

***“Cultural Heritage: An Inclusive Path For Participation And Exchange In Europe”***

MEETING **4th - 8th November 2019**

“Getting started”

Hosted by :

**Agrupamento de Escolas Caranguejeira – Santa Catarina da Serra**

**Venue Assessment**

* How would you comment on the hospitality?

We felt us in Portugal very welcome. We were picked up by Portuguese team from Porto, so we didn’t have to find the transportation to Leiria. At school there was also very warm welcome event. All the students, head teacher, students, and the person from local municipality were very nice.

We felt look after like in heaven ☺ Rui, Paula, and Ana were always there for us. They had organized all the dinners at nice restaurants, meals at school, all the tours and guides who were very professional, invitation to City Hall. Hosts were wonderful by helping with everything, offering nice dishes, organizing some amazing surprises and lots of interesting events/visits.

* Do you think the visits were of Culture nature and were directly connected to the projects objectives?

All the visits were carefully planned and directly connected with project’s aims. We visited many UNESCO heritage sites – historic centre of Porto, Monastery of the Hieronymites and Tower of Belém in Lisbon, also downtown of Lisbon which is in UNESCO’s tentative list. We also visited Nazaré and Fatima which have great cultural/religious importance in Portugal. Monuments are very important in our project and we could see in real life many of them in Portugal.

* Do you think our objectives for the venue have been achieved?

Absolutely, yes. We had multicultural activities at school – students could teach and learn each-others’ games and dances, learn new technologies, introduce their culture and country, their monuments, had some art workshops. All these included all the participating students, nobody felt left out. Thanks to these things we can plan new visits – now we have a standard which we can follow.

* Do you think you can make any use of what you have seen or learned at this venue?

Certainly. There were many things we can use in future meetings. All the games, dances, workshops – every country can use these things according to their possibilities and ideas pointing out something which is unique for their culture.

* Something you would like to add or comment. Something that surprised or impressed you .

The hospitality was really impressive. People were so warm and helpful. Even when somebody couldn’t speak English they were always ready to help us, really everybody – cooks and teachers, cleaning ladies and students, teachers and students – all the staff.

We are really thankful for such a wonderful experience!

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