

**Erasmus Project**  
**“Volunteering is our job”**  
**Hatvan(Hungary)**  
**18<sup>th</sup> -26<sup>th</sup> April 2015**

**Before leaving**

Hungary was the third country our school visited thanks to the Erasmus plus KA2 Strategic School Partnership **“Volunteering is our job”**. When I was asked to take part in the project and to go to Hatvan as a member of the Italian team, I immediately felt a mixture of positive and negative emotions such as fear, excitement and curiosity. These feelings stayed with me until we landed at Budapest airport but...after the “hearty welcome” we received, all my worries suddenly disappeared!!!



**The main activities**

The activities started right away (the school activities began on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> and went on regularly and punctually till the 26<sup>th</sup> April):

- we always had Hungarian language lessons (of which I remember little or nothing!!!);
- we created a “nice garden” out of the school, wearing the “Volunteering is our job” T-shirts for the first time;
- the music workshops actually involved all of us! We had music lessons that we enjoyed practicing and improving Hungarian, Spanish, Turkish, Bulgarian, Polish and Italian songs so much. The songs we learnt we performed with the traditional dances at the final charity music show! On that occasion we learnt Hungarian folk dance as well!!



Students (and not only!) had a lot of free time activities organized for them. They enjoyed:

- riding on double rider coaster cars coasting down the Matra mountain at the amusement park in Gyongyos;
- having a bowling party and
- finally at the farewell meeting receiving a “surprise” pool party including steam bath, Jacuzzi and a barbecue dinner!



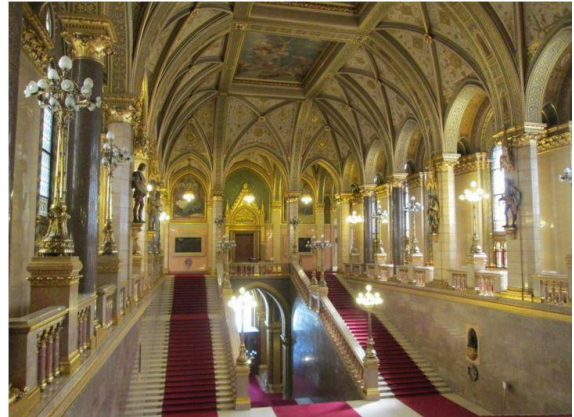
This was, according to me, the most touching moment of the whole trip due to the many tears shed during our goodbye!

Teachers (and not only!) attended all the formal meetings through which we learnt more about the Hungarian Education System, local NGO-s and so on, but the many informal opportunities we had to stay together gave us chances to get to know each other and to get on well!!! I'll never forget the

hospitality we received at “Ildiko” and “Levente and Linda’s” houses and all the Hungarian delicacies we tasted including “Gulash and Langos”.

## **Our most memorable sightseeing trip**

One of the most important trips that we were looking forward to was the day long trip to Budapest. After seeing the Parliament from the outside we entered the building and the Parliament guards carried out a routine security check just like at the airport! Then a guide led us through the most famous rooms including the "Holy Crown" of Hungary in the cupola hall, taking photos was not allowed there due to security reasons, but other parts of the building could be photographed like the sessions rooms and the magnificent staircase.



After lunch we went on a sightseeing tour of the city by an open top double decker bus that I believe was the best introduction to "two-in-one" of the greatest cities in Europe: "Buda and Pest"!



## **To sum up**

At the end of the first part of this great experience I would like to thank everyone involved in the third mobility and visit meeting in Hungary, especially the people who encouraged and went with me ( Mr Messina Giuseppe , some good students: Angela, Noemi, Francesca and Davide)

and that experienced this cultural event together and all the people who worked side by side and hand in hand to succeed in this visit, furthermore a special "thank you" to all the European people that took part in the project, who I'll keep in my heart forever and that I'm looking forward to seeing again...