

Harp and SG Christmas 3 days WS

Serving others and taking care of myself

Lisbon, Portugal, 17-19 December 2012

This year either due to the financial crises, or to the fact that Porto center started to do its own WS for children, we had less participants than other years. Nevertheless the WS had a wonderful spirit and it was very animated.

Our intention was to speak about the importance of SG and also personally taking care of our own spiritual life. As lecturers we had Georg and Milu Pawlicky who shared their experience in the movement and life, Sergio and Carla Vieira, Hyun Joo Neto and Dan Gaina. We learned through our kids that the way to make a difference in a lecture is to make a personal and alive presentation that brings something new. The children had many questions and we could see that the interest was genuine.

Every morning we started with pledge, prayer and HDH. As secondary activities we had movie night, heavenly disco night, baking cookies, Yut, Korean lecture through songs, etc. Normally the closing and make sure that everybody sleeps is difficult. Coming together just 3 times a year the children take extensive time at night to catch up and share. But this time the schedule was that intense that even the usual suspects went straight to dreams.

As usual, chasing each other around the house and making small groups according to age, interest, etc was the main extra curriculum activity. We had no major incidents and all went smooth, letting everybody with a strong desire to come back every time they have the chance.

Before the end we had written reflections on the last year and goals on the next year and burned the papers in a small fire. It's never clear if they like the idea of burning stuff or writing down important things but it's clear that they enjoyed the whole process. During the 3 days the children divided in 2 teams invented 2 nations with flag, hymn, language, culture etc. and presented in the last day their creation. Also we presented the pictures we took during the WS and had a good laugh. In order to prepare for an eventual visit from True Mother to Portugal all of them together with National Leader's wife prepared some Korean songs and the result was uplifting. In the end all kids received presents.

Although every time we conclude the WS's we are very tired, in the same time we refresh our spirit, we have new connections and stronger family spirit. This time was not different and we concluded in high spirit.

Thank You all the best.
In the name of all Portuguese family.
Sérgio Neto.

