

## Belgium in Hungary February 2018

9 pairs of Hungarian and Belgian students got the opportunity to participate in the Erasmus+ student-exchange programme. On the 17<sup>th</sup> of February the Belgian students arrived at Liszt Ferenc International Airport where we - their hosts - had been waiting for their arrival. We brought them home. We had family day on Sunday so we spent time with our guests and showed them some parts of Budapest and provided them with a glimpse at Hungarian culture.

On Monday the project-work started at school. We showed the Belgian students round our school then they showed us a video about some interesting Belgian places and events.

We made 4 groups in which we worked throughout the week. With the help of our school psychologist we started the project work by making colourful posters to present our ideas about the effects of social media on the young generation. It was interesting to compare ideas with someone of a different country and we also found that our ideas were quite similar. At the end of the day we went on a sightseeing tour by bus to visit the most important highlights of our city. We all had a great time and took lots of photos.



On Tuesday we continued our project-work at school. We watched a part of the film Black Mirror, which is a science fiction set in a future society where you are successful only if you get more 'likes' from complete strangers about your looks and behaviour. We discussed what it would be like to live in such a society. We also explored the differences between the ways how girls and boys communicate on social media. In the afternoon we went to the Invisible Exhibition. It is an exhibition which let us get an insight to blind people's life by putting us in their everyday life situation. We went into a completely dark place with a blind guide who was talking about his experiences. We were in a simulated world, there were sounds and you had to find your way round in a flat and in the street so we could experience what it is like not to see anything.

On Wednesday morning we had some role play to work out ways of coping with difficult situations in our online life. It was also a really fun day, since we got the chance to join a class' folk dance lesson in our school with our exchange students, after working on our projects. It was hilarious seeing our guests trying to keep up with us, who already knew the steps. After lunch we went to visit the Hungarian Parliament. Some of the Hungarian students had already been there, but still, it was a spectacular experience for all! You could see that everybody was enjoying the visit, because we kept taking pictures, especially the excited Belgian students. After that we had free time again, which we spent by trying out cool restaurants, checking out shops, and just simply getting to know the city more and more.



On our last day (Thursday), the time we spent in school was all about finalising the project work that we had been working on. We held a presentation for a bit younger class in our school, on the topics, that we had been examining. If I had to choose three main headlines, for our presentation, they would definitely be: the advantages and disadvantages of using social media, the addiction to phones and social media sights, and the communication differences between girls and boys. Even though we didn't have a very long time to prepare our work, I'd say we did a pretty great job, and managed to have a fairly interesting presentation, which the audience seemed to enjoy!



We enjoyed our last bit of spare time of the week together as a few hours later we had to take our exchange students back to the airport and say our goodbyes. But we are going to see each other again soon, which we are really looking forward to!

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