

## INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL LIBRARY DAY OUR MESSAGE TO THE WORLD

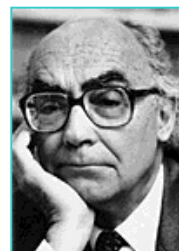
Our school is located in Oliveira do Douro in Vila Nova de Gaia, District of Oporto in the North of Portugal. There are many green spaces around the blocks, from where we can still hear birds singing. A swimming pool is already projected.

In our school the pupils' ages vary from 12 to 18 years and this year we have about 525 pupils. They enrol grades from the 7th to the 12th, which gives them access to the university. So far they have been very peaceful and pleasant people, as well as the whole staff.

Our school library is very well equipped, comfortable and beautiful. The team that is responsible for it is made of teachers, 2 employees, and some co-operative and helpful pupils. The media centre is always full. There are 8 computers, where everybody can surf the net.

### BOOKS WE RECOMMEND

"Baltazar and Blimunda", by José Saramago, our Portuguese writer who won the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1998



"The Book of Disquiet", by Fernando Pessoa, one of our finest poets

### OUR SCHOOL LIBRARY *CALL FOR PEACE* – SELECTED POEMS

#### WORDS

They are like a crystal,  
words.  
Some a dagger,  
some a blaze,  
Others,  
merely dew.

Secret they come, full of memory.  
Insecurely they sail:  
Cockleboats or kisses,  
the waters trembling.

Abandoned, innocent,  
weightless.  
They are woven of light.  
They are the night.  
And even pallid  
they recall green paradise.

Who hears them? Who  
gathers them, thus,  
cruel, shapeless,  
in their pure shells?

by Eugénio de Andrade, one of our greatest living poets

#### THE SMILE

I think it was the smile,  
it was the smile who opened the door.  
It was a smile with light, much light  
inside, I longed to  
enter it, take off my clothes, and stay,  
naked there within that smile.  
To run, to sail, to die within that smile.

*translated by Alexis Levitin*