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**DEVELOPING AND IMPLEMENTING NEW STRATEGIES  
IN MATHS CONNECTED CURRICULAR SUBJECTS**



**ERASMUS+ KA229 2018-2020 PROJECT PARTNERSHIP  
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CURRICULAR SUBJECTS “**

**Mobility in Cagnano Verano, Italy – November 17th to 23rd**

**Report**

On Monday, our hosts welcomed us at school. All the pupils were there and it seemed the whole village had joined in. The parents were there and a lot of grandparents too. The ceremony was a mixture of Italian traditions and a tribute to Europe with its anthem and flag. Both the headmaster and the deputy mayor emphasized the importance of Europe, the unity and sense of belonging. They also mentioned how proud they were to welcome us all in their village.

After the ceremony we visited the primary school. The children were expecting us, they had prepared welcome posters. We were able to exchange with our Italian partners and see the pupils at work.

The delegations, our hosts and the parents all shared a buffet. Italian food was on offer, tasteful and colourful. The chef and all our Italian partners were very proud to explain about all the goodies available and made sure we had a taste of everything!

After lunch the pupils joined a PE lesson whereas all the teachers met for our first teachers' meeting. We checked that all partners had done all the work we had to prepare for the mobility. Everything was in order and downloaded on our google drive and our Etwinning twinspace. We then moved on and checked what needs to be done for this coming year. We agreed on some dates for the final meeting in Greece. Finding dates that suit all the countries is probably the most difficult part. We have to find weeks which are suitable for all and that's taking into account holidays, national holidays, exams and special days at school. We agreed on some dates which needed our headmasters approvals. Our Estonian partners told us about the difficulty to find host families as they are a small school. But, with everybody's goodwill we quickly came to an agreement.

When the teachers came out of the meeting the pupils were busy in a workshop "maths and crafts". They were concentrating while doing Japanese origami.

After the workshop we all sat down to watch a musical show two groups of pupils had prepared for us : Music and your limbs and Music and percussion instruments.

We finished our first day with a visit to the town hall. The mayor, the deputy mayor and the children's representative told us about their town: Cagnano Verano.

Tuesday, after an early start, we arrived in Matera. Matera became a UNESCO city in 1993 and is

one of the European Capitals of Culture for 2019. A guide took us through the streets of Matera and through its history.

Matera is the oldest inhabited village in Europe. The first settlement dates back to the Palaeolithic and it expanded with the different waves of migration who settled in the caves. The guide also explained how through the different periods of time, systems to collect rainwater and provide water to the population were built. Life was harsh in Matera but people had a sense of community and helped each other.

In the afternoon, we visited another [UNESCO World Heritage](#) site: Alberobello. It is famous for its "trullo". A trullo (plural, trulli) is a traditional dry stone hut with a conical roof.

In the 15th century the Kingdom of Naples decided to create a new tax on buildings. To avoid paying this new tax, the count of Conversano D'Acquaviva D'Aragona who owned the land asked his people to build their houses dry, without any mortar so that they could demolish their houses very quickly in case somebody from the Kingdom of Naples came to collect its money and therefore avoid paying the tax! The peasants had only dry stones, they found out that the round form with self-supporting domed roof the simplest configuration.

It was a very long day but well worth the visits.

Wednesday. In the morning, the pupils attended a workshop: Maths and Crafts. They were very busy and creative. They prepared lots of Christmas decorations. The Estonian team put what they learnt into practise and decorated their school for Christmas using these decorations (Christmas video)!

After the workshop, pupils and teachers met with the local community. Although, as we saw and heard during the welcoming ceremony, the small community of Cagnano Varano is very much turned towards the future and Europe, the people of Cagnano Varano are very proud of their roots and are trying hard to keep their traditions afloat. During the welcoming ceremony, each partners' country and Europe were the centre of the show. This workshop was certainly and resolutely turned towards their Italian traditions.

People and teachers sang traditional songs for us. They showed and explained how old farm tools were used. They showed us how to knit, an expert lady was knitting socks! They showed us how to do fine embroidery. Francesca and a local farmer explained the process and made cheese while we were watching. Of course we tasted it!

Lunch was a buffet and as usual, a taste of Italy.

In the afternoon, we watched a performance the pupils had prepared. It was a mix of traditional and modern dances and music.

On Thursday we had an early start again. In the morning, we visited Monte Sant'Angelo. It is a town but it is also the [Sanctuary of Monte Sant'Angelo](#) which is on the UNESCO list. A guide explained about the history of the sanctuary, how according to a legend, [St. Michael](#) appeared in 490, 492 and 493. This sanctuary is dedicated to him. Pilgrims have been coming to this place since the Middle Ages. It was interesting for the French partners to see how this place is linked to Mont Saint Michel in Normandy. But whereas Mont Saint Michel in Normandy is built at the top of a rock this place of worship is in a grotto.

After this first visit we headed to the castle. It is a fortress overlooking the area. The view is incredible and it is easy to understand why this location was chosen. The guide took us through the history of the

castle and we escaped through the secret tunnel!

After a very short drive we arrived at Pulsano Abbey. We were met by a monk. He told us about the monastery and explained its life and work. This monastery specializes in holy icons. Then it was lunch: pizza for everybody!

After lunch we drove through the National Park of Gargano. Some enjoyed the scenery others enjoyed ... a well deserved snooze! That drive took us to the seaside resort of Vieste.

We started our visit at the Pizzomunno limestone monolith. Pizzomunno is a 25 meters high monolith. It is linked to the legend of the tragic love between a fisherman called Pizzomunno and a young girl called Cristalda (or "Viesta", hence the name of the city). Mermaids tried to kidnap Pizzomunno, but he remained loyal to Cristalda. The mermaids kidnapped Cristalda instead and drown her in the sea. Devastated, Pizzomunno turned into stone. He is still waiting for his love, she returns every summer with high tide.

We then went up hill and down hill and visited the town.

We spent Friday in Cagnano Verano. In the morning we visited the secondary school. We met with the headmaster then we went to different classes where we exchanged with the teachers. After the secondary school we visited the nursery school. The little ones were expecting us and had prepared songs for us. Then they all went back to their classes where each teacher made time to talk to us about their curriculum and how they worked with young pupils.

Before lunch we visited a former army base which is now part of Cagnano Verano. It was in operation during the Second World War. It was an intelligence base and being just across the water from Yugoslavia it became a strategic military base for floatplanes. The planes landed and took off from the lagoon and could then go and spy on their enemies.

Lunch was at a factory olive oil and it was a colourful affair again. The parents had prepared brucchettas for all of us. After lunch and before visiting the factory, the owner of the factory gave a beautiful speech about unity and friendship.

Then it was time for our last activity together. We visited a fisherman's museum in cagnano Verano. This museum was set up with the help of the local community in order to remember how their ancestors lived and worked.

This was the end of our mobility in cagnano Verano. Till next time in Estonia!