

COMENIUS VISITS

As part of the ongoing Comenius Project *Walking together through Europe*, during 2009 a number of teachers and students from St Monica School, Birkirkara, attended project meetings in Hamm, Germany and in Rome, Italy. In keeping with the project's aims of promoting a healthier life-style, activities during both project meetings focused on walking tours to places of interest, enjoying open spaces and taking part in physical activities.

In Germany the group had the opportunity not only to discover the quaint host town of Hamm and the historical cities of Cologne and Munster, but also to visit the Veltins arena which is the home ground of the famous Schalke football team. One of the highlights of the visit was a surprise activity at a Big Wall complex where our girls had a great time trying their skills at climbing.

The trip to Rome would not have been complete without visiting its most famous attractions like the Colosseum, the Vatican, Piazza Navona, the Pantheon to name a few. The guests also got to taste the green open spaces of the Eternal City with trips to Villa Borghese, Villa Torlonia and Villa Paganini besides a wonderful boat trip along the Tevere River. There was also a great opportunity for our students to show their theatrical talent when they performed a short play they had rehearsed with the foreign students at Alessandra's Laboratory, a company which encourages young people to give freedom to self expression.

Both trips provided an opportunity to both teachers and students not only to enjoy the beauty and traditions of other European countries, but also to consolidate friendships and encourage tolerance and acceptance of diverse cultures. The fourth and final visit will take place in Kayseri, Turkey in May 2010. Such visits are made possible through funds provided by the European Union Lifelong Learning Programme.

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Hamm visit (back row): Ms Erica Xerri Mallan, Sr Doreen Mifsud, Raisa Falzon, Rebecca Muscat, Bernice Scicluna, Tracy Cassar, Kylie Abela, Ms Lydia Vella.
(Front row): Rebecca Marie Vella and Antonella Grech.



Rome visit (from left): Martina Ebejer, Ms Magdalen Cucciardi, Ms Rosette Caruana, Annelise Zammit, Michaela Attard, Yanica Gusman