Erasmus + KA229 project:

The Power of Understanding

No: 2019-1-RO01-KA229-063057

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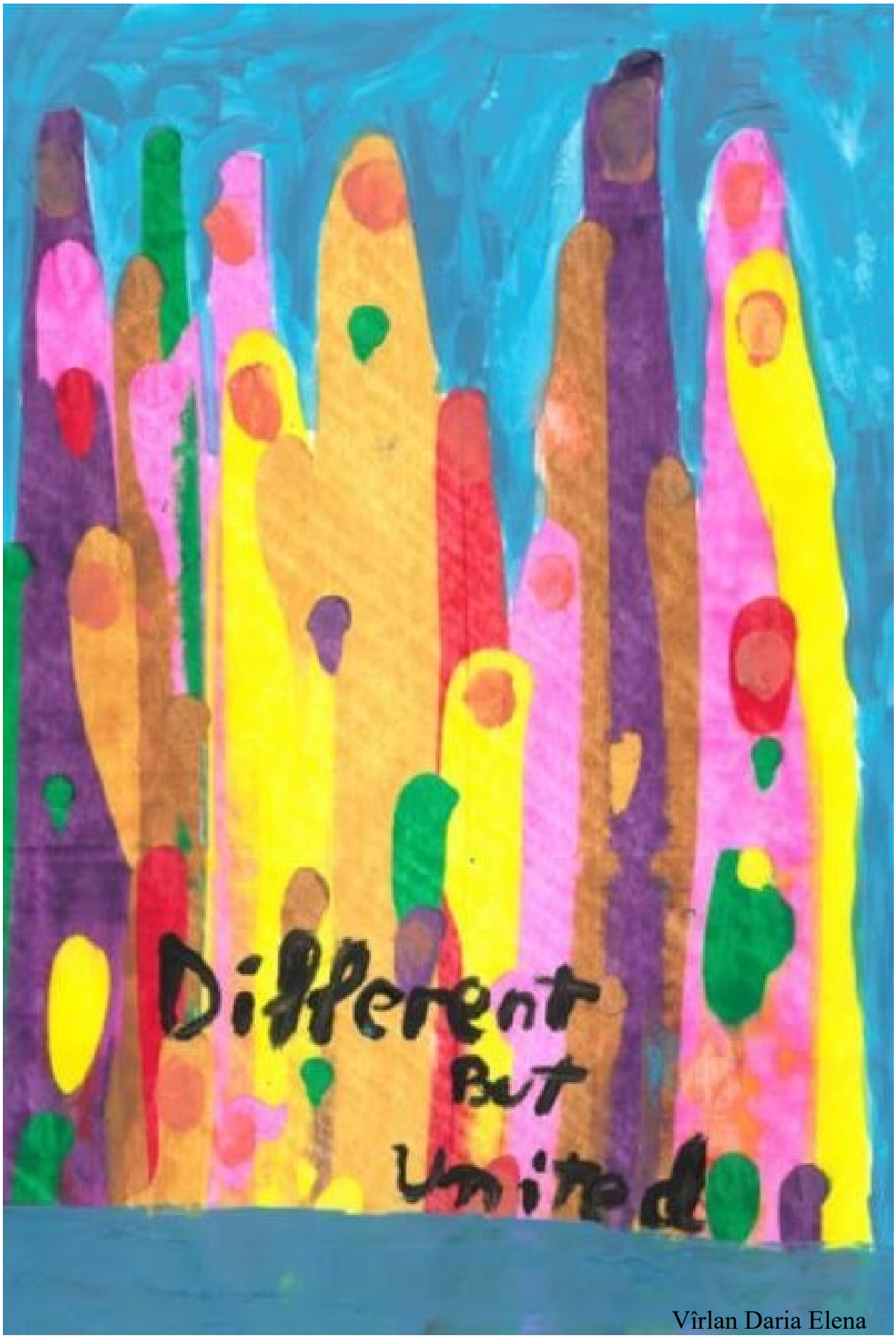
Content



Vîrlan Daria Elena

Ten Reasons to Be in an Erasmus+ Project

Sabina Banu, 7th grade student

Hello! My name is Sabina, I am a 7th grade student and I am taking part in the ongoing Erasmus+ project "The power of understanding" in our school. I am going to share with you some reasons why you should be in Erasmus + projects:

♦You can improve personal and soft-skills as self-confidence, intercultural understanding and maturity, sociability, cooperation, quality, inclusion, creativity, innovation;

♦You can get to meet new people and make friends all over the world;

♦You can learn new things about ICT, traditions, History, technology, languages, theatre, cultural backgrounds, old civilizations, cities or countries and reach new levels of understanding;

♦You can become more responsible as being in a project requires organizing and planning your personal/school time and work;

♦You can improve your language skills by practising, speaking, writing, using it more often;

♦You can discover your artistic talents like acting, singing, dancing or playing instruments;

♦You can become aware of your inner self, your interests, hobbies and also the world around you;

♦You can get to know new places from your town/city, country, other countries during the transnational activities;

♦You can learn through non-formal or informal learning activities and active participation to them;

♦You get inspired and motivated by your teachers and colleagues.

So, do not wait too long, now it is the perfect time to explore the world of Erasmus+.

One Week Experience in Leon

Teodora Frangolea, 8th grade student

As a member of the Erasmus +project, "The Power of Understanding", three of my colleagues and I had the wonderful opportunity to travel to Spain in a transnational activity held by this country, a partner of the project. I was given this chance not only because I can speak English pretty well but also for the active participation and involvement in the activities of "The Magic of the Word" club.

The trip lasted a week and during this time we all could learn a lot about the beautiful and interesting city of Leon, where we stayed, about the regions Castile-Leon and Asturias, their history and cultural background.

The school we went to was very large, spacious, modern and I made lots of friends from Spain and the other countries in the project. We had activities together, they showed us their school, we watched each country presentation on the given topic, we visited the city, saw historical places, castles, cathedrals, churches and museums. We even went to the Roman gold mines which looked astonishing at sunset!

What I liked most was the visit to the Museum of Dinosaurs, the Jurassic Museum in Asturias, where we could see the skeleton of the biggest dinosaur ever. We also learned a lot about dinosaurs, saw fossils, found out the difference between reptiles and dinosaurs and, of course, took hundreds of photos! Last but not least we went on the beach where there were these amazing and unique dinosaur footprints. I could not believe my eyes!

It was a great experience after all! In the future, if I have the opportunity to participate in other Erasmus projects, I will go for them, as it is a good way to develop myself.

In conclusion, Erasmus+ projects really worth it!

My first Erasmus exchange
SPAIN, November 2021

By Delia Codruta Cirja,
7th grade student

November 2021 came with great news for me, a surprise I've never expected: I got the chance to visit Spain for the first time! I've been part of "The Power of Understanding" Erasmus+ project since 5th grade. I knew about these exchanges, but I never thought I would have the opportunity to go on such a journey.

I travelled to Spain with two teachers and other two students from the 8th grade: Aurelia Melania Juverdeanu, our History teacher, Carmen-Jana Ifrim, our English teacher, Catalin-Andrei Iacob and Teodora-Andreea Frangolea, my colleagues.

I also flew by airplane for the first time in my life. I can't describe the beauty of the sky and of the fluffiness of the clouds, also the waters we passed over that were shining in the sunlight. I was fascinated by the scenery I saw. I felt like I was in a dream!

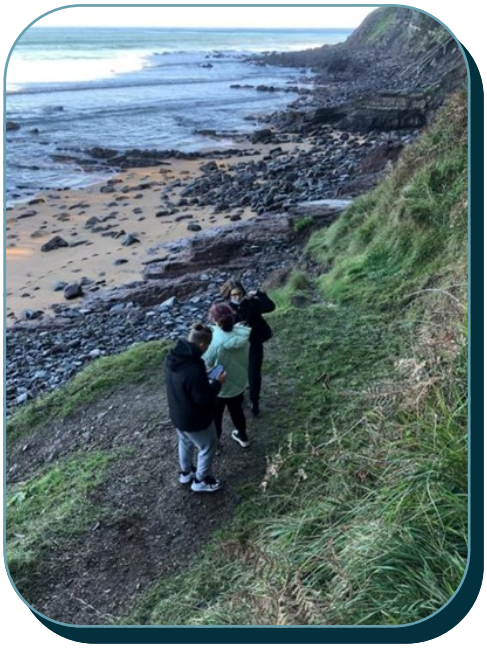
In Spain, we visited the College Giner de Los Rios in Leon, a large vocational school, very well equipped and neat with mechanical, technological and nursing workshops, computer rooms and recording studios. I met there friendly hard-working students and kind generous teachers. I was really impressed.

Every day we had new activities. The first activity with students only was an ice-breaking one.

On another day, each country presented its Heroes, then all students made some ancient accessories that were worn by the romans in the past, which are called Fibula and Bulla, and in the evening a chestnut festival took place.

At the event we ate roasted chestnuts, danced and listened to traditional Spanish songs. In the next days we visited many captivating places, such as Astorga, where we visited the Chocolate Museum, the Jurassic Museum of Asturias or Oviedo where we were guided through the city.

Personally, I enjoyed all the activities and trips carried out in this exchange, but the one I enjoyed most was the trip to the Roman Mines Las Medulas. This place has an enchanting view and when the sky is clear it's incredible! In the evening the sunset is unbelievably gorgeous! I really wish I could see the landscape again.



I also liked a lot the Dinosaur Museum in Asturias. The guided tour in the museum was very interesting, we all picked up information about dinosaurs. The museum is located close to the coastline of the Cantabrian Sea. It has got a delightful view, since the building is situated on a hill. The sea breeze made me feel very calm and fulfilled.

This experience will be unforgettable. I met new people, but also a new culture, full of history. I will certainly participate in other projects of this kind, because through them I gain new knowledge and abilities, I improve my communication in foreign languages and I develop my cooperation skills.

Thanks to the Erasmus+ project, I learned English better, became more sociable and gained a lot of knowledge. I've come to the conclusion that projects bring a great deal of benefits and are very helpful in the future.

I give thanks to the people who supported me in this experience!

The Most Playful Activity Ever!

By Denisa Caloianu and Maria Pacuraru,
8th grade students

Our group, The magic of the words, had a meeting with two actresses from the "Victor Ion Popa" Barlad Theatre a few weeks ago. The activities took place in the library of our school „Vasile Pârvan".

The activity started by getting to know the two actresses. They gave us time to ask questions about the world of theatre. After revealing some of their secrets, they suggested that we play some interactive games.

The first game was getting to know your partner, this game was about doing what the partner did, predicting her moves. And then we had to analyze how our partners were dressed, what their features were. It was very interesting, the first game taught us how to get to know our partner better, how to pay attention to details and observe things.

The second game was to create a story.This game consists of making up a story and the others have to continue it until someone says stop.One of the actressess told us a sentence to begin the story and then, in turns, we had to go on with the story until the last one reached the end of it.

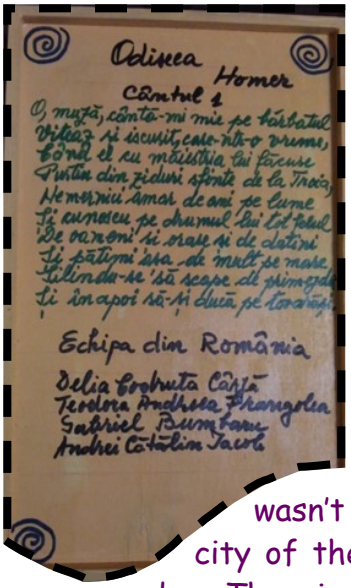
The third and last game was mime. We all know it, don't we? One of us got a word in secret and then he/she had to mime it, no talking at all. The others had to guess.We did a very good job!

At the end of the activities, the actresses told us they were glad they met us and we also were very pleased to have had the opportunity to meet such warm, talented and wonderful people.

Everyone in the group felt happy and relaxed and would like more activities like this.

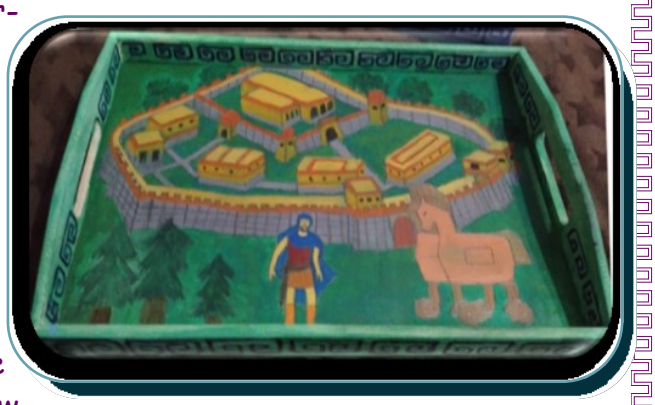
Odysseus, an Universal Hero

Andreea Teodora Frangolea, Delia Codruta Cirja



In ***The Odyssey*** epic poem, Homer tells about the journeys at sea of the ingenious Odysseus, from the conquer of Troy to the moment when the hero manages to defeat the anger of Poseidon god and returns to his country, Ithaca, 20 years after he had left.

The first verse starts with the invocation of the muse who is being asked to tell about Odysseus, the man who broke down the walls of Troy. This hero symbolizes wisdom, skill and ability, ingenuity. He brought new fighters to fight Troy with his skillful words. If it wasn't for him, goddess Pallas Athena wouldn't have left the city of the king Priam and the wooden horse wouldn't have been made. The invincible, insurmountable walls of Troy, built by two Olympian gods, would have still stand.



The Achaeans set off slowly to their houses, from which they had been gone for ten years. Some of them arrived sooner, others later, but Odysseus got home to Ithaca the slowest and latest of all.

The Odysseus's twelve ships got lost from the Agamemnon's fleet and he and his men wandered at sea for another ten years facing dangers, exciting adventures, witches, monsters, enchanters, landing in remote islands or fighting the Cyclops.

After ten years the hero reached his home in Ithaca.

Upon arriving, he finds that his wife, Penelope, has turned away more than 100 suitors. He plots and takes revenge on the suitors who have been wooing his wife and eating his family out of hearth and home.

One of Our National Heroes, Alexandru Ioan Cuza

Students: Iulian Malanca, Nistor Nicole

Alexandru Ioan Cuza (1859 - 1866), (Alexandru Ioan I) - born March 20, 1820 in Bârlad – Romania, died May 15, 1873, Heidelberg, Germany. The first Ruler of Romania, the Ruler of the Union, the founder of modern Romania.

He participated in the revolutionary movement of 1848 in Moldova, and later in the movement for the Union of Romanian Principalities. In the summer of 1857, Alexandru Ioan Cuza resigned from the position of administrative head of Galati, in protest against the falsification of the elections for the Ad-hoc Assemblies, by the caimacam Vogoride.

On January 5, 1859, Colonel Alexandru Ioan Cuza was elected Ruler of Moldavia. On January 24, 1859, Alexandru Ioan Cuza was elected Ruler of Wallachia.

The reformist activity of Alexandru Ioan Cuza took place in the difficult conditions caused by the actions of the opposition of the conservative allies with the radical liberals. However, he managed, with the support of Prime Minister Mihail Kogalniceanu to achieve in a short time, numerous reforms to modernize Romanian society: electoral reform, agrarian, education, army, civil, criminal and commercial code, territorial – administrative organization.

The conservatives allied with the radical liberals organized the coup d'etat of February 11, 1866, during which Alexandru Ioan Cuza was forced to abdicate and leave the country. His words spoken at the Cotroceni Palace, before leaving, remain memorable: "May God make the country work better without me than with me. Long live Romania! "

Alexandru Ioan Cuza spends the rest of his days abroad. He died in 1873 in Germany. He is brought to the country and buried at his estate in Ruginoasa, near Iassy. Today, his bones are found in the "Three Hierarchs" Church in Iassy.

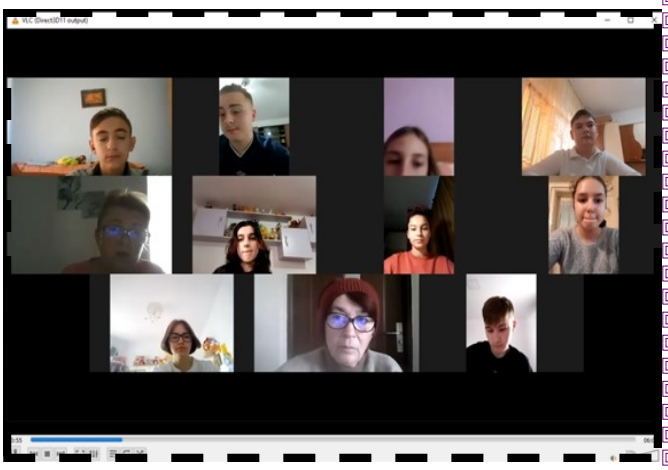
Among them is the legend "Cuza-Voda's Justice", studied by the members of the Club "Travellers in time and space", through a role play.

ROMANIAN HISTORICAL LEGENDS

THE JUSTICE OF PRINCE CUZA

At that time, many legends circulated about Alexandru Ioan Cuza, much loved by the peasants who had been put in possession of land by the agrarian reform. They told about his deeds by which the ruler did justice in favor of the poor.

Prince Cuza knew that things didn't go well in the country. But, to be sure that this was the truth, he didn't listen only to other people's words but he went alone through villages and towns as he was convinced it was the best way to find out the truth. Those who knew him said that the Prince was in the most unexpected places and he always tried to make justice.



Once, he stopped at a courthouse where he considered that justice was not always done and that, many times, poor people were not done justice. Dressed up in common clothes, he mingled among the people waiting to appear before the judge. He spoke to them; asked them questions trying to find out why they were there and how the men of law behaved with them.

- I have been trying for four years and I cannot get my right back – said a peasant who was staying, sadly, in one corner.
- Why have you been trying for? asked Cuza in a friendly way.
- Oh, for some land that the tenant from my village unjustly took from me.
- And what did the judges tell you?
- What did they tell me? Anytime I come in front of them, they put me off …, they always find an excuse.
- Do you think you're right?
- Of course I am … all the village knows. Otherwise, I wouldn't dare to rise against a rich man. As far as I understand, the delay is done especially for my opponent to win; and I, from a poor man that I am, I will become even poorer with all these judges…
- Well, in this case, do as I tell you. Now, when they call you in, enter and answer the questions they will ask you. And if the judge tells you that the trial will be postponed again then you pretend to be very upset and begin to quarrel with him, saying: "Well, Mr. Judge how long are you going to postpone it for, as I am tired to come here and to get some justice from you? What does that mean?" … And without any delay, go to the judge and slap him in the face.

Cuza showed him a sign and so the peasant realized that he had talked to the Prince. The peasant, very troubled, didn't say a word. After a few minutes, the doorkeeper called him in. The chairman found again an artifice and postponed the trial for another day.

Then, the villager, full of angry, plucked up his courage and … be what might be … beginning to quarrel, he rushed to the judge and slapped him in the face. Then, he wanted to leave. Immediately, the bell rang.

- Run …quickly….. catch the thief… he has beaten Mr. Chairman! ...

There is much noise. Four men appear from nowhere and catch the poor man and bring him back in the trial court.

That moment, somebody came in… Everybody was astonished… It was the Prince.

- Hei, what happened? What is this noise for?

- Long live you Prince, this man slapped Mr. Chairman, said the public prosecutor very slowly.

- Hei, what's the matter? Do you want to punish him immediately? Just this minute? Leave him alone, you have enough time for that … Postpone the trial over a day … or two … over a month … over a year … Why do you rush? He has been looking for justice for so many years and you postpone him every time! Why don't you do the same thing for him?!...

Nobody said a word. The chairman, the judges and the other employees got pale and were shaking of fear…

And then the Prince himself asked about the man's affair, which has been postponed for many years and made the judges give the proper sentence immediately, in his presence. And after finishing with all the trials of that day, he dismissed everybody as there were too many complaints against them…

- Hurray! Long live Cuza! cheered the crowd full of joy.

And the Prince, after having arranged all the things, went away.

Role players:
Prince Cuza—Andrei Iacob
The Villager—Gabriel Bumbaru
The employe—Delia Cirja
The storyteller—Teodora Frangolea

A Local Hero, Lt.col.(rtr)Gheorghe Voiculescu, Veteran in the Second World War, Bârlad Citizen

Students Andrei Iacob and Andrei Angheluţă

On April 14, 2021, the representatives of Bârlad City Hall, Bârlad Garnison and Bârlad Military Circle celebrated Lt. Col. Gheorghe Voiculescu, the longest-lived war veteran in the city, at the age of 101.

The Second World War veteran Gheorghe Voiculescu survived not only the largest and bloodiest battle in human history (Cotul Donului - Stalingrad, 1942-1943), but also a period of almost four years, during which time he was a prisoner in the forced labor camps in the USSR.

It must be said that, out of over 91.000 prisoners of war from Cotul Donului, only about 6,000 returned home alive. "Nenea Ghiță" is one of them and he is proud of this.

Despite the extremely difficult times he went through throughout his life, on his birthday, the celebrant received his guests as he knows best: with immense joy on his face and with stories drawn from his existence for over a century.

But, "Nenea Ghiță", as his acquaintances call him, impresses more by his lucidity and especially by his love for his country and people. He stands up whenever he talks about the acts of patriotism of former war comrades/mates.

He went to the front with the 12th Dorobanti Bârlad Regiment and fought at Cotul Donului with the Germans, Italians and Hungarians against the Red Army. As difficult as it may be, his memories of World War II are still alive and, as he shares them, seem to have been born a few days ago.

The Testimonial of Veteran Gh. Voiculescu

Students Roxana Halapciuc and Carmen Miron

In 2007, the Society of Historical Sciences, the Bârlad branch and the Bârlad Military Circle organized, on the occasion of the 65th anniversary of the battles for Stalingrad, a meeting with 4 Bârlad war veterans, recording their testimonies. Veteran Gh. Voiculescu, then 87 years old, recounts his experiences lived in the autumn of 1942.

"We arrived at the front… there we took part in the line to the left of Stalingrad, right in front of the city of Kreskaia… On October 7, when we had advanced and changed an observatory, I was injured; two of us were wounded, but I wasn't very seriously hurt. Lieutenant Gănescu, who was the commander of the Company, ordered us to go to the hospital but I, seeing that I was not so badly wounded, said that I refused. The lieutenant was surprised, he said: "if you stay in position, very well, you will stay here, we will take care of you, you will be bandaged" and so it was, after which I did well. After that date, I don't know how many days, it was announced that a special commission was coming, I didn't know who…

And one day five people appeared in position, dressed in military uniform, with cloaks, helmet on their heads, I didn't know who they were, they went to the company commander, at Gănescu, they stayed there for a while and when they went out, we recognized out of those five, the regimental commander, who was colonel Dumitriu Stelian, a very brave and good man.

When he came out, after he had met Gănescu, he asked: "Lieutenant, how are things going on with the casualty? " And he answered that there had been some casualties, among which he told him about our case, that we had been wounded the other day and one refused to go to the hospital. Then Colonel Dumitriu said that he also wanted to see that soldier who was injured and who refused…

Then I also had the happiness to shake hands with the colonel and Marshal Antonescu who was part of that commission and who congratulated me."

Discrimination – an injustice

Matei Daria-Andreea, 7th grade student

Narrator:

One day a student moved to a new school. After stepping into the classroom with the headmistress, she sat down in one of the desks and admired the classroom with curiosity. She was nervos and she was quiet.

Characters:

,,Good afternoon, students!"

,,Good afternoon!"

,,As you can see, we have a new schoolmate. Please, introduce yourself!"

,,Hi! My name is Akira, I'm 13 years old and I recently moved to this school."

,,Hi, Akira! Where are you from?"

,,I moved a few months ago in Romania, after my parents decided to come here. I am born in Asia, more exactly in Coreea."

Interesting, but where have you learned so far?

,,At a school in this city"

,,And what was the reason for the transfer?"

,,Well, I didn't feel very welcomed there. I was not directly insulted, but I did not feel comfortable in there, I felt like everyone was judging me."

,,I'm sorry to hear that, Akira. On behalf of the entire class i promise that we will treat you with respect and you will enjoy every moment spent with us."

Narrator:

But this happiness did not last long, as the girl, full of enthusiasm, tried to talk to the other children and make new friends. They rejected her and did not receive her in their groups.

Characters:

,,Hello, I'm Akira. I'd love to join you on the break."

,,I'm sorry, but it's a limited group of people, we don't accept new people."

,, And we don't get all kind of weirdos from Asia."

,,He's right! Who do you think you are to interrupt us?"

,,I'm sorry, I thought we might be friends. I'll try not to bother you anymore."

Akira:

I left there disappointed and heartbroken. I sat down on my chair and started reading. I felt like time had stopped. I wanted to hear the sound of the bell faster and the class to start, because I couldn't stand to see my rude classmates standing all over the class talking about all sorts of bad things about me.

Characters:

,,Akira, I want you to know that we are so sorry for everything that happened with our colleagues."

,,Yes, they did behave badly towards you. "

,, I hope at least we can be friends. "

,,Thank you very much everyone for what you do for me. You're really helping me get over this."

,,We are very happy that we can do at least that! "

,, so, once we became friends, let's introduce you to other children in the class. "

,,She is Elena."

,, Hi, Akira! Nice to meet you!"

,,And she is Lidia. "

,,Hello! I hope we'll get along great."

,,Hello, girls! I'm glad to meet you!"

,,Ok, Akira. Now we can show you the classroom, if you want!"

,,Here are the cupboards where we put all the things in the class, such as sponges, chalk, sheets and so on."

,,In this place we have many posters with grammar and interesting information about History and Geography."

,,And here we have the plants that we water every day when we come to school."

,,Then, our class has 5 very important rules, but not many follow them."

,,The first rule is to accept each other and respect everyone. "

,,The second is to always announce our intention to speak."

,,The third rule is to be supportive in any situation."

,,The fourth is to always be polite and listen to everyone's opinion."

,,And the fifth rule is to put an end to discrimination. "

Narrator:

At last, the bell rang. They had a social education lesson with their teacher. The teacher arrived in class, greeted them and asked:

Characters:

,,How do you get along with Akira? Are you already friends?"

,,what, ma'am? Shall we be friends with her? Why would we do that? "

,,Because you are all equal and part of the same team. You should understand and help each other."

,,I don't think this will ever happen. We are not equal, take a look at the differences between us. "

,,It is clear that we could never be friends."

,,How can you say that? Akira, we think you're wonderful and we really want to get to know each other better."

,,So do I!"

,,Yes, I believe the same!"

,,Well done, girls! Look, they are an example of kindness, empathy and altruism. What can I say? You disappointed me. If you think that if we look different or speak a different language, we are less equal, then you are wrong."

Speaking of equality, I have something interesting for you. I want to tell you about 3 major categories of discrimination.

The first one, my dears, is racism, when you differentiate between the colour of your skin and the colour of others, putting them in second place just because one is different.

The second category is xenophobia, which means hatred of strangers

And the third is chauvinism, the belief that your nation is more important than the other nations. Now I have a 10-minute imagination exercise for you, just to see if you understand the lesson.

First question: Why do we all need to be different and no one is the same?

,,Because the world would be poorer and there must be diversity."

,,Good answer, congratulations! Next question: When you meet a someone, do you reject him because of his race or nation, or do you accept him as he is?"

,,We accept it as it is, because race or nation should not be a criterion of discrimination".

,,Very well! And the last question: What matters most: a person's appearance or character?"

,,Character, because it is much more important what attitude one has, than how it looks."

,,You're right. All answers are correct. Would anyone like to tell us the conclusions of this game?"

,,Akira! You can tell us if you want."

,,We agreed that we should all be different to avoid a poor world, but you put me aside because I don't look like you. Then you said that we accept any person regardless of race or nation, but you excluded me because I came from Asia. And last but not least, the fact is that we don't judge anyone by their appearance, but we need to know the people exactly as they really are, but you didn't even give me a chance to introduce myself. "

Teacher:

,,You see children, sometimes it's nice to have the words with you and to find easy solutions to problems being superficial, but have you ever thought about what you can do? Do not think that something will change just by giving advice and waiting for others to solve problems when we can be the ones who really change something."

,,You're right, we're sorry about what happened! Today I've learned what equality and tolerance mean. I hope you can forgive us, Akira."

Akira:

That's how they became friends with me, and we tried to help other children become aware of things they probably haven't noticed before.

Narrator:

The mission of the teacher has been achieved. The children were amazed by what she said and since then, they have realized everything they have done wrong, everything they can change and what they can still save.

Aquatic ecosystems

Students: Chiriac Ilaria and Popa Rebecca

Helped by their teacher the students from Ecology Club have been studying aquatic ecosystems especially lake ecosystems. Near our town there is a beautiful lake -Lake Prodana.

The students made observations at this lake concerning plants and animals.

They identified the following:

Flora: reed mace – Typha angustifolia; reed- Phragmites communis; flag-Iris sp.

Fauna: frog - Rana ridibunda, catfish - Silurus glanis, perch - Perca fluviatilis, carp - Cyprinus carpio, wild duck- Anas boschas

The creation of a model of the lake ecosystem facilitated learning the characteristics of this ecosystem and studied species of plants and animals.

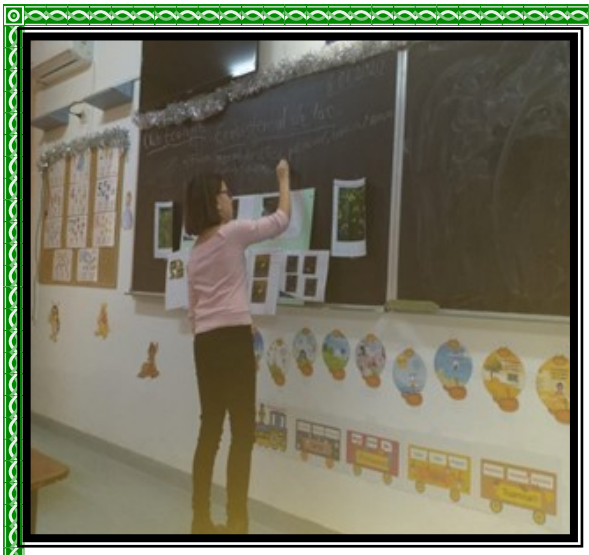
Did you know ?

• the ecosystem is a unit between a biotope and a biocenosis in which close relationships are established between organisms and between them and abiotic factors;

• lakes are natural accumulations of water, located in valleys, they occupy 1.8% of the land area;

• aquatic ecosystems were among the first ecosystems studied by ecologists, due to the ease with which they can be approached;

• in Romania, there is the only lake of volcanic origin in Eastern Europe, Sfânta Ana lake.



In summer, the surface water is warm and does not mix with the colder bottom water; the two layers of water are separated by a thin layer, called metalimnion, which marks a rupture between hot and cold water. this rupture is also called thermoclimate.

In spring and autumn the surface waters are heated or cooled and here we can notice a very important physical property of water. the water has a maximum density at 4°C. by cooling or heating, when the temperature reaches 4°C, the dense water descends to the bottom of the lake, replacing the one left there from the previous season.

The Ecology Club students have learned that beyond the beauty of nature in general, there is a wide variety of ecosystems around us that must first be known in order to be protected.

A visit to the Water Treatment Station in Barlad

When I visited the Water Treatment Station we expected it to be boring, but the activity was very interesting.We discovered new things, such as the route of the water to reach the homes of the inhabitants.

A visit to the Water Treatment Station is an opportunity to identify the water route from the accumulation lake to the home of every citizen of Bârlad.

The students of the Ecology Club talked to the specialists of this unit and found out that the water provided to the inhabitants of Bârlad comes from the Cuibul Vulturilor accumulation lake, located 15 km N-W from the locality and is transformed into drinking water in the Crâng Water Treatment Station. The accumulation lake has a volume of 10 million cubic meters, and can provide the municipality of Bârlad with a flow of 330l / s.

In order for the water in the reservoir to become potable, it goes through a specific technological process that includes a series of stages.

Here is a brief overview of the processes that water undergoes to become drinking water:

• water transport, with the help of high capacity pumps, to the entrance to the station;

• transport of water in the collector inside the treatment station;

• sieving is the first stage of water preparation when floating bodies, fish, plankton and other coarse suspensions are removed;

• sedimentation occurs in decanters, a process amplified by flocculation and coagulation (by introducing into the water reagents such as aluminum sulfate, iron sulfate or chloride, etc.);

• softening - to reduce water hardness (and the elimination of calcium and magnesium ions responsible for major adverse effects);

• and a process of water disinfection with chlorine.

• filtration - the process of removing unwanted particles from the water by forcibly introducing the liquid to be filtered through a porous material such as sand, gravel or clay;

• ultraviolet disinfection

Did you know?

- The history of stages in human civilization is closely linked to the evolution of techniques and means procuring the necessary food and water;
- The water supply system is a complex of constructions and installations necessary to satisfy in optimal conditions the water requirements, ensuring sufficient quantities of water, of good quality, at the pressure demanded by the users at a price as low as possible;
- In populated centers, water means cleanliness, health and civilization. Without drinking water, production and productivity decrease and the consumption of inadequate water leads to consumers' illness;
- In industry, water is used directly in the technological process (for making pastes and solutions) or as cooling water;
- Without water, life can't exist, water is the indispensable element of ecological balance; Leonardo da Vinci considered it the carrier of nature.

The Water Treatment Station provides the whole city with drinking water, which is a great responsibility. We all know how important water is, this activity has helped us to understand this even better.

In conclusion, it was a wonderful activity. It made us learn many interesting things..

Students:

Bumbaru Gabriel

Vasile Delia

Plants and animals protected by law in Romania

We have often wondered why there are plants and animals protected by law. Why should plants and animals be protected? I found the answer with my colleagues from the Ecology Club when I studied about plants and animals protected by law in our country.

We have learned that plants play several beneficial roles at the same time. The most important of these are to produce oxygen and purify the air. For several years, however, the flora of our country has become severely affected by the habits of people to collect them, which lead to the extinction of certain precious species.

In Romania, there are a lot of mammals, birds, fish and turtles that are protected by law, just so that these rare species not to disappear.

From one year to the next, thousands of rare species are on the verge of extinction, precisely because they end up being harvested (plants), hunted or no longer having a source of food (animals).

Plants and animals protected by law regardless of the season or the place where they are, can not be harvested, shot or cut.

After studying 8 species of plants and 9 species of animals at the Ecology Club with our teacher Muntenasu Mariana, we thought that this information could be useful to our colleagues. So we came to present to the 4th grade, 6th grade and 7th grade the information gathered by us. We presented 2 power point documents, we also made a board, but also 4 interactive games, on the LearningApps.org platform.

https://learningapps.org/watch?v=p66cywrwt21
https://learningapps.org/watch?v=pjz71o64521
https://learningapps.org/watch?v=p2ymbvvot22
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Here we have a list with endangered animal species protected by law in our country, studied by us:

* black goat - Rupicapra rupicapra,
* Carpathian bear - Ursus arctos,
* lynx – Lynx lynx,
* bison - Bison bonasus,
* egret - Ardea alba,
* pelican - Pelecanus onocrotalus,

* mountain rooster - Tetrao urogallus,
* bearded eagle - Gypaetus barbatus,
* Dobrogean turtle – Testudo graeca.

These animals are amazing :


Black goat

Black Goats live in large groups of 15-30 members. They are organized in a very interesting way, because in the summer there is always one which announce the danger. In winter they are more relaxed.


Dobrogean turtle

Dobrogean turtle hibernates in winter. It lives about a hundred years.

Many people believe that during hibernation the bear's senses are reduced to zero, this is not true because although the bear is in sleepy its senses remain the same, only its functions are slowed down to be able to save energy, it can wake up any time.


Mountain rooster


Bearded eagle

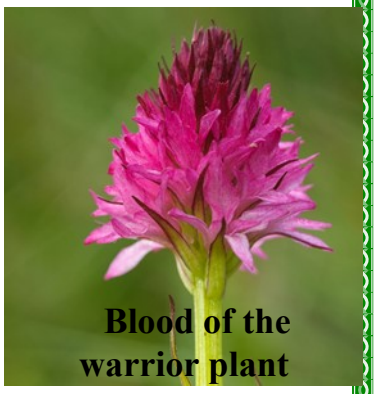

Variegated tulip

Plants protected by law:

* lady's slipper - Cypripedium calceolus,
* edelweiss Leontopodium alpinum ,
* Romanian peony – Paeonia peregrina,
* variegated tulip - Fritillaria meleagris, ,
* blood of the warrior plant - Nigritella rubra,
* small carnation of Piatra Craiului- Dianthus callizonus,
* forest lily - Lilium martagon,
* thermal water lily - Nymphaea lotus


Romanian peony


Forest lily


Blood of the warrior plant

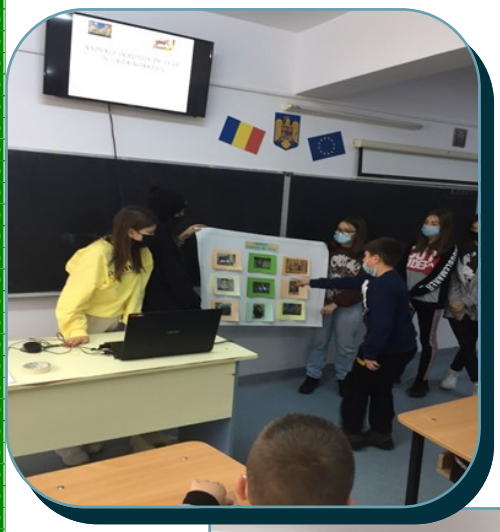

Thermal water lily

Here are some interesting information:

Lady's slipper – a rare species of orchid, an endangered plant was the first place on the list of plants protected by law. In Romania, the plant has been protected since 1938 by Royal Decree.

Edelweiss has been declared a monument of nature since 1933. It is also considered a symbol of love. It is said that in order to prove their love and courage, the young people climbed the rocky areas of the mountains to pick flowers and give them to their loved ones.

In conclusion, we should say that in order to preserve the endangered plants and animals that have remained in our country, it is vital to involve each of us.



It is good to protect nature, animals and plants because in this environment we live and this must be left to future generations.

Students:

Boghiu Mihaela

Vasile Delia,

Maragarint Delia,

Enache Eliza,

Flowers make our city beautiful

Flowering plants add more beauty to human life, provision of oxygen necessary for the breathing of humans and animals and a healthy living environment.

A visit to the Greenhouses in our town helped us understand the technological process of growing flowering plants that beautify our town.

Once arrived at the greenhouses complex, the journalists from the Ecology Club started asking questions. Our host, Mrs. Oana Anghel, engineer ,answered us about the daily activities which take place in a greenhouse. Here is the interview:

- Please tell us what species of flowers we find in the greenhouses

- We have a number of 4 greenhouses, spread over an area of 2500 m, in which both potted flowers and cut flower species are grown. These flowers are grown in pots or flower boxes and are put on the streets of the city: species of geraniums, petunias, chrysanthemums, begonias .We grow plants also for city parks - species of sage, tagetes, pansies, etc.

- What work is needed to care for a plant from sowing to flowering?

- First of all, the specific soil mixture for each plant species is made. Then the flower seeds are sown in boxes, heat and humidity are provided and the boxes are covered to preserve the germination conditions of the seeds. Then, when the plants start to grow, they are transplanted into pots to ensure their growing space. Later, when they reach flowering, they are planted in city parks or in flower boxes

- How do you take care of a greenhouse flower?

- Every day our workers check the air temperature, the degree of humidity in the greenhouse soil and in the pots, the health of the plants and carry out watering, weeding, hoeing, loosening the soil in pots or treatments to combat diseases and pests.

- What studies have the employees in a flower greenhouse?

- We have skilled workers who have studied in a high school with an agricultural profile, the horticultural engineer - who has a university degree in horticulture and auxiliary staff - electrician, firefighter, etc.

- Is there modern equipment that helps workers to carry out certain activities easier?

- Yes, recent years the work of our employees has been made easier by equipping the spaces with modern installations. We have drip irrigation systems, fertilization is done automatically with watering, we have sliding tables that allow saving space in greenhouses and their easy movement to facilitate access to alleys, automatic window opening system and directing light and heat in greenhouse.

- Thank you for all the information provided!

- You are welcome anytime.

After this visit we found out the beauty of hard work. We believe that without the daily effort of the employees, in our city we would not have such a large area with green spaces and flowers, the air would not be so clean, and the parks and street alleys would not be so colorful every season.

Students:

Boghiu Mihaela,
Placinta Stefan,
Vrabie Robert,
Balaban Andreea,
Ailenei Ioana

A visit at the wastewater treatment plant

Crina Badarau, 7th grade student

The treatment plant treats wastewater by chemical and biological methods to make it drinkable. Together with teachers from the Erasmus Project, we decided to make a visit here and find out more information.

At first, the manager showed us several machines and explained the work procedures. I have learned about the pretreatment which is made by fats and sand. Then I found out about the sludge fermentation which produces biogas and is very important because it opens up new fields of activities.

In the first chamber we saw the great intended for retention of mechanical pollutants by large proportions. The amount of waste has a few tons. For the wastewater, are also used the pumps which pumped it in the distribution channel to the sand filter that collects the sand.

Subsequently the wastewater is gravitationally transported to the primary decanters. These have to clean the water. Afterwards, it reaches in the aeration tanks with activate sludge for biological treatment.

Then by dehydration is obtained the polyelectrolyte which goes to the thickening tanks. When the treated water is mixed with sludge, it begins the oxidation process of organic pollutants.

After its completion, it will follow the nitrification one. The mix between wastewater and sludge goes to secondary decanters where it's disinfected. There is also a sulfurization process to protect the catalyst, but from which we also produce ammonia. A worker showed us how clean the water comes out of the tank and how dirty it enters. So amazing!

The whole process is tracked and coordinated at work with the help of computers but also from home through an app. Here, I saw electrical panels in 2 rooms, too and I also visited the laboratory where the workers make a microscopic examination for the mud.

Towards the end, my classmate Ilaria, my teachers and I asked a few questions. Thus we also found out about the amount of water used that enters about 500m³ and 400m³ of clean water which comes out, and the amount of poly-electrolyte weighs 50 kg, the mud having 8m³.The solid waste gather about 16 m³ per year and are divided in categories: coarse waste, household waste, sand, grease and sludge. Fats are given to the special companies, but we need to know how many problems they cause in water treatment. It is advisable not to throw them in the canal, precisely for this reason.

Another solution for the citizens would be to collect the residual oil and receive the cooking oil then. Regarding the number of workers, there are 17 people in the laboratory and another 4 in the equipment.

In the past, the number was higher because the station wasn't automated. The first sewage treatment from Barlad was in 1962, but today it uses advanced technology compared to those times and other cities . The only disadvantage of this type of station would be the electric energy consumption.

However, I really enjoyed the visit and I'm glad I was able to attend. I think I've learned something new and now I know how problematic waste can be. People were also hospitable and showed us everything there. In conclusion, the sewage treatment is very important.

For me, it was a beautiful experience and I hope you will also want to visit it !

ROMANIAN TRADITIONS

Romania's culture is very diverse and developed. In our country each season has many customs and traditions.

Căluș Dance

A first custom would be the Căluș Dance. It has been on the UNESCO World Heritage List since 2015. The Căluș Dance includes a series of dances and songs. Men have specific clothes: ribbon hats, walking sticks, bells on feet. They use them to produce sounds. This complex dance, reserved only for men who become *calusii*, represents the confrontation with evil spirits that try to harm them. Documented since the 17th century, the dance is still practiced today in the south of Romania, in the historical province of Oltenia.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mW-oiq079ko

Babele

Babele are another Romanian custom. On the first nine days of March each person chooses a number from 1 to 9 and the custom says if you chose a day when it is hot and sunny all year that person will be full of happiness but if the day chosen outside is cold and cloudy that person will not be so lucky.

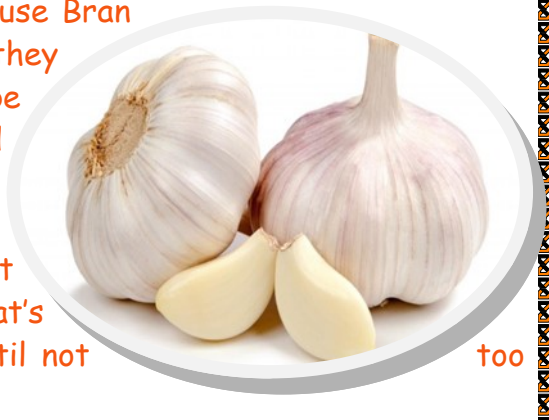
The magical night of Sânziene

If you weren't lucky to dream about prince charming on Bobotează (6th of January), you still have a chance on the night of Sanziene, June 23th-24th. But only if you put a couple of Lady's Bedstraw flowers under your pillow. The tradition says if throw a bucket of these flowers over the rooftop you will get married.

Sânziene is considered to be a magical night when fairies dance in the forests of Romania and the gates of heaven open. It also became in the last years a symbol of the beautiful Romanian blouse, ***ia***. No wonder it's one of the most instagrammable Romanian traditions.

Decorating the house with garlic on the night of Saint Andrew

Romanian people are bored by the Dracula nonsense. First, because Vlad the Impaler wasn't Dracula and because Bran Castle isn't Dracula's Castle. Second, they have their own local species of wannabe vampires. They are the ones and only *strigoi*, and they just hate garlic. *Strigoii*, fantastic creatures that carry the troubled souls of the dead, torment the relatives of the departed. At least that's what people in rural Romania believed until not too long ago.



The best way to keep these devil creatures away is to eat garlic and even decorate the house with it on Saint Andrew night, November 30th. This is when the alleged *strigoi* are most active

Hram or the church is having a party

Each Orthodox church has one or more saints to protect it, usually painted above the entrance. Religious locals, led by the priest, gather each year to thank their protector. This happens on a particular day from the religious calendar that marks the saint's death.

Don't imagine a humble celebration. This is one of the powerful Romanian traditions in small villages and gives communities a chance to reunite at a table where they eat together.But *hram* can also mean oversized pilgrimages in cities like Iasi or Bucharest – the capital city.

Sf.Dumitru Church –


Voronet Monastery


Sucevita Monastery


Moldovita Monastery

Celebrating „Ia"

On June 24th Romanian women from all over the world celebrate the universal day of IA, Romanian Blouse, symbolizing magic, summer, and love.

We value traditions and the local culture, and on June 24th, we celebrate each year by bringing to the forefront authentic Romanian values, shared through the eyes of those who still keep Romanian traditions alive in present day.

This year, we challenged everyone to share their pictures with their traditional "Ia" or traditional costume. We received many submissions and were so inspired and encouraged to see each person's "Ia". This blouse is another stunning example of the art of Romanian handmade embroidery.

Students:

Chiriac Ilaria
Frangolea Teodora

Famous people born in Bârlad, our town

Alexandru Ioan Cuza,

He was born March 20th 1820, Moldavia and died May 15th, 1873, Heildeberg, Germany.

Cuza was the first prince of united Romania, architect of national rural reform and peasant emancipation.

The scion of an old noble family, Cuza studied in Paris - France, Pavia, and Bologna - Italy, participated in revolutionary agitation against Russo-Turkish rule in Moldova (1848), obtained the rank of colonel, and subsequently achieved prominence as a delegate to the Moldavian assembly (*divan ad hoc*) in 1857. Two years later, despite the Great Powers' determination that the Romanian principalities should enjoy separate autonomy he was successively elected prince of Moldova (January 1859) and of Valahia (February 1859), thus effecting a personal union that presaged the formal proclamation of Romanian unity in 1861.

He attempted to rule in the plebiscitary manner of the French emperor Napoleon III and openly courted the peasantry as "the state's active force."

In 1863 he expropriated the vast lands owned by the monasteries of Moldavia and Valachia, and the following year he introduced a large-scale land-redistribution program (August 1864), which not only provided the peasants with ownership of their own plots but also emancipated them from all manorial services and tithes; the program, however, was only partly successful.

In addition, the Prince, intending to provide universal free and obligatory educational services, built more schools at all levels and introduced a program to award scholarships to poor students. He also introduced reform in the electoral laws as well as the judicial system and revised the state structure through a new constitution, the *Statut* (1864), to enhance his own authority.

Nevertheless, his policies provoked the opposition of both conservatives and radical liberals, as well as some middle-class elements; in 1866, political leaders, who had formed a conciparacy, forced Cuza to abdicated and go into exile.

Nicolae Tonitza

Nicolae Tonitza was a Romanian painter and graphic artist, interpreter of "lushly colored sorrows" and sincere ones feelings of smoldering revolt and long resigned.

He was born on April 13th, 1886 in Bârlad, the first of five children of Anastasia and Neculai.Toniţă. Attends the boys' primary school no. 2 and follows the Royal Gymnasium "Manolache Kostache. Epureanu "from our town. In 1902 he left Bârlad to attend the National School of Belle-Arte from Iaşi, with Gheorghe Popovici and Emanoil Bardasare among the teachers (but he will not be able to graduate because he participated on student strike in the last year)

His colleagues Ştefan Dimitrescu and Leon Viorescu will become very close friends. In 1903 he goes on Italy, on a trip with Archeology students from Bucharest led by Professor Grigore Tocilescu. The next vacation stays in the country, where, together with other colleagues, he paints the church in Grozeşti village.

A retrospective look at Tonitza's works reveals a painting in his first life academic bearing the seal of the Munich school, and, as a corollary, a major interest for drawing at the expense of painting. In his short stop in Paris, he makes timid attempts to the impressionist vision itself, but his preference for graphic expression will guide his attention to Daumier's creations. The chromatic revival, which the leaders of French painting did not succeed in provoking him, was triggered by Stefan Luchian, without this fact Tonitza to stay at a lower level, although he discovered many affinities with the painter of"Anemones."

After this period, the paintings made between 1930 and 1935 conquer full artistic autonomy, freeing himself from any influence. Graphics, full of malice and often of drama - he has collaborated in numerous cultural and social magazines of weather: "Ramp", "Flame", "Bell", "Hyena" etc. - are evidence of intense participation in the life of the age.

In 1939 he became seriously ill with cerebral sclerosis, and on February 26, 1940, he died.

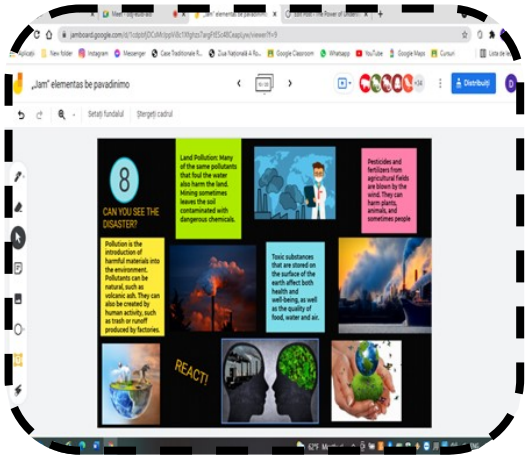
As a tribute, works were exhibited at the "Official Salon" and at the exhibition in the "Bucharest Month".

Students: Bumbaru Gabriel, Margean Delia, Birda Alexandru

A different kind of meeting

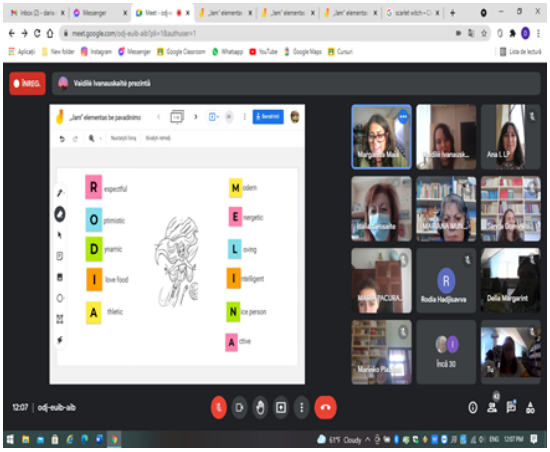
Students: Matei Daria, Pacuraru Maria

Between 27.IX.2021 - 1.X.2021 we participated on the online meeting with other countries, and the host was Lithuania.



We were a little nervous in the begenninig but our teachers Munteanu Dulgheru Mariana, Ivan Victoria and Ifrim Carmen helped us to get over emotions.

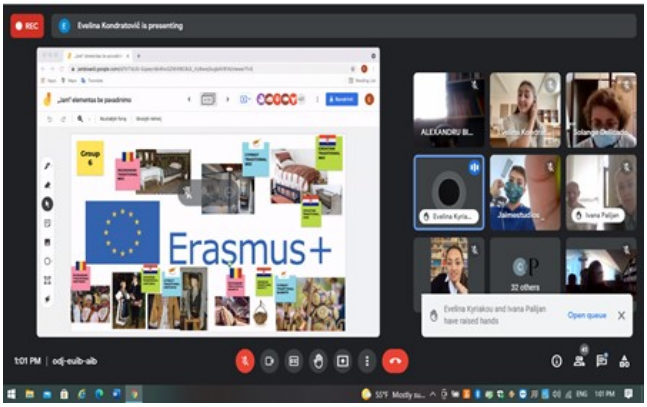
On the first day we started with a presentation of the students involved in the project. We were divided into groups and played interactive games. In order to get to know us better, we associated the initials of our name with a quality . It was interesting. How funny to find so many qualities!



On the second day, we learned how to write an article and what this should contain.and and that must have an introduction, a content and a conclusion.

On the third and fourth day we had presentations from all countries. Lithuania also introduced its school and city, then we checked our knowledge through interactive games. We were challenged to describe the benefits of Erasmus projects in our lives.

Together with the colleagues from other countries we analyzed the effects of water, air and soil pollution, being concerned about environmental issues.



We played Kahoot games, crossword puzzles.

On the 5th day we received the certificates of participation of the Translational Meeting. This project activity was interesting and unforgettable. We have gained a lot of new knowledge.

Illustrations and texts Students:

"The Magic of the Word" Club

Caloianu Denisa
Lungu Clara
Cirja Codruta
Olaru Daria
Rafaila Madalina
Crap Alexandra
Banu Sabina

"Travelling in Time and Space" Club

Rebeca Popa
Andrei Angheluta
Andrei Iacob
Carmen Miron
Roxana Halapciuc
Iulian Malanca
Nicole Nistor

"The European Citizens" Club

Blănaru Bogdan
Chiper Alexandra
Ciocan Alessia
Feleșteau Carina
Gogeneață Adelina
Istrate Maria
Matei Diana
Năstasă Daniela
Onel Teodor
Ulian Albert
Vîrlan Daria

"The Ecology" Club

Balaban Andreea
Ailenei Ioana
Vasile Delia
Vrabie Robert
Boghiu Mihaela
Placinta Stefan
Graur Malina
Serban Gabriel
Chituta Valerian
Enache Iulia

"The Little Journalist" Club

Chiriac Ilaria Ioana
Frangolea Teodora Andreea
Bumbaru Gabriel
Păcuraru Maria
Bădărău Crina
Matei Daria - Andreea
Mărgărint Delia - Andreea
Birda Alexandru