

## **Anouk Harpe**

*Erasmus+ Romania 29 September – 5 October 2019*

Traveling to Romania for a week with 6 pupils from BS. De Wegwijzer was a great experience. Romania wasn't a country on my travel list, but this trip was an incredible opportunity to discover the wonders of Romania. Sunday morning at 6 am a taxi came to pick us up in front of school.

The students were nervous and so was I. I really enjoyed seeing the children's development throughout the course of the week. I didn't imagine that the students would learn so much in a week.

They were a little bit nervous, meeting the other students in the beginning of the week but by the end they had made plenty of friends. While they were first timid speaking English, on Friday they were already telling stories in English.

Throughout the week students from different countries started mixing more and more and started to work together. In the end it didn't matter how good you were in math tasks, it just was important that everyone participated and worked together.

It was a great opportunity for me to get to know Romania; it's culture, customs, nature, and history and to see how proud the inhabitants are of their traditional dances. I'm so grateful for this opportunity. It was definitely a trip to remember!



## **Harriët van Sprang**

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The exchange with Romania was my second opportunity to visit one of the European countries involved in our project STEAM time-Solve UNESCO crime. I support the report of my colleague Anouk, what an incredible opportunity to discover the wonders of Romania!

We felt very welcome and comfortable when we came together with all participants in the Scoala Gimnaziala "Constantin GH. Marinescu" on the first day of our stay in Romania. The school made every effort to show us their way of working in primary and secondary education. We didn't only visit the school to see the traditional clothes and dances but we were also invited to join lessons in both agegroups. The children and I noticed that there were a lot of differences compared with our schooleducation. The children in Romania go to school from the age of 7 and leave the school by the age of 14 and follow classes by different educators during the day. Also the length of the schoolday is different compared with ours. The younger children go to school from 08.00-12.00 and the older children from 12.00-17.00 or from 12.00-18.00. The classrooms are used by different groups every day.

To discover Romania we had to travel a lot. We drove with a bus through the mountains and the villages and visited several beautiful UNESCO-protected buildings and nature. As a result we learned a lot about the local customs and habits. It touched me to see the poverty in the country and the pride and cordial hospitality of it's inhabitants. It also really touched me to see the growth of our pupils during this week. They worked, played, laughed, slept and above all learned together in a great way!

Our visit to Romania was a real adventure, not only for our pupils but also for us. Thank you Romania!

