



COLEGIO AÑORETA

Food for Thought

NEWSLETTER

NEWSLETTER I

FEBRUARY – MARCH 2009

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Colegio Añoreta Visits Partners in Turkey

From February 17th - 21st teachers from Colegio Añoreta travelled to Turkey, where they visited partner school Yamanlar Koleji, a private school located in the city of Izmir.

The visit was part of the Comenius Project titled “Food for Thought”, which is sponsored by the European Union and which includes nine schools from nine different countries, which will work together for two school years on a joint project aimed at sharing information about the climate and traditional foods from our countries, while encouraging Primary School aged children to adopt healthy attitudes towards eating.

The three day programme began with a Welcome Ceremony which featured perform-



Students from Yamanlar Koleji in Izmir, Turkey sing as part of the Welcome Ceremony for the Turkey visit. Students at Yamanlar were friendly, polite, curious and very welcoming to all of their international guests.

ances by several groups of students from the host school Yamanlar, who acted and sang songs to welcome their international guests. The rest of the

visit included project meetings, visits to classrooms, as well as cultural activities that included a concert and a visit to the ancient city of Ephesus.

What is “Food for Thought?”

“Food for Thought” is the name of a joint project aimed at teaching students about the different climates and foods around Europe, while encouraging children to adopt a healthy lifestyle. It brings together nine schools from around Europe and is sponsored by the European Union through its Lifelong Learning Programme.

Our project is divided into five “mini-projects” which span two school years, from September 2008 to June 2010. This school year there are three active projects: “Temperatures around Europe”, “A Nine-language Glossary of Greetings and Weather Terms” and “Grow Your Own Dinner”. (See page 3 for further details).

Colegio Añoreta students from 5th and 6th grade Primary participate directly in the project and share their work with students from partner schools.

You can find out more about the project, its partner schools and the results of our work at the official project website: www.scuolerignanoincisa.it/foodforthought.htm

Visit the Food for Thought Web Page



The home page from the Food for Thought website

To share and publish the results of the Food for Thought project, a web page was created that can be vis-

ited by anyone with Internet access. Just go to: www.scuolerignanoincisa.it/foodforthought.htm. If that is too long to remember, you can enter google and type "Comenius Food for Thought" and the first result will take you to our web page.

On the web page you can find an in-depth description of the project, features on all nine of the partner schools, as well as the finished results of all of our work.

In the "Climate" section,

there are pictures of students taking temperatures as well as the final results up through December 2008.

In the "Weather Dictionary" section you can find the multilingual grid of greetings and weather terms and you can hear students from partner schools saying them in their native language.

You can also download our songs, find out what's happening next or download the newsletters of other participating schools.

"Coge tu sombrero y póntelo. Vamos a la playa, calienta el sol..."

"The water cycle round and around.

Vapour goes up and the rain comes down."

Music to My Ears



As part of our study of climate, students from all of the partner schools were asked to choose a song that mentioned something about the weather in their country and record it to share with others.

In England, young students sang the nursery rhyme "It's Raining, It's Pouring", while in Slovenia they chose the song "Veter Vije", which means

"Howling Wind."

And when it came to Spain, there was no doubt that the song had to be about the sun. Students from class 6C learned the classic summer love song "María Isabel" and sang it in an improvised music studio at school.

Class 5C also sang a song in English titled "The Water Cycle", which they sang with unmatched enthusiasm. Both

classes also made a music video, copies of which can be acquired upon request.

Baccalaureate student Isidro Jiménez did an amazing job by setting up our school studio and using a sophisticated music editing program to put together the music. Isidro played all instruments in the songs and made an extraordinarily professional-sounding work. Thanks Isidro!

"Fair of Nations" Features Comenius Countries

In December 2008 Colegio Añoreta held its 3rd Annual "Fair of Nations", a school-wide celebration of culture that was attended by over 2,000 members of the school community.

While the fair enjoyed a large turnout, many of those attending did not know that

the countries featured in this year's fair were deliberately chosen for being partners in the "Food for Thought" Comenius project: Spain, England, Wales, Italy, Slovenia, Poland, Denmark, Turkey and Romania.

In early October 2008, Colegio Añoreta welcomed

visitors from all of our partner schools, and our guests were invited to visit the students who would later represent their country in the fair. Comenius partners shared information on their country and culture with Colegio Añoreta students, giving them a first-hand experience of the culture they were studying.



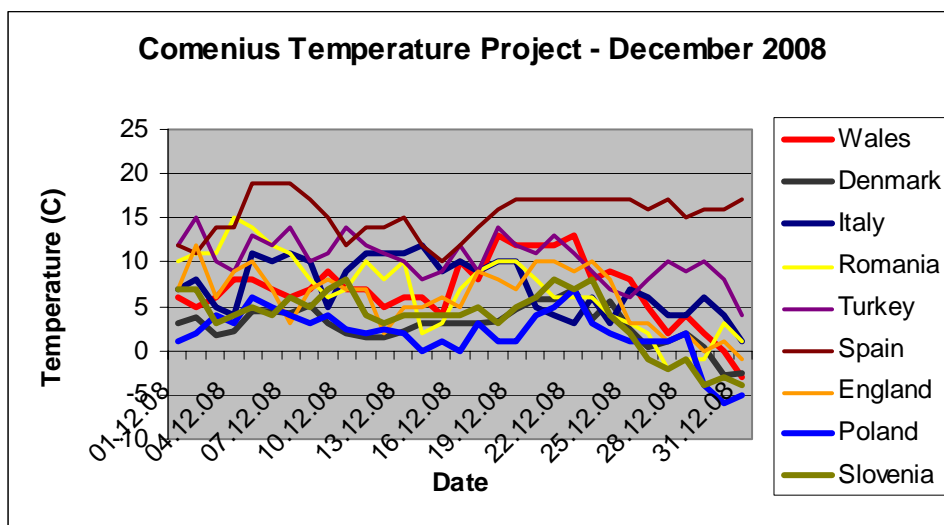
Class 5B received a visit from two teachers from Romania before representing Romania in the Fair of Nations in December.

Mini-Project 1: Climates Around Europe

In the first “Food for Thought” mini-project students study climate by taking daily temperature readings and then comparing them to the data from the other partner schools around Europe.

When we started the project, students made a hypothesis to guess which country would have the warmest temperatures and which would have the coldest.

This graph shows the results from December 2008, where you can see that here in Spain we enjoyed the warmest temperatures of any of the partner countries.



Mini-Project 2: Greetings and Weather Terms

Want to know how to say “good morning” in Turkish or “It’s sunny” in Danish? Our second mini-project will show you how.

After agreeing upon a standard list of 27 expressions that include general greetings as well as descriptions of the weather, partner schools worked together to create a nine-language glossary that not only shows the written translation of each expression, but also

includes students recordings of students from each countries saying the expressions as well as student pictures to represent every expression. Class 5C at Colegio Añoreta also made a video clip for every expression.

Visit the Food for Thought web page to see the complete chart, hear students speaking and see the pictures they have made. Here is a small sample:

- English: It’s sunny.
- Spanish: **Hace sol.**
- Danish: **Det er solskin.**
- Welsh: **Mae'n heulog.**
- Polish: **Jest słonecznie.**
- Turkish: **Hava güneşli.**
- Italian: **C'è il sole.**
- Slovenian: **Sončno je.**
- Romanian: **E soare.**

“The more languages you know, the more of a person you are.”
- Slovak Proverb

Mini-Project 3: Grow Your Own Dinner

The third mini-project changes our focus from climate to food. In this project all participating schools will organize a school garden, growing a number of different plants with the ultimate goal of producing enough food to make a traditional healthy dinner from their country.

While different countries will grow different products and start

planting at different times due to differences in the weather and soil conditions, it was decided to have all countries plant one crop together: runner beans.

Students will plan out the school garden, plant seeds and seedlings, care for the plants, chart their growth and harvest the fruits of their labour.

In the end students will take

the produce from the garden and make a traditional Spanish dinner.

Our menu will include the following dishes: a Spanish garden salad, a Spanish potato omelet accompanied by fried green peppers, fried eggplants in sugar-cane honey and Spanish gazpacho to drink. ¡Que aproveche!



An Italian student’s picture of their school garden.

Our visit to Turkey was truly an unforgettable experience. Our hosts were exceedingly generous, welcoming and well organized. They showed us their culture from an inside perspective and treated us to one fantastic experience after another. They emphasized that, despite our differences in language, culture, religion and history, we in fact have a great deal in common. Thank you to our friends at Yamanlar!

Below is a small collection of photographs from our visit. Enjoy!

— Eric Horne and Miguel Medel, Project Coordinators



Top left: Yamanlar students welcome Comenius visitors.

Top right: Visit to the Izmir Councillor of Education.

Center left: Representatives cut the inaugural cake.

Center: at the Clock Tower, symbol of Izmir.

Center right: at the Celsus library in the ancient city of Ephesus.

Bottom left: at the entrance to Yamanlar there was a large display about the Food for Thought project and the countries.

Bottom right: Meeting room.