

Erasmus group meeting

Wednesday 16th-Friday 18th October 2024

Location: Italy

Present:	Ireland: Shane Mc Donagh Sarah Noonan Claire McCole
	Poland: Ewelina Pietrzyk Dorota Dragan Joanna Borkowska Anna Skowrońska
	Spain: Antonia Lourdes Jimenez Maria del Pilar Gómez Sergio Lopez

Fourth teachers training meeting in Italy

Minutes:

- The fourth LTTA (Learning Teaching Training Activities) workshops took place at the Scuola Primaria G. Marconi in Limbiate, Italy.
- In the project "PODCASTING, OPENING DOORS, SHARING OUR LOCALITY!" schools from Ireland, Spain, Poland and Italy are trying to introduce teachers and students to the secrets of creating and popularizing podcasts, as well as develop communication skills in English. Since podcasts refer to the culture, history, natural environment and art of a given region, project partners have the opportunity to learn about the achievements of the local community.
- On the first day, project participants were invited to a meeting with the Mayor of Limbiate, with whom they talked about the organization of education in the partner countries and were acquainted with investment plans in the area of education. In the evening, during an intimate dinner at a "home" restaurant, teachers tried traditional dishes from the Lombardy region, based mainly on products from the nearby mountains.
- The following day, the first day of workshops, the project participants were accompanied by the students and teachers of Scuola Primaria G. Marconi on a trip to Milan, during which the students expanded their knowledge of the history and achievements of the region, and then **recorded podcasts** – this time in the form of interviews with teachers from partner European schools. It was an interesting and educational experience for both students and teachers. During their visit to Milan, the

project participants had the opportunity to see Castello Sforzesco, or Sforzesco Castle, the beautiful Gothic Duomo Cathedral and the famous Galleria Vittorio Emanuele II, as well as the famous La Scala opera house. It was a real treat for lovers of history, architecture, art and fashion. In the evening, over a delicious pizza, the project participants met the teachers from the school in Limbiate and exchanged observations on education in their countries.

- The next day of the visit was also full of events. It began with a warm welcome from the students of the entire school, who were waiting for the project participants and they presented the coordinator, Mr. Shane Mc Donagh, with a symbolic key to the school. They prepared a welcome performance for us, and then the 5th grade students showed us around the entire school. The project participants had the opportunity to observe the educational process and teaching methods in grades 1-5. Then the entire school community gathered in the auditorium, where we admired the artistic performances of the classes, the main theme of which was the upcoming Halloween. The children performed wonderfully, enchanting us not only with their beautiful singing and dancing, but also with their sense of humor, openness and childlike joy that they conveyed during the performance.
- In the afternoon, we went to the nearby city of Monza, famous for its beautiful historic Villa Reale, a neoclassical royal palace. While visiting the palace, we learned about the history of the region and the unification of Italy.
- The next day we started with a meeting with the school students for a joint breakfast. Then we were invited to the extraordinary facility "BeeHappy", which provides care for children aged 0-3. The teacher who led the classes said that in this facility they focus on children's independence, preparation for fulfilling different roles in adult life and harmonious upbringing in harmony with nature. After this interesting visit, we returned to school for culinary workshops. The students of class 4 prepared a sweet surprise for us. Divided into 3 teams, we had to make a cake according to the recipe provided by the students.
- A wonderful summary of the day was a visit to Lake Como, which is a tourist attraction in the region, and a ride on the cable car.
- On the last day, we participated in the festival in Cesano Moderno, which takes place every year in October. We learned about regional products, their preserves and popular spices.
- The visit to Italy was very successful. We met wonderful, friendly, open people, we got to know the natural and cultural richness of the region, we got to know the organization of the education system, and during classes with students we saw that they were creative, resourceful, communicated very well in English and were great with new technologies, which they proved by preparing podcasts.
- To sum up the entire project, we can safely say that it achieved its intended goals - it introduced students and teachers to the methods of creating podcasts, contributed to the dissemination of knowledge about the natural and cultural values of the regions where schools are located in Ireland, Spain, Poland and Italy, and had a very positive effect on the motivation of students and teachers to learn foreign languages.