project “Bring Outdoors Inside” tried to pass on to the students and it certainly succeeded.

By means of all the activities that we have undertaken, we have become aware of the importance of protecting the environment, but the most interesting was the reunion in Bulgaria because we could compare the way in which they protect the environment with the way in which we do it.

I will never regret that I took part in the project for several reasons:

-First of all, I had the chance to know more about a contemporaneous issue- pollution and the way in which we could eradicate it;

-On the other hand, by means of the reunion in Bulgaria , I could get in touch with awesome people, I could learn about their lifestyle and I have also seen a couple of wonderful things that we could make by recycling ( their school was adorned with recycled materials and even their costumes for the show were made up of such leavings).

This project taught me that our generation can change the mindset of those who cross our path and thus contribute to protecting the environment. ( Pletea Ioana Lavinia - 6th grade)

For me visiting Bulgaria was an extraordinary experience.I had the chance to meet again friends from the past mobilitys, I had the chance to see colleagues from other schools and to make new friends.It was an ample cultural and social experience.We had the possibility to interact with other nations.It was impressing because they were so different and they could be friends instead of those differences.

The school that we have seen it was very similar to a Romanian school.It has two floors. The kindergarden was equipped and maintained, but for me the kind and happy kids were the most amazing thing.

The kids prepared us a show in English, when they proved their fluence and their smartness. The food was amazing, but I think that Bulgarian kitchen is very similar to Romanian kitchen.The only difference is the spicery.

The hotel was amazing and we felt safe and very comfortable.

The group from Romania was great and the accompanying teachers were patient and kind with us.This experience was unforgettable and I will keep it in my mind and in my soul.We started a beautiful friendship with Bulgarian kids and I hope that is going to keep a while. (Sanziana Constantinescu)

I was impressed by the cooperation between children and teachers but also by their great attitude towards us.(Georgeta Deaconu)

Bulgarian and Romanian educational systems have similar structures and principles. Our Bulgarian friends are very warm and friendly people and I hope we'll keep this relationship we've created.  
(Camelia Pătru)

The protagonists of the play „Broil in the forest rejoice after the performance.



After the third episode, we became close friends!



The reunion in Sofia was an unforgettable experience for the Romanian pupils!



The authorities (especially the mayor of Sofia) know the activities of the project and are happy about the results.





Each team planted a tree in the school park!



### Sweden

In Sweden we remarked an important aspect, namely the fact that environmental issues and their solutions are transmitted to the pupils in a very interesting and accessible way. We learnt about common sense, respect, responsibility, solidarity, creativity, about educating the character through adventure, team work and communication.



Open space activities are predominant and through them nature is discovered.



Interactive methods are frequently employed in order to involve the pupils in the learning process.



Very nice products have been obtained, well organized by the teams of Spain and Turkey!





In the end, we recalled the wonderful moments that we had spent together during the two years of the project.(Cosmin M.)



”If you think about the following year, sow seeds, if you think about the next ten years, plant trees, if you think about the next one hundred years, educate children! ”  
During the Comenius Project ” Bring Outdoors Inside”, we sown seeds but we also planted trees, trying to educate our pupils and make them

aware of the gloomy future that awaits us if we don't get involved in protecting the environment.

A very important aspect of this project was that our pupils were receptive to new activities and concepts, came up with their own and most of them were applied with special results! They planted, recycled, reused materials and thus, at the end of the project, they knew the value of a sheet of paper, a bottle or of a plastic container. They will become responsible citizens and use each thing in a rational way.

Implementing this project in school and the participation of the pupils had a positive impact on their attitude towards the environment, to the benefit of the educational system and of the local community.  
(Pletea Margareta Marcela)

For me the Comenius Project represented the discovery of the green universe, the praise and the integration in the most beautiful planet, the Green Planet. In the end, I discovered that I enriched my spirit and that I befriended amazing people. (Didona Radulescu)

## TURKEY

### SCHOOLS IN MY DREAM

While studying at the university years ago, it was my dream to go other countries and visit schools in those countries, analyze their education system and know their beautiful people. It was really dream for me.

One day, fabulous opportunity came to us. Our project was approved. We would visit more than one school. I still couldnt believe this.

We had made our preparations before project started. As project team, We put these preparations to our suitcase, put iron wing ourselves, and flew to Spain.

We saw their schools and met with warm teachers, beautiful students in there. Each student sitting in the classroom was like flower ready to bloom with their teachers information.I really liked the teacher's and students' self-confidence. All of them displayed their skills with the image of 'We can do this' . We toured the city. We ate. Fruits, vegetables, climates were the same. As if we were walking in Izmir city in my country. Nothing was unfamiliar to me.

It was Bath, England's turn. It was another school which was dream for me. Preparations were done again. We put our iron wings again and came to the country that all world speak its language. When I saw the city, because of the buildings, it was like a film in which time stopped. But when I saw the people, I understood that just time in buildings stopped. Nothing was spoiled in gorgeous buildings and it was friend of green colour. Food, city, purple flower that school headmaster gave me to eat with the icecream. It was really nice memory for me.

Then we went to their school. We met their polite teachers and cute students. They put countries' names to their classes. One of the classes' name was Turkey. It was my favourite class. I thought that their education system was more successful. I applied my observation in my school.

It was yellow leaves of autumn in Romania. I had never predicted that autumn which was gloominess for me could give me happiness. In one side, there were trees and yellow leaves of autumn, in other side winter season which had snows in high mountain. How gorgeous it was!

Their warm school was a gift from the family heirloom. All teachers gave great value to the school and students. They worked too much. In all school corners, there were labor knitted with love.

My adventures hadnt finished yet. It was our neighbour, Bulgary's turn. We didnt have iron wings that time but we had long and tiring bus travel. At the end of our travel, two smiling faces which meant 'world' to me, welcomed us. They made us forget our long travel.( Rodostina and Çavdar ) We came to our neighbours. They looked like us with their hot welcome and hospitality. As if I had been living in there for years. Sofia, I had heard but never seen, was marvelous with its historical structure. Ski resort was like dream which I saw an open eye. But it was real dream. Skiing was very enjoyable.

We went to their school where were warm teachers and beautiful students waiting us with their small hearts full of love. We visited the classrooms after we had eaten welcomed food like in Romania. Apparently, all students and teachers worked too much.

They displayed their skills well. When I saw on Çavdar was that he was trying to teach foreign language to his little students. I thought that he was really successful. I learnt from Katya and Galya how to make flower , and again I came to my country happily.

Now it is time to go the city in which I had penfriend in my childhood. Sweden, Göteborg. I havent gone yet but I believe that I will have great time in there.

There are many things that I have learnt and understood from what I have seen. Under the blue sky, in the green world, there are people in different religion, different language, different culture and they dont know each other. In all differences, we have special difference. Everything is different but our aims are the same. Our difference is to give blue sky and green world as a gift to our next generation children . This gift should be clean environment. These different people are the lucky teachers coming from six different countries. For this, we put our love, information, efforts. I believe that we succeed it with our heart. Even if the project finishes, I will try to give this gift to all children during my life.

With my warm regards.

Işıl ÖZER





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