

NEWSLETTER 2 / 30-06-2020

First year's reflection

It has been nearly a year since the Erasmus+ project "Walking the Talk" came into its existence. Initially, four schools from Italy, Turkey, the Czech Republic and Greece (coordinating school) were distributed their duties and tasks within August and September 2019. By that time a group of pupils (around 20) in each school was chosen to take part in the project following its demands and aims.



After setting the group of pupils each school became to coordinate and prepare lessons focused on Science, Mathematics, English, Geography, Drama, etc.



with the stress on inquiry-based learning, embodied learning and other learning theories to encourage pupils to activate their senses, logic and motivation towards the educational process. Each school is to prepare and implement 8 lessons during the project producing a total of 32 lessons. For easier

recording of the lessons, a lesson template was created by Italian school. At the same time, we started a new TwinSpace, designed a project website (<https://walkingthetalk.eu>) as well as updated schools' websites and facebook account to promote and disseminate our project results.

Additionally, schools from the Czech Republic, Italy and Turkey started to organize the journey to Greece with the help of hosting school to take part in the first international student mobility exchange in Livadeia, Greece. Within September and October 2019 Greek school not only coordinated communication among all partners, supervised the fulfillment of the activities but mostly was to arrange the event held from November 17th to 23rd, 2019. Greek school focused all the activities on Technology, ecology, Philology, etc. based on outdoor education with the great respect on history of Greece. According to the results of the questionnaire and other tools for evaluation both the students and teachers enjoyed the meeting.



From November to February we continued our work on tasks according to the project schedule. At the same time, we all started preparations for the second international student mobility exchange in Varese, Italy. Due to unexpected and unfavorable situation in Italy caused by Coronavirus Covid-19 and further lockdowns in most of European countries, we had to cancel the meeting

scheduled for March 30th to April 3rd, 2020. As the situation was continually getting worse and we (both teachers and students) were



not allowed to stay in schools, we had to stop all the activities planned for the rest of the school year.



However, we kept in touch via the Internet and telephones to discuss the situation and tried to run the project as the circumstances allowed. Up to February all partners managed to make and practice 5 lessons out of 8.

Unfortunately, in mid-May Italian school announced its decision to withdraw from the project. After the on-line meeting set for the next few days, we (Greece, Turkey and the Czech Republic) confirmed our willingness to continue and finish the project successfully. We suggested to extend the deadline of



the project for 12 months and redistribute the task of Italian school among stable partners. Project website has been updated with the latest news of partner schools reflecting the amount of work completed by the end of first project year. Currently, all schools are having summer holidays but as soon as we get back to school, we will start with the project activities again.