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Erasmus+ Programme
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ΑΡΙΣΤΟΤΕΛΕΙΟ
ΠΑΙΔΙΚΟΣ ΣΤΑΘΜΟΣ - ΝΗΠΙΑΓΩΓΕΙΟ



ΚΟΛΛΕΓΙΟ
ΔΗΜΟΤΙΚΟ-ΓΥΜΝΑΣΙΟ-ΛΥΚΕΙΟ

THE MELISSA PROJECT

First learning. Teaching and Training Activity

**Aristotelio College travels to Terceira island, Azores
and Lisbon, Portugal, from 2 to 9 February 2020**



Prepared by Georgia Safouri

Within the framework of the **Erasmus+ Melissa** project, four students, Kostas, Stella, Matilda and Markella, and two teachers, Ms Georgia Safouri and Ms Maria Katsafourou, from Aristotelio College, travelled to Terceira island in the Azores archipelago, to present their research into bees and beekeeping in their country, share it with the project partners from Scotland, Estonia, Italy and, of course, Portugal, and... make lifetime friends!



February 3: Day 1



On Terceira island Aristotelio College and our partners met at EBI de Angra do Heroismo, the Portuguese host school, and received a warm welcome. We introduced ourselves and our schools, and presented our research into Bees and Beekeeping. We learnt a lot from our partners and were impressed by all presentations! We took part in activities promoting collaboration, multi-cultural learning and, of course, awareness of the importance of bees in the preservation of life!

February 4: Day 2

In the morning the Erasmus partners collaborated in a beehive model making workshop. In mingled groups students constructed each other's national beehives, and thus proved once again that education has no boundaries!





In the afternoon we visited Lagoa das Patas, a small lake surrounded by large forests. Along the stream that feeds this lagoon, we saw the wide variety of the indigenous flora and fauna of the island.

Next, we visited a beekeeping site in the wonderful nature of Terceira.

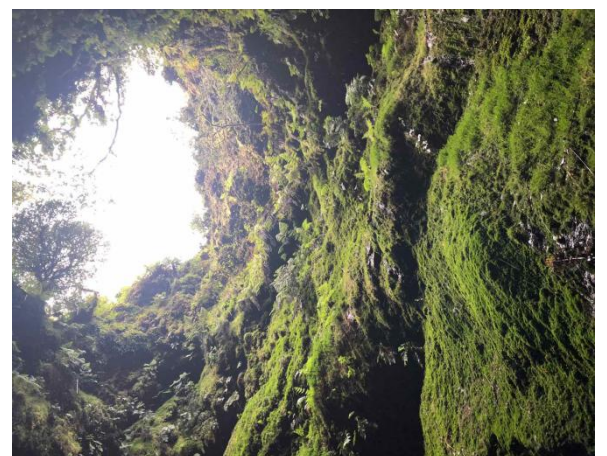


We then ascended up the mountain Monte Brasil where we admired the breathtaking view of the whole Terceira island!



We walked to Furnas do Enxofre, a natural reserve area on Terceira island, where we could see steam and sulfide emissions coming out of the earth!

Partners then went to Algar do Carvão, a unique volcanic tube which we visited from the inside! We were amazed at the formation of the natural domes and basaltic covers, and the large native plant collection due to the action of water in the interior! This was all so interesting for us who had never had observed such volcanic phenomena before!



Finally, strange rock formations shape the coast along the Ponta dos Biscoitos, where beautiful coves form natural swimming pools surrounded by black lava. An amazing volcanic landscape! And of course the Aristotelio College students who felt tempted by an invigorating swim in the Atlantic Ocean, 'jumped' at the opportunity to dive in the clear waters of Ponta dos Biscoitos in February!



February 5: Day 3

In the morning we set up our beehive model exhibition. Partners' national or original beehives and posters adorned the school library.



In the afternoon we had a tour round "Fruter", Association of Fruit, Vegetable and Floriculture in Terceira. We learned about the process of honey extraction, labelling of honey jars, fruit and flower packaging, and we did not miss tasting local floral honey and Azorean bananas!

February 6: Day 4

Combining fun with knowledge, the students of Aristotelio College and the Erasmus partners enjoyed a boat ride on the Atlantic Ocean, where we admired the wild landscape and, of course, the dolphins!

In the afternoon in the school assembly, partner students shared their thoughts and feelings about the Erasmus trip to the Azores:



○ We would like to thank you, EBI de Angra do Heroísmo, for inviting us to your school.

○ We would like to thank our wonderful host families for taking such good care of us.

○ You made us feel at home!

○ We have bonded with you and we would like to see you again in the near or distant future, to reminisce and relive this fantastic life-time experience!

Our final thoughts about Erasmus projects are that they give us the opportunity to get to know other cultures, broaden our horizons, open our minds, come in contact with the different, the multi-cultural, the multi-lingual... only to find out that despite our differences, we are all the same! We enjoy the same things, laugh with the same jokes, watch the same movies, and love learning!

February 7: Day 5



Aristotelio College students and teachers walked around the city of Angra do Heroismo on Terceira island. We strolled round the picturesque little roads, enjoyed the view of the port, walked up to the Fortress and, of course, visited the Botanical Gardens of the city.

Our last day on Terceira! A day full of emotions, farewell tears, and gratitude!

EBI DE ANGRA DO HEROISMO, OBRIGADA!



February 8: Day 6

And last but not least, Lisbon. Aristotelio College students and teachers, and partners from Scotland, spent a wonderful day in the capital of Portugal. We saw the 25th April Bridge, aka the San Francisco Bridge, walked up to the Sanctuary of Christ the King and enjoyed the panoramic view of the city, strolled in Lisbon historic centre and had a ride on the 'Elevador', the funicular, well-known touristic attraction in Lisbon.



The dream trip to Portugal came to an end, but the journey goes on... **MELISSA PARTNERS, SEE YOU SOON!**