



WordCrossing



Education and Culture DG

Lifelong Learning Programme

MINUTES of the third Project Meeting held in Baia Mare, Romania.

Participants:

- Ms. Fani Smixioti (5th Gymnasium Trikalon, Trikala)
- Ms. Eleni Stamou (5th Gymnasium Trikalon, Trikala)
- Mr. Georgios Kouvelas (5th Gymnasium Trikalon, Trikala)
- Mr. Mr. Christos Kalliaras (5th Gymnasium Trikalon, Trikala)
- Ms. Katarzyna Stepien (Gimnazjum Publiczne im. Romana Czerneckiego, Słupia)
- Mr. Kamil Hukowski (Gimnazjum Publiczne im. Romana Czerneckiego, Słupia)
- Ms. Zofia Stachura (Gimnazjum Publiczne im. Romana Czerneckiego, Słupia)
- Ms. Adelinda Re (Liceo Scientifico 'Giacomo Ulivi', Parma)
- Ms. Ileana Vasilescu (National College "Mihai Eminescu", Baia Mare)
- Ms. Andrea Ardelean (National College "Mihai Eminescu", Baia Mare)
- Mr. Yavuz Derya Kibar (Suleyman Demirel Anadolu Lisesi, Dortyol / Hatay)
- Mr. Ali Arslan (Suleyman Demirel Anadolu Lisesi, Dortyol / Hatay)
- Mr. Mehmet Tellioglu (Suleyman Demirel Anadolu Lisesi, Dortyol / Hatay)
- Mr. Med Döldül (Suleyman Demirel Anadolu Lisesi, Dortyol / Hatay)
- Ms. Anna Vilaseca Martínez (IES Pere Vives Vich, Igualada)
- Mr. Anton M Marimón Guasch (IES Pere Vives Vich, Igualada)

Evaluation of the project since the meeting in Trikala.

1. The Project within each school.

All the schools had managed to read the assigned book, prepared the information for the ebook which Fani Smixioti had put together and they had also done a presentation for the rest of the schools. Each school gave a summary of the work done. As mentioned before, the work done by each school on the project depends on the way the project is fitted into each school curriculum. Anton M. Marimón remarks on this fact and points out the possibility of being more realistic when planning the tasks and the timing for the next meetings.

- The 5th Gymnasium Trikalon had some appropriate copies of *Don Quijote de la Mancha* by the Spanish writer Miguel de Cervantes and supplemented the reading by watching a cartoon film of the book. They had difficulties in finding so many copies of the book in the libraries (both school and municipal) since all boys wanted to borrow and read the book. They supported their reading by watching different cartoon films. The boys enjoyed it better than the girls. The presentation given by the students included a piece of the film. They also

worked on the folklore dances and costumes for the workshop. Greek Comenius team also created a presentation to support the greek book of "Odysseia". The title of the ppt was "Women of Odysseia".

- The students at **Liceo Scientifico 'Giacomo Ulivi'** read the book *Travels with Herodotus* by the Polish writer Ryszard Kapuściński and thoroughly enjoyed it. They also spent a lot of time working on the planned National Identity workshop. All the work was done in the afternoon after classes.
- The teachers at **Suleyman Demirel Anadolu Lisesi** had difficulties in finding the book *Kyra Kyralinda* by the Romanian writer Panait Istrati; in the end they managed to buy it online. Students and teachers worked on it for two weeks and liked it a lot. The rest of the time was also used to prepare the National Identity workshop
- The book to read by the Comenius team at the **National College "Mihai Eminescu"** was *Heart* by the Italian writer Edmondo De Amicis; they didn't have any difficulties in finding the book, because the school had it in the library. Two students were selected to read it and found it enjoyable but not an easy read.

A teacher teaching at the university gave a talk about the book and they were also able to meet the writer. In the preparation of the workshop on National Identity, they realized that, after all, they are not so far away from Greek culture.

- **IES Pere Vives Vich** read the book *Last Train To Istanbul* by Ayşe Kulin, who is a well-known Turkish writer. As the work for the Comenius project is usually done in groups or teams, two girls were responsible for reading the book "The last train to Estambul" and then write the review and prepare a powerpoint for the oral exposition in Baia Mare.

The other teams worked on the diary of the journey to the meeting in Trikala, on the press articles and the making and editing of a video about the recording of the song presented in Trikala.

- The **Gimnazjum Publiczne im. Romana Czerneckiego** reported that the student Monika Kasperczyk prepared the review of Homer's book *Odissey*, the illustrations of the book were prepared by Tomasz Woźniczka and that the book comments were prepared by Karolina Zdańska and Monika Kasperczyk. The multimedia presentation was prepared by Roksana Dłużniak.

The Comment about culture, traditions, special food and dancing for the workshop had been prepared by Karolina Łata, the regional Dance "Krakowiak" was prepared by Monika Kasperczyk and Justyna Zdańska, the regional dishes were prepared by: Roksana Dłużniak, Monika Kasperczyk, Karolina Łata, Justyna Zdańska.

2. Communication between Schools.

- Anton M. Marimón reminded people to use the gmail group email address Marcel Jorba set up for the communication between the teachers; this group email contains all the addresses of the teachers who wanted to receive all the communications and updates related to the project.

- Fani Smixioti commented that the Facebook WordCrossing group was really working very well, because it allowed students to share information very quickly.
- One regret was that the teachers did not ask the students to talk about the books they were reading through this social network; apart from the Facebook page there had been no communication between the students.
- Maybe for the next meeting the teachers should ask to use the Facebook page for work as well. Anton M. Marimón expressed the need to channel all the information through official channels, i.e. gmail group; this was especially important when mobilities were planned since sometimes the students knew more things than the teachers did.

Each school and the teachers should know who is being paired with whom, the addresses of the guest students and hosting students, etc. Social networks are very effective to cope with the social part of the exchange and obviously avoid a lot of paperwork, but it is still necessary to keep a certain “official” check in order to avoid any possible problems.

3. Activities during the meeting

- The teachers from the Turkish delegation were able to attend classes during the meeting and were delighted by the experience. It was agreed that it was a very positive activity and it was well worth pursuing.
- The coordinator agreed that is a very good idea both for students and teachers, but sometimes not all schools are able to offer this possibility because of problems of capacity in the classrooms, other times because some teachers are reluctant to accept a colleague observing their lessons or having guest students in their classes.
- Organisation of such activities is welcome if some schools manage to do so without any problems.

4. Products

- Overall, all the presentations had improved since the first meeting in Igalada and followed the guidelines set in the previous meetings; Anton M Marimón again reminded all the delegations about the copyright limitations for all the products that were to be uploaded and that it was important to distinguish between a powerpoint to be uploaded which should have all the written information and a presentation do be done in front of an audience, where the information should be oral and the slides only a backup, schematic tool.
- Even though all the activities planned have been done, not all of them have been finalised as a final product nor been uploaded due mostly to lack of time.
- Linda Re and Fani Smixioti asked for the song to be recorded and the Romanian coordinations agreed they would do this as soon as they could.
- All the finished products will be on the WordCrossing web page.

5. Evaluation

First year Report

- At the time of the meeting the evaluation or report forms were not yet available. The coordinator said that this evaluation or report is quite simple and mainly statistically-based; schools express their degree of satisfaction, or lack of it, with several aspects of the project. Each school should know or find out if their National agency requires the report to be done on-line or just on printed paper.
- Anton M Marimón said that he would prepare an excel file in order to standardise the results of the questionnaires and send it to all the schools.
- The progress and products done in the first year of the project will be evaluated at the next meeting in Parma.

6. Meetings

Three meetings are planned for the next school year. This way all the schools will have direct knowledge of each partner school.

- The 4th. project meeting will be held in October in Parma, Italy. The arrival dates are the 6th and 7th, depending on transport, the working days will be from the 8th to 11th, and 12th and 13th will be departure days.

Linda Re tells the teachers that Parma is an expensive city and that the delegations should take this into account when budgeting the meeting. The cheaper hotels for example will be between 70€ and 80 € per night and meals up to 20€.

Some delegations need the invitations sent a month in advance, which means that these should be sent around the 1st September.

- The 5th. project meeting will be held in Słupia, Poland, between the 24th of February and the 1st of March, 2014.
- The 6th. project meeting will be held in Dordyol / Hatay, Turkey, between the 28th of April to the 3rd of May, 2014.

7. Tasks to be done by the next meeting:

- Since the meeting in Parma will be held shortly after the beginning of the school year, the task proposed for the next meeting was to prepare a presentation or presentations about a book students will have read during the summer. There are not limitations to the kind of book to be presented since it should be one of the summer reads chosen by students for their own pleasure. It can be a best-seller, a popular book or a so-called classic.
- The presentations should:
 1. Include the details of the books: Author, publisher, year, edition...
 2. Explain / summarise the plot and characters.
 3. Include a quote from the book and link it to the students' opinion about it.

8. Distribution of tasks

- The tasks and products for the second year of the project are going to be discussed in detail during the meeting in Parma.

The tasks proposed on the application form were:

- National School Heroes

- Measurable improvement of didactic approaches.
- A dictionary with words that have crossed

Linda Re proposed the task of producing a book or story written collectively and online. Anton M. Marimón said he knew, from other meetings at the Catalan delegation of the National Agency, about some pages that allowed this kind of activity. He would try to find out more about it.

- In Parma the coordinator will show all the delegations the way the final report will have to be submitted and, if possible, show the result of a previous project so that everyone can get an idea of what needs to be done at the end of the project.
- Responsibilities for the tasks to be done next year will be shared out during the meeting in Parma.

9. Dissemination

All the schools have continued their efforts to disseminate the project. The Project webpage has many examples of this.

10. Multilateral Twinning

- Following the proposal of Fani Smixioti to try and twin all the partner schools with the express support of local authorities, everybody agreed to use the twinning document written by Fani as the base for a multilateral twinning of all the schools.
- Process:
Anton M. Marimón will write the final formal version of the document and send it back to Fani.
Fani will print 6 copies, one for each school, which will be signed by the school and Trikala local Authority and then she will forward it to another school; this school will do the same; this process will be repeated until all the schools have signed and corresponding local authorities have signed the six copies.
- Ileana Vasilescu and Andrea Ardelean offered to look into the possibility of European grants to help the working of the twinning of the schools.
- Everybody hopes this will be a document which will enable the schools to continue our links beyond the temporal limits of the project.

11. Questions & Answers

There were no extra questions raised. The coordinator thanked everybody and congratulated the team.

Baia Mare 16th – 21st April, 2013