

### **COMENIUS PARTNERSHIPS**

# 4 C : COMMON CULTURES MAKES COMMON CITIZENSHIP





13th October- Saturday – On the arrival day the Italian, French and Dutch teams gathered in Las Palmas, the capital of Gran Canaria. Our hosts Eva Medina and Salvador Ledesma kindly picked us up at the airport and accommodated us in a central area, close to the seafront (Hotel Pujol). In the evening we had the chance to go for a walk along the promenade and admire the landscape, the view of the bay, the large beach of Las Canteras and the statue of a typical Canarian Peasant, a symbol of the island. We also took snapshots of the nice tourist area, where people from all over the world can enjoy a relaxing holiday all the year round. We tasted typical delicious dishes during a joyful dinner.

14th October- Sunday – After the Turkish team 's arrival all partners from five countries gathered in front of the hotel to spend a happy sightseeing day by a private coach. Our kind hosts, Eva, Salva and Jesus, led us towards the south of island to visit Agüimes, a typical village of Gran Canaria . The trip to the small town of Agüimes, situated in a valley of stunning natural beauty at 1500 m above sea level, was very interesting and we all admired the Old Quarter founded in 1486 by the Castilian Crown and which was the only feudal estate that belonged to the Church. Walking down the streets we could admire this open air historical museum, full of popular symbols of ancient activities and traditions .Later we continued our trip to Maspalomas, a popular tourist resort famous for its sand dunes which surround the Maspalomas Oasis. This area is about 400 hectares and is awarded the status of a natural reserve inhabited by many endemic plant species found only in the Canary Islands. We spent a few hours enjoying the sunny weather and the local food , walking along the promenade and the beach , taking snapshots and finally visiting the amazing Dunes sloping down towards the sea .

15th October – Monday. This was the first day of our visit at IES Nueva Isleta Toni Gallardo school. First we were warmly welcomed by the School Principal, Mr Carmelo Afonso Pérez and by all the staff, then we gathered in the theatre hall to wait for the arrival of Don José Miguel Pérez, Vice – President and Responsible of Education in the Canary Islands Autonomous Government. After the introductory speech of the School Principal, Don José Miguel Pèrez welcomed the Comenius project teams and all other guests present in the hall, students, parents, teachers and representatives of the local Sailing Club Vela Latina. In his speech Don José Miguel Pérez welcomed the teams taking part to the Comenius project meeting and underlined the importance of Comenius projects, such as "4 C: COMMON CULTURES MAKES COMMON CITIZENSHIP", to enlarge and reinforce the idea of a real European Union in a moment of great crisis.

The project coordinator , Annadora Riondino from the Italian school , greeted the hosts and presented the main objectives and issues of the project , which aims at having teachers and

students work together on how a better knowledge of the common roots in the culture of the five partner nations can lead to a full awareness of European citizenship.

Later on Don Josè Miguel Pèrez inaugurated the recently restored sailing boat "Archipielago Ocho", the first original exemplar of the national sailing sport "Vela Latina". The restoration of the boat was the result of the hard work of IES Nueva Isleta Toni Gallardo school, so students, teachers and relatives were all very proud of the achieved result and a very moving moment was when the carpenter who had been in charge of leading the restoration team was remembered at the presence of his widow and his son.

(Visit "Vela Latina Canaria" and "Vela Latina Canaria de Botes, en Las Palmas de Gran Canaria - Fotos 2012", 15<sup>th</sup> October, on Facebook to see pictures about the event. Inauguración restauración Bote Archipielago8 - 15.10.2012 or

 $\frac{\text{http://www.facebook.com/pages/Vela-Latina-Canaria-de-Botes-en-Las-Palmas-de-Gran-Canaria-Fotos-2012/204627169654328})$ 

Then we were shown around the school by our hospitable Spanish hosts. We visited the workshops, where students are taught professional skills. There a group of students made some practical demonstrations of their activity, using tools and machineries. Then we visited the staff room and the library where the first project meeting was held.

#### **PROJECT MEETING AGENDA:**

Our official project meeting started in a friendly atmosphere by exchanging presents.

The coordinator Annadora Riondino welcomed all the teams and expressed her appreciation for Turkey's participation, since the Turkish school had been allowed to join the project only a few days before.

## 1. Presentation of partners' schools

During the first part of the meeting each partner presented its region and its school. We were curious to learn more about each partner's school. List of partners' emails was distributed to enhance the coordination and communication among the partners

2. Discussing the subjects of the project, the webmaster, the Logo competition, the evaluation form, e-book, etc.

All partners took part in the discussion and after a long time we reached an agreement about the following points :

**The webmaster of the project:** the Spanish team offered to be the webmaster of the project and to prepare the website. It was agreed that all the school presentations have to be sent to the coordinator and to the Spanish team which will put them on the web site.

**Organization of the logo competition**: every school will prepare a logo/ a few logos which will be shown at the second meeting, when the official logo of the project will be chosen.

**Evaluation form:** the Dutch team will present it the at the second meeting. **Presentations format:** At each meeting, each team will present the joint-topics in any formats (slides, videos, poems, etc., etc., ) they prefer.

**Topics:** All the schools will present their work on **the following joint-topics and** at the end of each meeting all the partners will do an analysis about differences and similarities, connected with each joint-topic.

2<sup>nd</sup> meeting: "One Europe: how it all started" (How the end of the IInd world war changed our life and the idea of a new Europe was born and developed)

3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting: "Effects of the urbanism and other transformations on the landscape" (new technologies, new energy resources, etc.)

4<sup>th</sup> Meeting: a) "How Europe changed after the Berlin wall fell down" (Effects of immigration in each country).

b) Changes in the integration regarding young people and women.

5<sup>th</sup> Meeting: a) "Euro in Europe" Differences and similarities in each country (Similar products, different prices, etc)

**b**) Each team will present its own final e-book or hypertext showing all the materials prepared by the schools.

After the end of the project meeting our kind hosts, Eva and Salva, led us towards the north of the island to visit Arucas, a typical village of Gran Canaria, where we spent a pleasant time admiring the gothic style Cathedral, the gardens, the typical lanes and the surrounding mountains.

16th October – Tuesday. A representative of each team was interviewed by a TV "troupe" of the Canarian network Antenna 3 for a TV programme on Education Systems in Europe and on current problems in Educational field in the different European countries (visit this link on U Tube: Antena 3 Canarias Educación en Europa)

**Discussing the dates of next meetings:** After a long discussion the date of our next project meeting was changed from February to April 2013, due to French participation in another project and to the fact that Turkey had joined the project at the very last moment.

Then all the teams agreed to rearrange completely the meetings schedule , which is now as follow :

2<sup>nd</sup> meeting: Lentiz Flora College - Naaldwijk The Netherlands

April 2013, from 6th to 10th

3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting: Yanikagil Ilkogretim Okulu –Tekirdag-Turkey

October 2013, from 5th to 9th

4<sup>th</sup> Meeting: Lycée Pierre Guegin -Concarneau - France

February 2014, from 15th to 19th

5<sup>th</sup> Meeting. Liceo Scientifico F. Severi - Frosinone – Italy

April 2014, from 5th to 9<sup>th</sup>

Besides the previous points all the partners agreed that:

- the exact dates of the meetings have in any case to be confirmed at each meeting.
- The coordinator of the project (Annadora Riondino) will possibly be always present at each meeting and possibly also the coordinator of each country, in order to ensure continuity of work and avoid misunderstandings.
- At each meeting possibly two students will be present as representative of the school

The Italian and the Dutch teams informed their collegues that they have organized an Exchange project between the two schools in order to give more students the chance to participate actively into the project, by exchanging information about their lands and their history, by experimenting different life-styles and by practicing the official language of the project (English).

The Dutch students will be in Italy from 7<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> November 2012, while the Italian ones will be in The Netherlands from 17<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> April 2014.

In the afternoon the teams and their Spanish hosts visited Vegueta, the ancient part of the city, in particular the Santa Ana quarter with the famous Cathedral, the palace of the Bishop and Christopher Columbus's house, the symbols of the city.

We were fascinated by the characteristic atmosphere of Vegueta, with its peaceful cobbled streets and typical Castilian houses with beautiful inner gardens.

We bought some typical souvenirs to bring back to our countries, taking a little piece from Gran Canaria in our hearts and minds.

**17th October – Wednesday**. The day of an early departure for the Turkish team and of a late departure for the Dutch one.

Some of us still had time for sightseeing morning, and they visited the Doramas park, the Nestor Museum and the Canarian village with Eva, while others preferred an exciting excursion in the mountains with Salvador.

Unfortunately all good things come to an end but fortunately the long lasting memory of them remains in our minds and hearts.

Speaking on behalf of all the present in Las Palmas, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to our hosts. We spent really nice moments together in Las Palmas and being part of this friendly working team enriched us with memorable impressions

**18th October – Thursday** Departure day for the Italian and the French teams.

## **Participants Present:**

from Italy: Annadora Riondino (coordinator), Guido Dell'Uomo

Liceo Scientifico "F. Severi" Frosinone

from Spain: Eva Medina Gonzàles, Salvador Ledesma Machado,

Enrique Manchado, Josefa García Alemán

IES Nueva Isleta Toni Gallardo Las Palmas de Gran Canaria

from France: Monique Lessard, Dominique Yvonnou, Cedric Demaure

Lycée Pierre Guegin

Concarneau

from The Netherlands: Christiane Koene, Sandra Hermans

Lentiz Flora College Naaldwijk

from Turkey: Ela Uzcan, Ercan Kügük

Yanikagil Ilkogretim Okulu Tekirdag

Mrs. Annadora Riondino, Coordinator of the Comenius Partnership Liceo Scientifico "F. Severi" Frosinone Italy