

# NEWSLETTER 5

KA229, SCHOOL EXCHANGE PARTNERSHIPS PROJECT

2018-2020

5th PROJECT MEETING

*Karvina / Czech Republic*

Febr. 28th / March 4th, 2020

And online activities for 6th PROJECT MEETING



## PARTNERS

\*Obchodní akademie s.r.o., Karviná, CZECH REPUBLIC

\*Naantalin lukio, Naantali, FINLAND

\*Lizarra Ikastola, Estella-Lizarra, SPAIN

\*Lykeio Polemidion, Limassol, CYPRUS

\*Ipsseoa, Catania, ITALY

\*Özel Falez Fen Bilimleri Anadolu Lisesi, Antalya, TURKEY

## **Foreword:**

*This project started in September 2018 and it will last till August 2020. Six participating schools from Czech Republic, Turkey, Finland, Spain, Cyprus and Italy have been working and will work on tasks connected with the topic of the project.*

*Six meetings were scheduled for the period of 2018 – 2020:*

*1st meeting in **FINLAND**, December, 13-18, 2018*

*2nd meeting in **CYPRUS**, January, 23-28, 2019*

*3rd meeting in **ITALY**, March 31- April 5, 2019*

*4th meeting in **TURKEY**, October 11-16, 2019*

*5th meeting in **CZECH REPUBLIC**, 28. February - 4. March, 2020*

*6th meeting in **SPAIN**, April 2-7, 2020*

### **Priorities;**

**HORIZONTAL:** Social and educational value of European cultural heritage

**HORIZONTAL:** Development of relevant and high-quality skills and competences

**SCHOOL EDUCATION:** Promoting the acquisition of skills and competences

The partners shared the responsibilities and tasks. Six topics and six tasks were divided among all the partners according to their choice. Each school took over the responsibility of one of the topics and one of the tasks and thus the project work was balanced and each school was involved in the work equally.

The partners agreed on the following distribution of the topics (1) , tasks (2) and workshops (3):

**CZECH REPUBLIC** - 1. Music and dance, 2. website, 3. "Living in Erasmus+ world"

**ITALY** - 1. Traditional cuisine, 2. brochure, 3. "Share the food"

**FINLAND** - 1. Folk stories, narrations and theatre, 2. facebook page and group, 3. "United in diversity"

**SPAIN** - 1. Language and its changes, 2. video and photo-documentation, 3. "In or out"

**CYPRUS** - 1. People (immigration, emigration, movement of people), 2. e-Twinning, 3. "Next generation"

**TURKEY** - 1. Life in villages and towns, crafts, jobs, 2. newsletters, 3. "Breaking stereotypes"

**ALL PARTNERS** - Games of our ancestors

The project included both local activities and mobilities (learning/teaching/training activities). The activities focused on roots and cultural heritage and included topics such as: life in the past, folk stories, music and dance, migration, cuisine or language. During the workshops we also dealt with several European issues.

In this project we achieved the following objectives and concrete results:

1. Development of competences of the participants of the project (communication and language, cultural awareness, creative, digital, social, analytical, and moving)
2. Printed outputs - Book of stories, a brochure about the project, a photobook, newsletters, promotional materials
3. Online outputs - web, facebook page, e-Twinning, e-magazines, logo
4. Development of international cooperation in the partner schools and strengthening the cooperation of the schools with municipalities, libraries, community centres and houses of culture at the local level
5. Breaking stereotypes about other cultures, traditions and lifestyles
6. Extending the knowledge of the partner countries in the field of history, traditions, customs, ways of life, and geography
7. Extending (or gaining) the knowledge about various UNESCO sites.
8. Development of friendship with students and colleagues from partner schools
9. Development of awareness of the European Union issues including Erasmus+ programme
10. Exchange of good practices and methods of work with young people

The participants were students aged 14-19 from six countries from various parts of Europe, from various cultural, social, geographical background, their headmasters, teachers, other school staff and parents. We involved public into our activities, too, particularly responsible people from municipalities, libraries, community centres.

In the activity "Interview with older people" and creating "Book of stories" old people were involved to share their life experience. Each school involved at least 30-50 participants in local activities and 15 students in mobilities, including the virtual mobility that replaced the meeting in Spain.

During the activities we used various methods of work - presentations, workshops, discussions and debates, interviews, excursions, seminars, lectures, role-play activities, intercultural activities etc. We used methods of both formal and informal education.

The project had a desired impact on the participating schools, it helped to start or extend their international partnerships and activities, the schools became more popular for next newcomers and public learned more about school activities. People not connected with schools so far could learn about the school activities and found some kind of cooperation. The students and teachers of the partner schools improved their skills and became more interesting for the labour market.

Motivation of the students and teachers for future international cooperation increased and the awareness about Erasmus+ programme and other matters regarding the European Union was enlarged.

The project helped the participants to become aware of the roots, history, traditions and cultural heritage of their country and to overcome prejudices and stereotypes about other cultures.

This was an important fact particularly in countries where anti-European forces are getting stronger and in the times when Europe looks back to its roots.

The project brought a long-time benefit for the schools, some of the materials, presentations, Book of stories as well as some methods of work can be used in the future and involved in a curriculum.

The schools also strengthened cooperation with municipalities, libraries or community centres and they will be also able to offer future students the gained experience.

And above all, the participants gained and developed their competences and became more educated, more cultural and more interesting for labour market.

***Now, let's have a look at what the students and teachers from all participating schools did between February and June 2020. Here is a short overview of the activities:***



*Özel Falez Fen Bilimleri Anadolu Lisesi, Antalya, Turkey*



**Headmaster:** *Birol ORAK*

**Teachers :** *Tuncay SAVTAK, Hasan KARLIK, Şerife ALDEMİR, Emir TOPLAN, Seda ZEYBEKOĞLU, Pınar BEKTAŞ*

**Students :** *Nisa Begüm ALADAĞ, Nisa Nur TEZCAN, İsmail Çağrı ÇIYDEM*

### **The tasks, activities and preparations;**

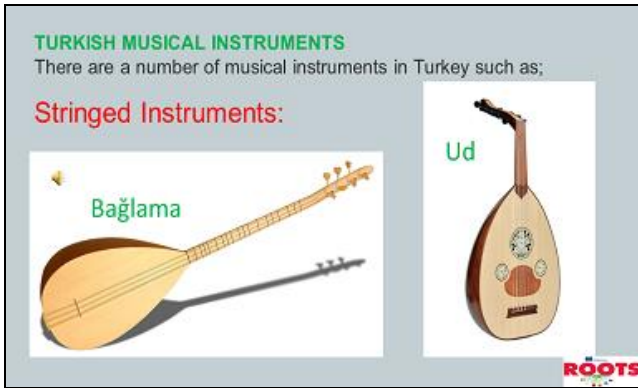
We had a general meeting for all the school community, teachers, students and parents. The headmaster Mr. Birol Orak gave a seminar about Erasmus+ programme and the project on September, 18th. Then, the school Erasmus+ group was established and started to work on the project tasks and activities. Later, we were chosen as the three participants for the 5th mobility of this project in Czech Republic by the school Erasmus team.

Then, we started the preparations together with the teachers. First, We had a meeting with the participating students together with our teachers. We listened their experiences. Our teachers gave us some three-hour seminar about the programme, mobility, responsibilities, workshops, activities and things to take care. The main topic of this mobility was “Folk songs, Music and Dances from past”



Later, we shared the responsibilities and tasks.

Nisa Begüm ALADAĞ interviewed with her grandmother and prepared the presentation of “Turkish Folk Instruments, Music and Dance”.



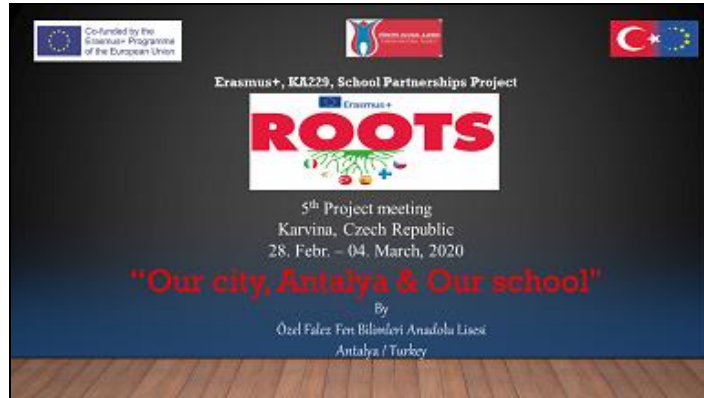
Nisa Nur TEZCAN had an interview with her Grandfather and prepared the presentation of “Children’s Festival”



İsmail Çağrı ÇİYDEM went to his grandfather village in Afyonkarahisar city which is 4 hours away and had an interview with him about the topic. He also prepared a presentation with a street music performer with classical Turkish musical instrument “Saz”.



Meanwhile, we all prepared the presentation of “Our city, Antalya and our school” a well as for the role-play on the topic “Living in Erasmus+ world”. We also prepared the “Turkish National Cuisine”



While preparing our presentations, our friends in the school Erasmus team, Ahmet Mert Mutlu and Berker Çetinkaya supported us with the ICT

Before we depart for Czech Republic, we had all our presentation to our school friends at the school culture hall so that we could see our mistakes, get ideas from our friend and correct our presentations.

After we completed all our tasks and activities, now we were ready for the 5th mobility, Hurrayyy !

Then, we were met by our host friends and the next day we started our programme.

The first day, all the partners met in the regional library in Karvina, presented their school and city presentations. Then, in the afternoon, we met the town representatives at the Chateau in Karvina.



The next day, we went to a whole day excursion to historical and cultural places in the region, we visited the old city of Olomouc.



On Sunday, we had an excursion to the city of Ostrava, went to the Science and Technology Center and had some free time in the city center.



On Monday, we were at school to present the results of the survey / videos on the topic “Music and Dance” in the times of our grandparents. Then we had sport activities in the gym “Games of our ancestors”



The same, in the afternoon, we had the “Day of national cuisine”. All partners prepared their tables, presented and explained the recipes of their traditional cuisine. Then, we all had the chance to taste these delicious cuisines.





On Tuesday, there was a workshop on “Living in Erasmus+ world”. We were given some tasks to complete and then we prepared them. Later we had a discussion hour on this topic.



The same day, in the afternoon, there was a workshop on dance and music with folk dance group “Vonička”. We all enjoyed this activity very much.



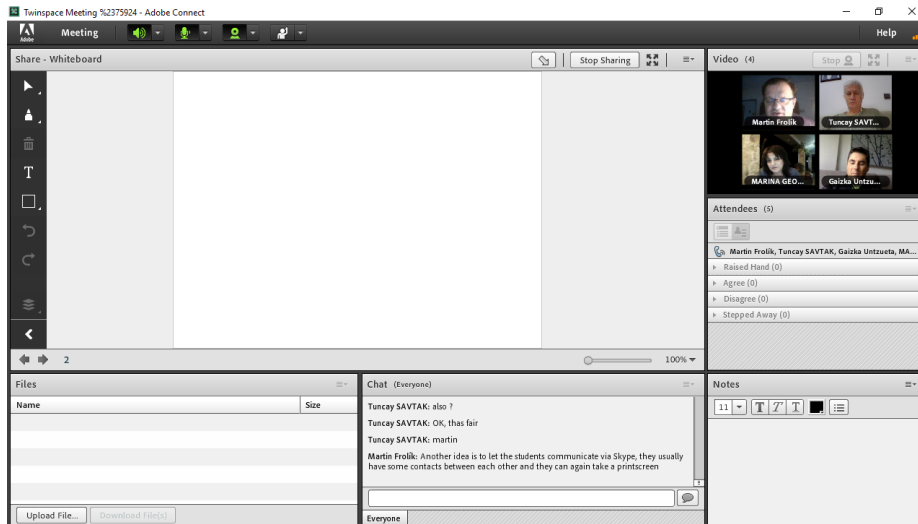
On Wednesday, we had an Excursion to Marlenka which is a cake factory. In the evening, there was the Farewell ceremony with dance performances and the certificates of attendance.



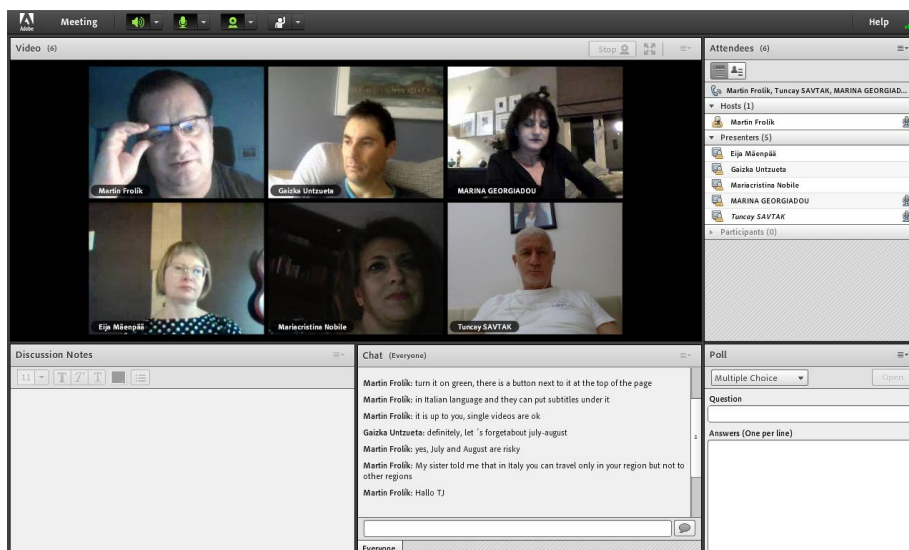
After we returned home, our teachers had some videoconferences on different platforms such as eTwinning to discuss the 5th mobility, the preparations of the 6th mobility in Spain and the progress of the project due to the Covid-19



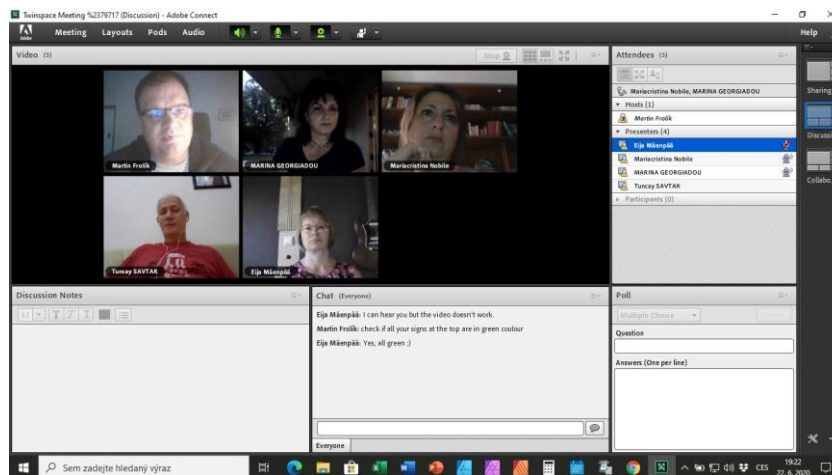
April 22nd, 2020



May 8th, 2020



June, 22nd, 2020



### Experiences from the participating students;

At first I was very excited because this would be my first trip abroad. We started preparations 1 week in advance, The role-play for Erasmus. After a week, a long plane journey awaited us. At first, from Antalya to Istanbul, then from Istanbul to Prague, the capital of Czech Republic. We were all very excited when we landed in Prague. With quick steps, we visited the historical buildings and places of the city. The city has a really historical feel. In the evening, we set off by train to the town of Karvina where we had to go. We reached Karvina in about 4 hours and the families we stayed in took us. We had a great time with them for 1 week. During the project, I became more social and started to speak English more fluently by talking to people in other countries. We had a lot of workshops, role-plays, discussions and activities. We presented our school, city and country to other partners. We went to other cities in Czech Republic for a week too. It was a really tiring week. We visited churches, cathedrals, science fair, chocolate factory. At the end of a week, the last day had come. After everyone said goodbye to each other, we went to house. The next day, we came to Karvina train station to reverse the journey we made at the beginning. Our journey lasted for a full day, but we finally arrived in Antalya. We went back to our schools 3 days after arriving in Antalya and shared the events and moments we experienced in Czech Republic with them. I think this project is very efficient and I continue to improve my English by talking to the friends we have made.

İsmail Çağrı ÇİYDEM

Hi! First of all,I must say that I felt very lucky to have participated in this program. This project is my second Erasmus Project. So I was more experienced. But I was very excited. My expectations from the project were to have a good time, improve my English and general culture, learn different cultures and build better friendships. All of my expectations were met in this project. I even provided more. I also learned information in languages other than English. Once again I realized how strong our friendships were, I knew what life was in another country.

Our pre-project studies: Role-play: Erasmus Project of the Future. A presentation about Turkish Music and Turkish Musical Instruments. Introduction of our school. Interview with one of our older family members about Turkish Folk Music. When we returned to our country, we talked and discussed about the project with our friends both at our school and also at other schools. We explained to our classmates about the project and made them informed. The project has added a lot to me. I had a good quality, fun and nice time. Weather and time change was a little tired but we got used to it over time. There was a warm environment so I had no difficulty keeping up with the environment. In short, I will never forget this project.

Nisa Begüm ALADAĞ



## *Lizarra Ikastola, Spain*



**Teachers:** *Gaizka Untzueta (coordinator), Cesar Etxeberria, Joseba Tristán, Pello Etxaniz*

**Students:** *Maite Areitioaurtena, Ishka Saez de Acedo, Imanol Leza, Julen Andueza, Aimar Mateo, Aimar Lopez, Ainhoa San Martin, Maddi Galdeano, Amaia Armendariz, Nahia Otxotorena, Nayra Etxeberria, Arturo Jimenez, Alba Hermoso de Mendoza, Naroa Barbarin, Mei Martinez, Haizea Esparza, Amaiur Telleria, Maddi Molina, Rocío Perez and Izeia Encina.*

### **5th MOBILITY: MUSIC and DANCE. KARVINÁ, CZECH REPUBLIC**

This time we have to be honest about our 5th mobility. Once again it was a great experience and we enjoyed a lot every day of our staying. We learnt a lot about a different culture, different food, and, of course, we specially enjoyed making new friends from **Turkey**, **Finland** and the **Czech Republic** while learning about dance and music in our grandparents' times....but, unfortunately, due to the coronavirus crisis, our friends from **Cyprus** and **Italy** didn't travel to Karviná and we all felt very sad because of that.

It was a strange feeling: we were happy to see some of our mates but, at the same time, we missed a lot the Cypriot and Italian teams.



Our Roots's team with a local folk music and dance group in Karviná.

Our Erasmus+ national team: Rocio, Maddi, Cesar, Izeia and Gaizka (from right to left) visiting the old town of Olomouc.



Our Erasmus+ team visiting Marlenka factory.



Once again, some **local radios**

<http://radioestella.com/inicio/?p=58402>

and **regional newspapers**

<https://estellanoticias.com/2020/03/05/lizarra-ikastola-ha-realizado-la-quinta-salida-del-proyecto-europeo-erasmus-en-karvina-republica-checa/>

<https://www.noticiasdenavarra.com/navarra/estella-y-merindad/2020/03/06/lizarra-ikastola-erasmus--karvina/1028440.html>

mentioned our Roots project on their webpages!

After our **fifth meeting** we have been presenting and promoting the results of our mobility on our school webpage, Facebook page and other local webs and newspapers; but, as we said before, unfortunately, the coronavirus crisis has stopped most of our planned activities.

**Rocio, Maddi and Izeia** met the group of students who are interested in taking part in the next year's Erasmus + projects. Students asked them different questions and with the help of our coordinator, Mr. Untzueta, they tried to answer all of them.

### **LIZARRA-ESTELLA, BASQUE COUNTRY: LAST STEP IN OUR PROJECT**

Although it is difficult to say at this moment what is going to happen with our Roots project due to the current situation in Europe, we already know for sure that is not going to take place during the first week of April as we planned. Our whole team and our school's staff feel really disappointed because of that.

Despite the closing of our school for students because of the coronavirus, our team is very committed to carry out the activities planned for our last mobility. So, we have started to do some of the work via online and, even though, it is not easy, for example, to interview old people under the current circumstances. Anyway, our team is doing its best to prepare the last activities for the topic "Language and its changes".

In the next few weeks, our coordinator, Mr. Untzueta will help us via online and we will try to do our best. We really hope that this situation won't take long. We miss you guys!





## *Obchodní akademie s.r.o., Karviná, Czech Republic*



**Headmistress:** *Slavka KRYSTOVÁ FLORKOVÁ*

**Teachers** : *Martin FROLÍK, Zdeňka PARCHANSKÁ, Ludmila BADUROVÁ*

**Students** : *Eliška HANUSKOVÁ, Veronika MROZKOVÁ, Daniela STAŠOVÁ, Klára KLOOROVÁ, Natálie NIKŠIČOVÁ, Kateřina LÁTOVÁ, Kateřina NAVRÁTILOVÁ, Filip TYC, Martin FERANC, Tomáš KOHUT*

### Our activities:

**February – MEETING IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC.** The fifth meeting of our project took place in our country! And as we described the meeting in our e-magazine, here we will describe just promotional activities we did on public.

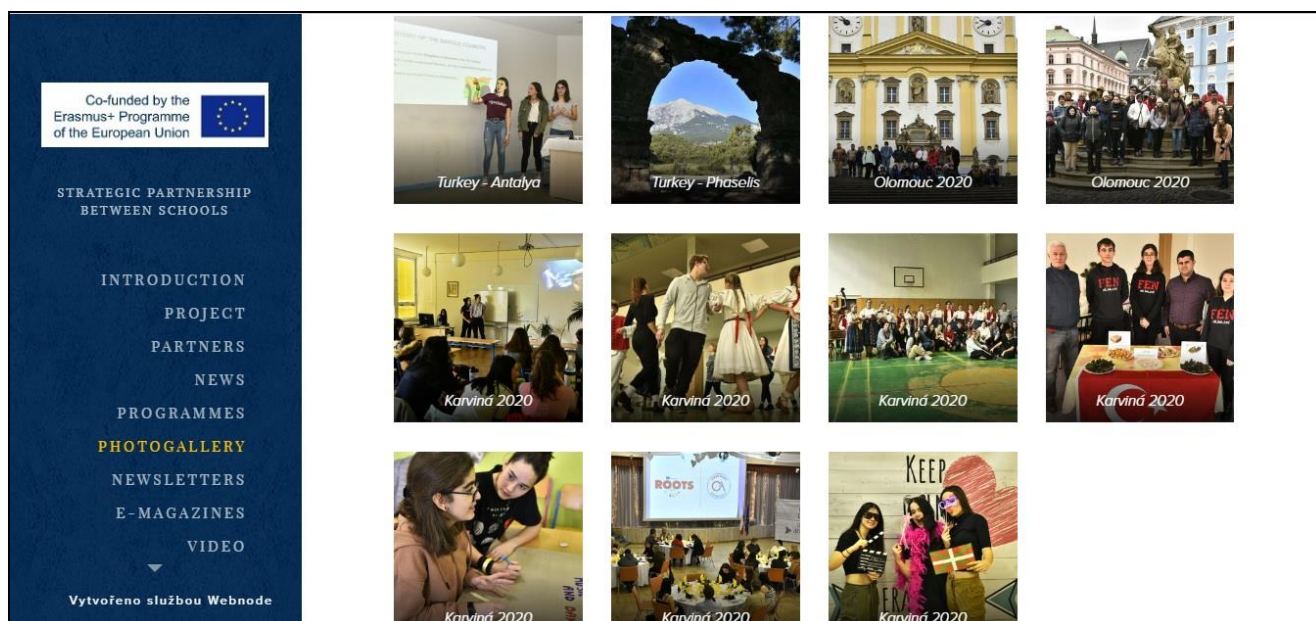
We arranged a billboard about the meeting so that people in our town could learn about our project and about the Erasmus+ programme.

We also created some posters and banners to promote the project to other teachers and students as well as the participants of the meeting.

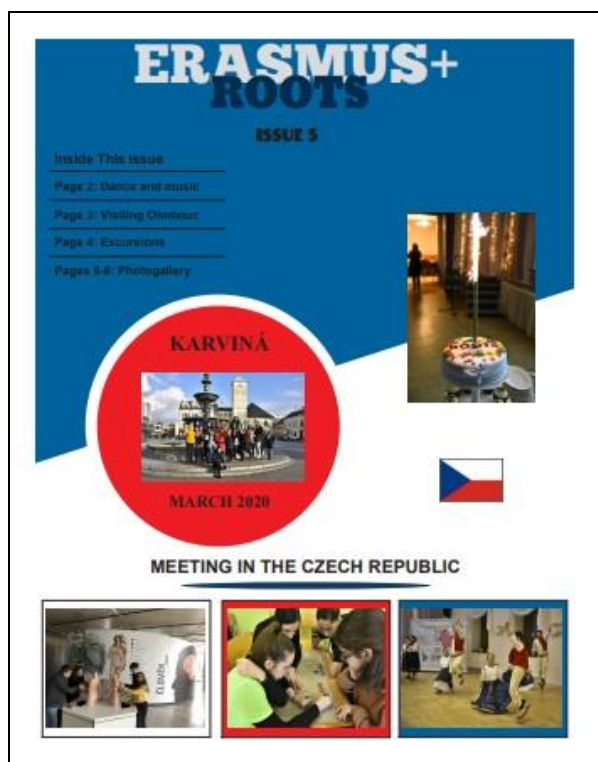


## WEBPAGE

Since the beginning of the project we have been regularly updating our project webpage with the photos and materials from the meetings and we did the same after the meeting in the Czech Republic. New files and new photos appeared on the project web.



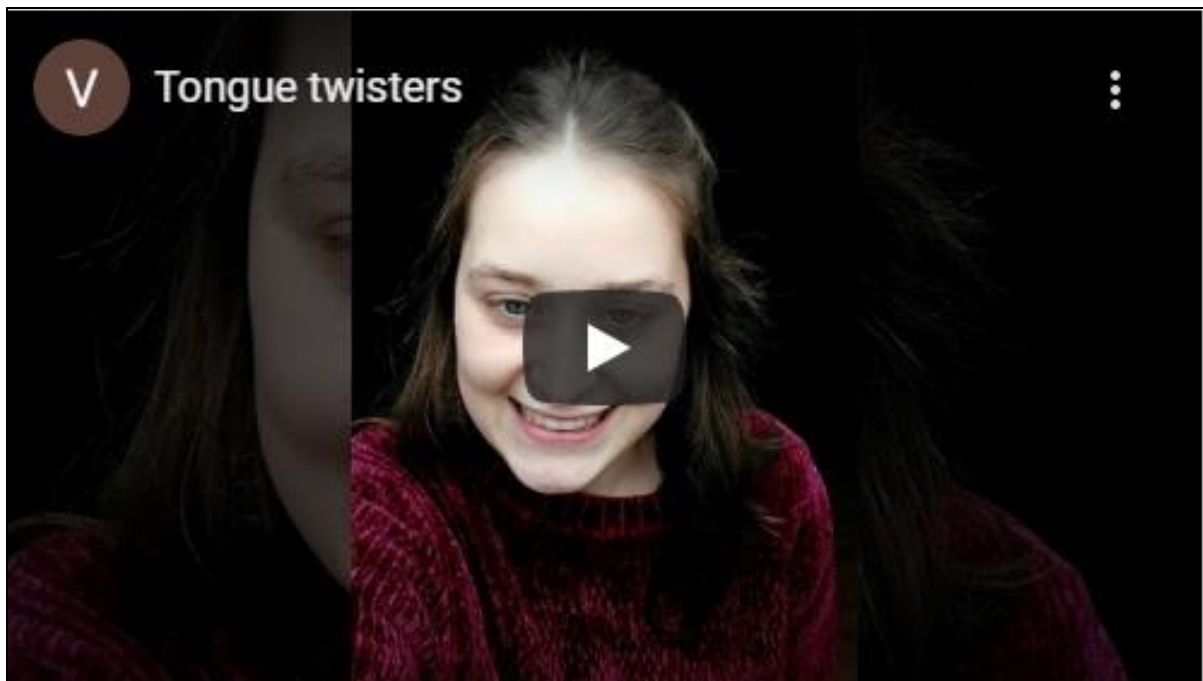
**March** – the corona virus period started, and our school closed for the students and teachers. So, we began to work online, created the new issue of the e-magazine, and cooperated with our partners via internet only. Unfortunately, the last project meeting in Spain had to be cancelled ☹







**April – June** – we continued in our online work, had virtual meetings with our partners, met on videoconferences on Twinspace, created new videos and other materials, and did our best to accomplish the project tasks successfully. One of the tasks our students did was shooting a video on tongue twisters, here is a photo from Veronika’s video.



We replaced the last meeting in Spain with a virtual meeting. All our schools were closed so the students and teachers worked from their homes only. While the teachers had several Twinspace videoconferences, the students used Zoom to talk and work together.



And here are two photos from our videoconferences:



Till the end of August, we are going to work on our project, complete our outputs to finish our two-year cooperation with good results. And then, hopefully, start new projects on new topics with new partners again!



*Karol Wojtyła, Catania, Italy*

**Teachers:** *Nobile Mariacristina, Anna Chiarenza*

**Students:** *Chiara Longhitano, Elena Bruno, Emanuele Franceshini, Giorgia Carmeci*

The fifth meeting of our Roots project was planned for the beginning of March at the coordinating Czech school in Karviná. By the end of February, everything was ready: songs, dances, posters; tickets had been bought, the hotel had been booked; the students were excited to travel and meet the other students and the teachers were happy to meet their international colleagues again.



COVID-19 shuttered everything with a blow! The Italian team was not allowed to travel because of the pandemic and soon entered a long period of lockdown.

Everybody was disappointed for not being able to participate in the meeting! A very hard period started for students and teachers, they had to learn how to have lessons online and work for the project online. It was very difficult especially for the students who did not have internet connection at home or a computer. Because of the coronavirus pandemic, they had to follow the lessons on their cell phones and even do their homework on the cell phone. Working on cell phones is not that comfortable, unless you have a very sophisticated one. Sometimes they didn't have internet connection and they could not take part in the morning lessons or even do their homework. Working for the project became a nightmare, students were overwhelmed by the sense of helplessness and fear, they lost interest and motivation. It was very easy to work in the computer lab at school, the internet connection was good, there were plenty of computers available and working on the project sometimes was a good excuse to skip classes, now every perspective had changed and everything seemed very hard and impossible. What seemed a temporary strategy to stop the pandemic became a long term lockdown and soon the students realized that they would not be able to travel to Spain in April for the final meeting. Disappointment knocked again at the students' doors. However, they were getting used to having lessons and doing their homework online, to manage their internet connection, to keep busy working for the project. They worked on cooking videos, on short tongue twisters videos, wrote short essays on the future of Europe and participated in virtual meetings.



The teachers met as usual on eTwinning video conferences site. It is sad to say goodbye to the students and teachers that have been part of the project online without having the opportunity to meet; however, it has been a big challenge and great opportunity to be part of the present project !



## *Lykeio Polemidion – Limassol, Cyprus*



**Headmistress:** *Maria Kyriakou-Polydorou*

**Coordinator:** *Marina Georgiadou (Art teacher)*

**Teachers:** *Christina Ellina (English literature teacher), Andreas Schoinas (Physical Education teacher), Andreas Petrou (technology teacher)*

**Students:** *Andreas Massou, Nicolas Chatzichristou, Elena Christou, Andreas Georgiou, Giorgia Quinton, Michalis Iakovides, Maria Vasiliou, Tasos Anastasiou, Chrisostomos Pozatos, Anthi Vasiliou, Maria Georgiou, George Christofi, Nicol Charalambous, Maria Ioannou, Michalis Socratous, Christos Chatzimiltis, Christos Sotiriou.*

### November-December-January 2020

After the meeting in Turkey in October, students began to work for our next meeting that was going to be held in Czech Republic. The topic was “music and dance”. We had different meetings with the students just to organize better all their tasks. Students made interviews and prepared a power point presentation about traditional music and dance in Cyprus. They also prepared a video about the benefits of participating in an Erasmus program. They interviewed all their friends participating in the project and they prepared a very nice video named “Living in Erasmus”. The video was uploaded on you tube, on our eTwinning page, on face book and on our school webpage.

### February 2020

The fifth meeting of our project took place in Czech Republic in February. It was the beginning of the corona virus pandemic and after a meeting we had with the parents of the students that were supposed to

travel to Czech Republic, we had to take a last minute and difficult decision of not taking part at this meeting for safety reasons. All the presentations were uploaded on our eTwinning page.

### March 2020

In March all the schools in Cyprus were closed after a government decision, as most of the European schools due to the corona virus pandemic. Students of our school continued their lessons on line through “Teams”. We also created a team with all our Erasmus students of Polemidia Lyceum and had meetings and worked through the online program “Teams”.

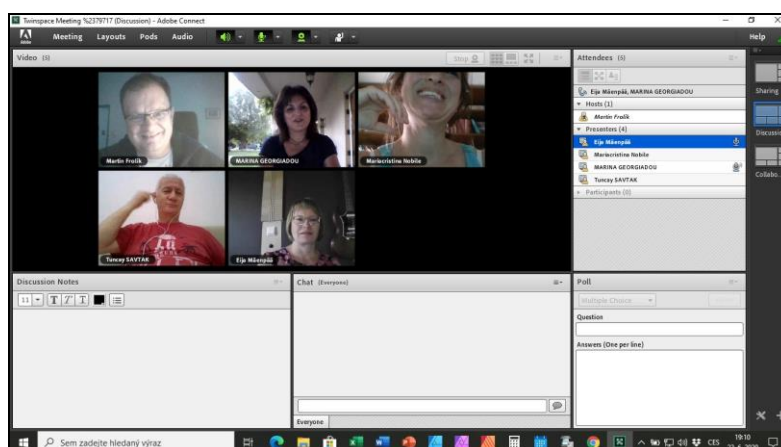
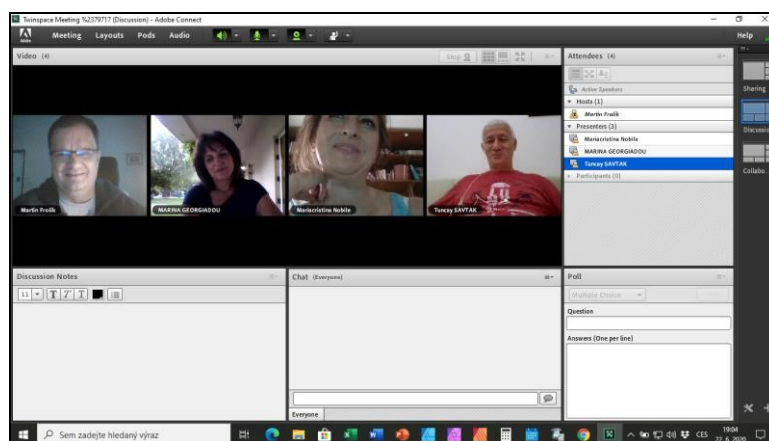
Unfortunately, the 6<sup>th</sup> and last project meeting in Spain had to be cancelled so all the work, tasks and presentations were made on line.

We also had different virtual meetings with our partners and continued our work online, we also had videoconferences on Twin space, created new videos and other materials.

Our students had different meetings with their Erasmus friends on “Zoom” just to talk and complete their work.

### June - August 2020

We decided to work on our project, have virtual meetings with our partners and complete our outputs till the end of August as we decided not to ask for prolongation of our program.



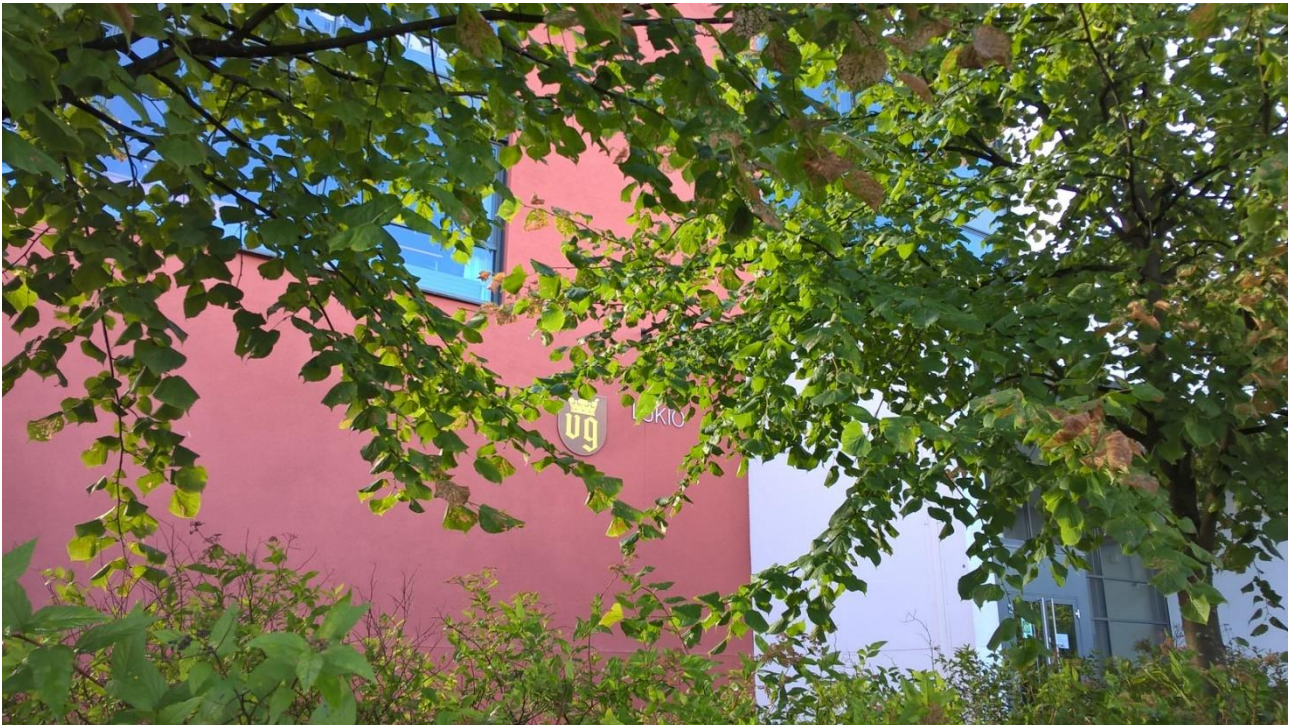


### *Naantalin Upper Secondary School, Naantali, FINLAND*

**Headmistress:** *Eija Mäenpää*

**Teachers** : *Guidance counsellor Eeva Mäkinen, Finnish teacher Sanna Vuola, History and social studies teacher Linda-Maria Lundén*

**Students** : *Viivi Anttila, Jade Hautala, Venla Hinkkanen, Sara Hänninen, Eemeli Järvi, Karoliina Malkki, Ella Mäntysalo, Tiina Peltonen, Lotta Raitanen, Otto Reivolahti, Miira Toissalo and Alexa Töykkälä.*



After the 5<sup>th</sup> project meeting in Karvina, the Czech Republic, the members of the Finnish Roots team faced a totally new situation when Covid-19 pandemic changed all the plans for the project. Our school closed on 17 March and students carried out all their studies for the rest of the term at home with teachers giving live video lessons and students working on their projects independently. Only the matriculation examination was arranged at school in March with a special schedule.

In April we still had high hopes of being able to continue our project with a prolonged schedule up to spring 2021, but unfortunately this was not possible. We certainly would have enjoyed meeting our European friends one more time in Spain. Instead, the Roots team worked online on the topics of our last project meeting which was cancelled. Obviously, working only online didn't result in the kind of motivation that would have been achieved in a live meeting.

The students of our Roots wrote articles to the school yearbook about project meetings in Antalya and Karvina:

<https://sites.google.com/gafe.naantali.fi/vuosikertomus-2019-2020/matkat/antalya>

<https://sites.google.com/gafe.naantali.fi/vuosikertomus-2019-2020/matkat/roots-project-meeting-at-karvin%C3%A1>

The Finnish Roots team wants to give warm thanks to all the participating students, their families, teachers, and everybody else who gave us unforgettable memories about cooperation, friendship as well as cultural differences and similarities. We hope to see you again one day!

*WE HOPE TO MEET AGAIN*

*SOMEWHERE...*

*SOMETIME...*

*AND SOMEHOW...*

This newsletter is based on narrations and photos collected from the teachers and students of all participating schools.



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Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union

#### **DECLARATION**

**This project has been funded with support from the European Commission. This newsletter reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.**