## A WEEK IN THE HEART OF SPAIN

#### **An Educational Base Camp**

(13<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> November,2018)





PLAZA MAYOR, MADRID

Five students from classes VIII-XII and an escort teacher Ms Neerja Bhatnagar of Bal Bharati Public School, Noida visited Spain (Madrid and Segovia) for an Environmental Base Camp organized by United Nations Information Centre from 13th to 19th November 2018. The purpose of this venture to visit Spain was to bring awareness among our green ambassadors and to develop an habit to



THE ROYAL PALACE, MADRID



THE VISITING TEAM TO SPAIN

analyze, experiment and find solutions to our present environmental issues for a better sustainable future. It also helped children to compare the present environmental states of the two countries India and Spain. The children were also exposed to cultural heritage of Spain, by visiting important historical/heritage places and monuments like Royal Palace, Cathedral and Madrid Square which surely reflects the cultural heritage of Spain. The primary objective and intent of our school is to awaken intelligence in the educator and the student.

### 14th November – A Visit to Waste Management Plant



WASTE MANAGEMENT PLANT, VALDEMINGOMEZ- MANUAL SEGGREGATION OF WASTE

Next day, the students visited the biggest waste management plant in Madrid in Valdemingomez, where all the waste of the city of Madrid is segregated and further sent for recycling. The employee of the plant helped us to understand the process. Segregation process was highlighted as it is the most important step to understand in



THE TEAM INTERACTING WITH CORDINATORS

waste management. In the end, the waste which cannot be recycled is put into the furnace to produce energy. Statistical Data of Urban Waste Generated by Citizens of Madrid:1,245,715tonnesWaste bag 83.4%, Paper/Cardboard Collection 6.6%, Packaging Bag 6.3%, Glass Collected 2.7%, Bulky waste 0.9%, Animal waste 0,03% Proper management and the best exploitation of urban waste are essential aspects of the sustainable development of Spain, they have enabled Madrid to offer its citizens improved quality of life, while continuing to show the utmost respect for environment. Children arrived at a conclusion that the rapid growth of world population and increasing trend towards its concentration in large cities has resulted in these urban areas becoming major source of waste production. This is due to rising standards of living and shifting consumer habits. Later the students were left free to shop in the streets of Madrid and know their culture. The streets were full of souvenir shops, sports shops, and grocery points. After shopping, the students went on a guided tour of Madrid where they got to know about the significance of Puerta Sol, Royal Palace, Almudena Cathedral and Plazo Mayor.

# 15th November - Visit to Water Treatment Plant and Estadio Santiago Bernabeu



VISIT TO THE WATER TREATMENT PLANT-TEAM VISITING THE PLANT LOCATION

The students visited the water management plant known as Canal de Isabel II where all the river water gets filtered. Processes such as sedimentation and centrifugation takes place to remove all the impurities and dirt and waste from the water of the rivers. After the visit, the students went to a Spanish restaurant to have a typical Spanish lunch which included paella and tortilla. After a splendid lunch, the students went on an afternoon walk at Retiro Park.

After the walk, the students went to Estadio Santiago Bernabeu, which is the stadium of Real Madrid. Real Madrid which is one of the best teams, if not the best team in the world. The students got an amazing experience as they saw the stadium from the stands and then walked



PARQUE DEL BUEN RETIRO, MADRID



SANTIAGO BERNABÉU STADIUM, MADRID

through the locker room and the tunnels and then finally near the pitch. They also got to know the history of the club as they have a museum and an award room to let the world know their legacy of world-famous players in the history of Football. They feel it's a place where their dreams come true.

#### 16th November - Visit to Spanish School - Colegio Alameda de Osun



A VISIT TO THE SPANISH SCHOOL' COLEGIO ALAMEDA DE OSUNA'- A CULTURAL BLEND

The students went to Colegio Alameda de Osuna, a 68-year old school, in Madrid in order to exchange educational as well as cultural views as representatives of their proud country. The Spanish teachers and principal of the school were very cordial and warm. We were welcomed with a small breakfast and then taken around in the school campus. The lawns in the



STUDENT INTERACTIONS WITH TEACHERS

school were very ecofriendly and made us feel so much close to Nature. The students were divided into groups based on their age and then they were taken to their classrooms. The students interacted well with each other talking about their educational pattern as well as cultural legacy. They were more blended by dancing and singing in the closing ceremony. It was a great experience where we got to know about the culture and their education system. After this visit, we were dropped in the town to shop and visit numerous down town stores of Madrid Streets.

#### 17th November - A Day in Warner Park



PARQUE WARNER MADRID, A THEME PARK - THE MAGIC AND RAZZLE-DAZZLE

We went to Parque Warner Madrid, which is in located 23 km southeast the outskirts of Madrid. Warner Park is an amusement park which is based on the universe of Warner Bros. With big roller coasters to spooky haunted houses, this place was full of fun and excitement. We had a great time going to rides and roaming in the amusement park - Warner Bros. It was almost every attraction experienced, rollercoaster, shows and some meet n greets with Looney Tunes characters and Super Heroes characters like Batman and the Joker. A really cool park but the wait times are way to long even when it is not busy at all.

It was a life time experience.

#### INSIDE THE FABULOUS THEME PARK



#### 18th November - A visit to the Historical city of Segovia



A WORLD HERITAGE - 'ROMAN AQUEDUCT OF SEGOVIA'- NORTHWEST OF MADRID

Our last day was visit to Segovia, a historical city near Madrid was extremely satisfying. Segovia

Segovia has many heritage sites like Alcazar of Segovia, Roman Aqueduct and the Segovia Cathedral. The Alcazar of Segovia was originally built as a fortress but had also served as a royal palace, a state prison, a Royal Artillery College and a military academy until it was destroyed by fire in 1862. We also got to see the view of Segovia from the top of the Roman Aqueduct, which was used to transport water from one place to another. **Segovia** still retains the spirit of old Spanish cities The beautiful shops were feast to our eyes, to watch and visit them gave the feel of city culture.

ORNATE GOTHIC CATHERDRAL



Such Educational trips that form a part of the school curriculum are very valuable as they provide the students the opportunity of learning through travel, especially to places that they may not otherwise get to visit.

NEERJA BHATNAGAR