

ERASMUS EUREKA PROJECT - March 2017 by Freddie

I had an amazing week in Thessaloniki.

Arthur and I arrived at our host family late on Saturday night.

The mum and dad, Zenia and Kostas looked after us very well. They have three children: Alex, Billie and Helena.

Alex was the same age as us. He is really good at basketball.

The family were very kind and cooked lots of delicious meals. I especially liked the pasta pie. They live in a lovely villa just outside Thessaloniki and have a rescue dog which stays in the garden.

We spent some time at the Aristotle College with the students from the other countries.

Rachel, Iona, Arthur and I presented our Scottish Inventors to them and learnt about inventors from Romania, Greece, France and Italy.

I showed them my bagpipes and played some tunes while Rachel danced.

Over the week we did so much but the trip I enjoyed the most was when we went to visit the tomb of Philip III

and Aristotle's Classroom. I thought it was incredible how we could see the whole underground tomb with its ancient

Byzantine mosaics and paintings. The ancient Greek artefacts that were discovered inside and around the burial site fascinating too, especially the gold chest containing King Philip's bones.

I also really loved our outing to Mount Olympus and the Temples of the Greek Gods. We could still see the ruins of the ancient temples.

Mount Olympus is massive with a big glacier near the top. It was too big for us to climb but we got as far as the snow line.

We played a game of international football with the other students at the foot of Mount Olympus.

Finally I had a fabulous time visiting the National Park/Delta outside Thessaloniki. The park has the largest concentration

of land tortoises in the world. I wanted to find one but I didn't but Arthur found a toad in the Alex's garden.

The two most valuable things I think I took away from my time in Greece were making friends with the Greek, Romanian, Italian and French

students and exploring the Greek culture and the culture of the other countries. I loved my visit to Thessaloniki and really benefitted from the

Erasmus Eureka Project. Thank you very much Erasmus and Mrs Dibnah for organising it and to Georgia for making the visit so much fun.