

# NEWSLETTERS – 2

KA229, SCHOOL EXCHANGE PARTNERSHIPS PROJECT

2018-2020



## PARTNERS

\*Obchodní akademie s.r.o., Karvina, 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 in June 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 are 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, 2019*

*5th meeting in **CZECH REPUBLIC**, February, 2020*

*6th meeting in **SPAIN**, April, 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 are going to share the responsibilities and tasks. Six topics and six tasks were divided among all the partners according to their choice. Each school will take over the responsibility of one of the topics and one of the tasks and thus the project work will be balanced and each school will be 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 includes both local activities and mobilities (learning/teaching/training activities). The activities focus on roots and cultural heritage and include topics such as: life in the past, folk stories, music and dance, migration, cuisine or language. During the workshops we will also deal with several European issues.

In this project we are going to achieve 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 are 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 are going to involve 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 will be involved to share their life experience. Each school will involve at least 30-50 participants in local activities and 15 students in mobilities.

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

The project will have a desired impact on the participating schools, it will help to start or extend their international partnerships and activities, the schools will be more popular for next newcomers and public will learn more about school activities. People not connected with schools so far can learn about the school activities and maybe find some kind of cooperation. The students and teachers of the partner schools will improve their skills and will become more interesting for the labour market.

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

The project will help 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 is 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 will bring 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 will also strengthen cooperation with municipalities, libraries or community centres and will be also able to offer future students the gained experience.

And above all, the participants will gain and develop their competences and will become 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 have done between December 2018 and the beginning of January 2019. Here are the short introductions of the partner schools and their activities done in this period:*

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### **Our School: Obchodní akademie s.r.o.**



#### **Who we are:**

**Headmistress:** Slavka KRYSTOVÁ FLORKOVÁ

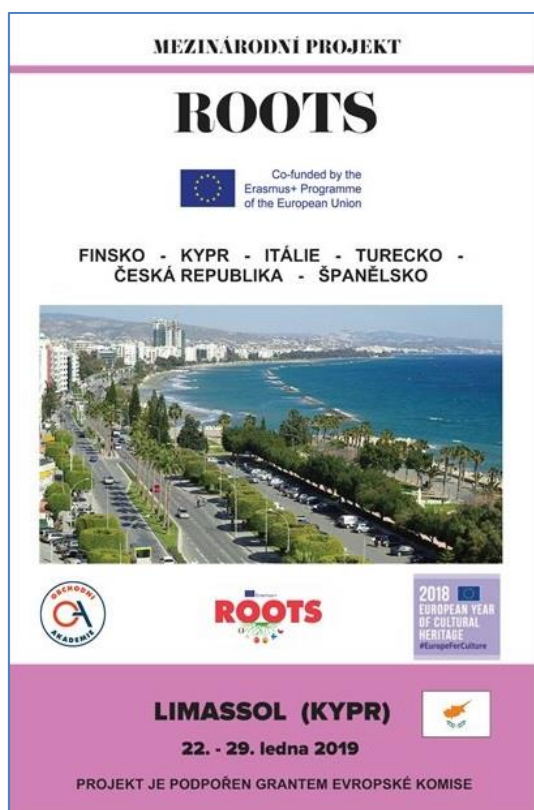
**Teachers:** Martin FROLÍK, Zdeňka PARCHANSKÁ, Ludmila BADUROVÁ

**Students:** Eliška HANUSKOVÁ, Veronika MROZKOVÁ, Gabriela FOLTYNOVÁ, Tomáš KOHUT, Nela ŠVIHÁLKOVÁ, Hana PETEROVÁ. Dominik KRÓL, Kateřina ZIELINOVÁ, Natálie CARTELLI, Adam POLÁK, Klára KLOROVÁ, Natálie NIKŠIČOVÁ, Kateřina LÁTOVÁ, Ondřej PONČA



At the beginning of the year 2019 we started our preparations for the next meeting in Cyprus. We made a survey about immigration, worked out the results and prepared a powerpoint presentation to be shown in Limassol. Our students Tomáš and Ondřej also created a new school presentation.

Before the meeting in Cyprus a new promotion has been done to attract other students to the project and bring them to our team. We created project posters and leaflets not only for our students but also for public to share information about our project and the Erasmus+ programme.







We also updated the webpage with materials from the meeting in Naantali which we received from our partners.

A short dissemination of the project meeting in Finland was done in all classes, so all our students learned about the first meeting in Naantali, saw the photos and heard about what we had done there before Christmas.

The beginning of the new year was passing fast and we got ready for the meeting in Limassol. The team was complete and looking forward to meeting new friends from the partner countries and working together on the project tasks. We completed all the files for the meeting, agreed on what to prepare for the National cuisine and the time of the meeting was here. We were leaving for Cyprus!



## Naantalin Upper Secondary School, Naantali, FINLAND



### SCHOOL STAFF PARTICIPATING IN THE PROJECT:

Principal Eija Mäenpää  
 Guidance counsellor Eeva Mäkinen  
 Finnish teacher Sanna Vuola

### STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN THE PROJECT:

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

As the new term started in January, our school arranged an open night for all ninth graders their parents in Naantali on 9th January, 2019. These are pupils who finish secondary school and apply for upper secondary school this spring. The purpose of the evening was to give information about our school and the projects we are involved in. There were exceptionally many people who attended the event and one show room was dedicated to our international projects, including Erasmus+ *Roots*. Students told about the activities we had carried out in the project so far and what is planned for the rest of this school year.

Students and teachers of the project prepared for the meeting in Limassol, Cyprus in three workshops in January. The workshops consisted of planning, brainstorming and evaluating the project work. Students were given responsibility to carry out the tasks between the workshops according to their own schedules. All the materials were available in Google Classroom. Everybody gave feedback on the progress of the work and the contents.

The questionnaire on immigration was created in Google Forms. The questionnaire was answered in the English lessons of Mrs Toini Aro and Mr Kalle Astala. There were 108 second graders who answered the questionnaire. Students Aleksi Jaakkola and Venla Hinkkanen worked on the statistics and searched for information on the internet on the issues covered in the questionnaire and produced the final presentation for the meeting in Limassol.

Students Ella Mäntysalo and Sara Hänninen interviewed their grandparents, parents and neighbours about immigration. The results were discussed in the workshops and the final presentation was created according to the feedback gained in the discussions.

Students Lotta Raitanen, Karoliina Malkki and Viivi Anttila created a video about our school and city and also made a short PowerPoint presentation about Finland.

After the meeting in Limassol, all the students and teachers of the project gathered to share the experiences of the meeting. Eeva Mäkinen and Eija Mäenpää showed photos and told about the project week agenda and outcomes. The participating students Ella Mäntysalo, Lotta Raitanen and Otto Reivolahti wrote an article for the school yearly publication about their experiences during the meeting.

Eeva Mäkinen and Eija Mäenpää gave a presentation about the experiences gained in the project meeting in Limassol in January 2019 to all the teachers of Naantali Upper Secondary School and the head of department, Mr Kimmo Kuusimäki, on 27 February 2019. The differences and similarities of our education systems were discussed as well as the cultural aspects of the exchange. A photo presentation was created for this occasion.

After the winter holiday, the work on the third project meeting started at the end of February. The students and teachers of the project had a meeting in which they discussed the project work to be carried out before the meeting in Catania, Sicily. All the responsibilities were distributed, and the work started. Students Karoliina Malkki and Miira Toissalo are involved in optional studies in which students work with people in the senior citizens' home and in this context, they started interviewing old people in order to gather information about eating habits and recipes of the past. This was the basis of the project work to be carried out by the meeting in Catania, Italy.

The impact of the project on the organization level has been significant. In February the staff of Naantali upper secondary school evaluated the strengths and achievements of the past school year as a part of the personnel development plan and *Roots* project was considered one of the best

achievements and a key factor in building competence and creating understanding among teachers and students.



**OUR SCHOOL  
I.P.S.S.E.O.A. "KAROL WOJTYLA  
CATANIA**

After our first mobility in Finland we started some dissemination activities publishing a report of the Naantali meeting on the school website and on some local newspapers. After our Christmas holidays at the beginning of January we realized we hadn't a lot of time to prepare our second meeting in Cyprus. Therefore, we started to organize some preparation meetings with the parents of the students involved in the second mobility to explain them the program of the visit and the activities to be carried out.

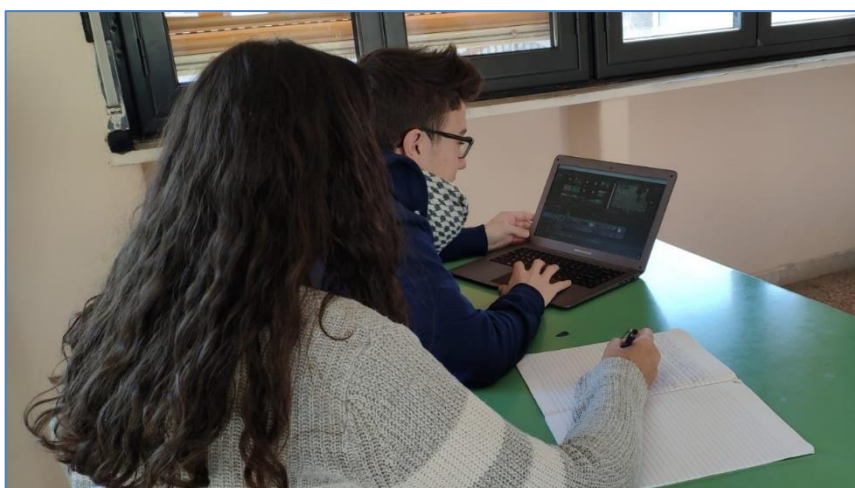
Teams of students regularly met at school to prepare several power point presentations on different topics such as: our town and school. Students started to work, administering a questionnaire to 60 students of other classes in order to know their opinion and feelings about some issues related to the migrant condition. Once the questionnaire was completed and the results collected students worked out the results of the survey on the topic in a collaborative team work and prepared a power point



presentation. As a second step, students prepared a video of the school and of Catania and its most important monuments to show to the partners in Cyprus.

The students and their classmates spent one day going around Catania to make the video. As the main subject of this second meeting was people migration, some interviews were made to some old and young people who had migrated, in order to understand how they lived this experience and which feelings they shared. Students realized that it is always difficult to migrate to a faraway country to get better life conditions. It is painful not to be welcome in another country and to lose your own language and traditions.

Cooperative learning was an important result of these activities, students were also very excited to express their own opinion. In some cases, they changed the way to see immigrants and understood the reason why a lot of young people move abroad to look for a better future. On January 22<sup>nd</sup> the team left Catania to Cyprus happy to meet old and new friends to share a week of activities, games, joy and laughs.



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## Our School: LIZARRA IKASTOLA



### Who we are:

**Teachers:** Gaizka Untzueta, Eneko Aizpuru, Joseba Tristán, Pello Etxaniz, Cesar Etxeberria.

**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, Amaieur Telleria, Alatz Garcia, Maddi Molina, Rocío Perez and Izeia Encina.

### CYPRUS: SECOND STEP IN OUR PROJECT

In the first half of **February** we presented the results of our second mobility to Cyprus to the students and teachers, and promoted them on our school webpage, Facebook page and other local webs and newspapers. As we can see, almost all local and regional newspapers of our area mentioned our project on their pages!

<https://www.revistacallemayor.es/chipre-segunda-experiencia-erasmus-de-lizarra-ikastola/>

<https://www.noticiasdenavarra.com/2019/02/02/vecinos/estella-y-merindad/merindad-de-estella/alumnado-de-lizarra-ikastola-participa-en-un-proyecto-en-chipre>

<https://www.diariodenavarra.es/noticias/navarra/tierra-estella/2019/02/01/la-ikastola-estella-ateriza-chipre-632869-1006.html>

But not only that! Some of our students who were in Finland were interviewed by a local radio and they also mentioned our trip to Cyprus

<http://radioestella.com/inicio/?p=40967>

By the end of February, our Erasmus + coordinator attended a meeting with a group of teachers from another two schools in our region who were so interested in the development of the Erasmus + programme.

### **SICILY: GASTRONOMY and TRADITIONAL CUISINE. THIRD STEP IN OUR PROJECT**

After the selection of the team of three students who were going to take part in the next mobility in Italy, we explained them the main characteristics, goals, themes, and other details about the third mobility which is going to have GASTRONOMY and TRADITIONAL CUISINE as the main subject. So, our three girls along with the rest of the Erasmus + team started to work in order to prepare themselves on the topics of “BASQUE GASTRONOMY AND TRADITIONAL CUISINE”.

During the second half of **February**, the students team involved in the project planned the first activities based on some reading about Basque Traditional Cuisine and some interviews to grannies and cooks of our own school.

To better give a view of our traditional cuisine, our group of students decided to produce a video showing the preparation of a typical Basque dish: potato omelette with onions. They also decided to show other common and typical dishes of our country through a power point presentation. The whole class is involved in the research and preparation of the material, but the video stuff is focused mainly on the three girls who are going to Italy: Nahia, Amaia and Naroa.



*Our Erasmus + team students Nahia, Naroa and Amaia working hard at school's kitchen.*

During the first half of **March**, our pupils have been attending some informal gastronomy lessons in our school's kitchen. They have listened carefully to our cooks advices and they've been helping them in some kitchen works. These activities related to Gastronomy and Traditional Cuisine are providing students an opportunity to improve social and communication skills and, at the same time, they are preparing themselves to be creative and environmentally aware through a very rooted activity in the Basque Country: Gastronomy.



*Students doing their best following our school chef's instructions at school's kitchen.*

### **THIRD MOBILITY IS COMING!!**

So, once all the tasks are ready, the great adventure is going to start. In a few weeks our group of two teachers and three students will travel to Catania, Sicily. We are sure that we will meet wonderful friends, great teachers, and we will have a lot of fun... and with all this gastronomy stuff, we will have to take care not to put on weight!!!

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## Lykeio Polemidion-Limassol-Cyprus

After visiting Finland, the Cyprus team began the preparations for our partners coming in Cyprus. The coordinator of the program made contact with the Euro parliament Office in Cyprus, with the High Commission of the United Nations and the Pedagogical Institute to arrange seminars for both teachers and students who were taking part in the mobility of Erasmus+.

Students attended workshops in which they worked on the surveys about migration. Some of them interviewed their parents and grandparents asking them about migration in the old times, some of them made a search in the libraries and some of them in the internet. Two of our students (Maria Vasiliou and Nicol Charalambous) prepared the questionnaire based on the searches and interviews and sent it to all the partners. A certain amount of questionnaires was distributed among the students of our school and answered by them. Afterwards all the results were analyzed, and a power point presentation was prepared by them.

At the beginning of January, we had different meetings with students and parents discussing the hosting arrangements, the program and all the details concerning the meeting. Nicolas Genethliou, one of the teachers taking part in the program prepared the bookmark with the logo of the program which had been designed by the Turkish team.

From the 23rd to the 28th of January 2019 the second meeting of the six European schools took place in Cyprus within the framework of the Erasmus + program under the title "Roots".

On the 22nd of January the partners of Czech Republic, Italy, Finland, and Spain arrived in Cyprus and on the 23rd we had the arrival of the Turkish partners.

On the 23rd of January, we welcomed the teachers and students in our school amphitheater. After a short speech given by the head master Mr. Alexis Alexandrou, a traditional artistic program was presented. The students Alexandros Christophorou and Christos Sotiriou under the guidance of the music teacher, Andriana Sergidou presented traditional songs accompanied by traditional instruments.



Savva Arsenios and Ioakim Christodoulos under the guidance of Eftichia Yialourou, the physical education teacher, danced **traditional dances**.



The Cypriot **educational system** was presented by Mrs. Elena Georgiadou, teacher of economics.



After a short break the students played the online game titled “against all odds”. “Against All Odds” is an online game created to **increase students' awareness and knowledge about refugee** situations by putting players in the position of a refugee.



At night the school parents’ association and the host families welcomed the guests and hold a reception at school where traditional dishes were offered.



On Thursday the 24<sup>th</sup>, students presented their results on the survey on **“Immigration, emigration, movement of people”** in their countries.



After a short break the students played traditional games **“Games of our ancestors”** under the guidance of the physical education teacher Mr. Andreas Schinas.



Later on, all the participants presented and offered some **traditional dishes** from their countries.





On Friday the 25<sup>th</sup>, a workshop for teachers, was organized by Dr. Elena Papamichael officer at the Pedagogical Institute of Cyprus, on the subject **“breaking the stereotypes for the refugees and immigrants”**. At the same time, another workshop was held for the students by Mrs. Emilia Strovalidou, public information officer at the High Commission at the United Nations in Cyprus.

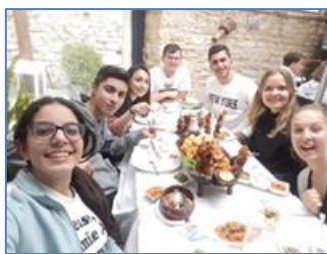
An important area of UNHCR’s work is in the field of education to **raise public awareness on refugee issues**. This presentation was aimed at enhancing pupils’ understanding of the causes and consequences of being uprooted, and the needs and the difficulties faced by those who are forced to abandon their homes and homelands. This is one of the ways UNHCR works towards breaking down stereotypes and contributes to the cultivation of a climate of tolerance and solidarity.



At 11:30 Mr. Nectarios Nicolaides, public relation assistant in the European Parliament Office in Cyprus, gave a lecture and made us familiar to different issues which concern the European union, euro parliament, Europe elections and opportunities for young people in Europe **“Next generation”**.



On Saturday the 26<sup>th</sup>, students and teachers, visited the ancient theatre of Curium, the birthplace of Aphrodite, the Stone of Romios (**myths and legends**) and the archeological park of Kato Paphos.



On Sunday the 27<sup>th</sup>, all students and teachers went hiking on the natural trail of Kalidonia in Platres village and afterwards, they had a nice walk in the picturesque village of Omodhos, where they had a lunch at a traditional tavern.



On Monday the 28<sup>th</sup>, was the last meeting at school, in a touching atmosphere as after a week of everyday contact and good company, all were sentimental affected



At night, of the same day, we had the farewell dinner at a traditional restaurant by the old Castle of Limassol. These programs are important because new canals of communication are opened, we see the different mentality, the culture and civilization of other people around the world and the most important, people come closer creating strong bonds of friendship and become the mediators who will spread out the idea of cooperation and mutual understanding, the best ingredients for creating a better world.

After the departure of the partners, a team of students started the preparations of the presentation of the traditional cuisine, which will be done, during the 3rd meeting on the 30th of March in Sicily. Students interviewed their parents and grandparents about the traditional cuisine, their habits of eating in the old times, made a search about the local cuisine, made videos about of how some traditional foods are prepared.

The e-twinning portal was also updated with all the new activities and presentations made by all the partner countries

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## Our School: Özel Falez Fen Bilimleri Anadolu Lisesi, Antalya, Turkey



Who we are:

**Headmister:** Birol ORAK

**Teachers:** Ümmühan YÜCEYALTIRIK, Melahat ORAK, Pinar DEVECİ, Tuncay SAVTAK

**Students:** Sude TAŞKIN, Mehmet Kaan ENGÜR, Melisa ÇOTUR, Damla KALAYCI, Nisa Nur TEZCAN, Ahmet Mert MUTLU, M. Onur AKBOYUN, Berkay ULU, Betül DENİZ, Meriç EREL, Cansu ATAY, Atahan Okay UĞUR, Berker ÇETİNKAYA, Dilara YILMAZ, Kerem SALMAN, Sümeyye Nalan TOZOĞLU, Deniz ERDOĞAN, Efe ÇEVİK, Yağmur ŞAHİN; Sude AKINCI, Hande ATMACA



As the Turkish team for Limassol, Cyprus, we started our preparations with taking the official permissions from the parents, then the school, later the government.

Then we applied for the visas to Cyprus Embassy in Athens, Greece because there was no official building of Cyprus Embassy in Turkey. We had to wait until two days before the project started because



we could not get any appointment from the Cyprus Embassy. Our teachers called the Embassy a couple of time, at last, the Cyprus Embassy told us to go to Athens to pick up visas on the last day. We bought our flight tickets on the last day, we flew to Athens, stayed one night in Athens, the next morning we went to the Cyprus Embassy, picked up our visas, bought our flight tickets to Cyprus from Athens. It was hard but we succeeded it 😊 Thanks to our friends from our partner school in Cyprus. They also helped us a lot to have a communication with the Cyprus Embassy.

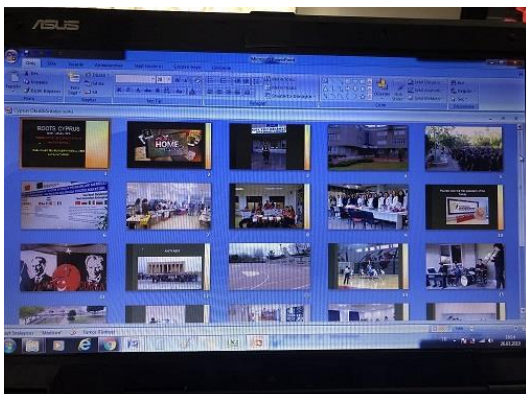


All in all, we had shared all the responsibilities and tasks to be done during the project in Cyprus before we went to 2nd project meeting.

#### The tasks were;

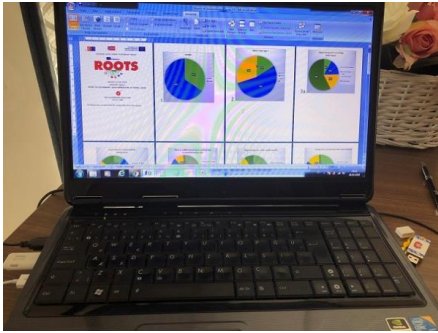
- \* To collect the results of the surveys on immigration from the students at school and prepare a Powerpoint presentation of the school as a whole. This task was taken by Ahmet Mert Mutlu.
- \* To prepare a survey / presentation on immigration by interviewing our grandparents and / or old people in our neighbourhood for the “Book of Stories”
- \* To prepare a presentation of our school, city and country to present during the Exchange in Cyprus.
- \* Then, we, as the Turkish participants, should prepare some traditional Turkish dishes that would be presented at the National Cuisine Day during the Exchange.
- \* We would prepare a kind of presentation and a seminar in order that we could disseminate how we prepared for this project meeting and what we did during the exchange.

#### \*Preparing the presentation of our school, city and country to present during the Exchange in Cyprus;



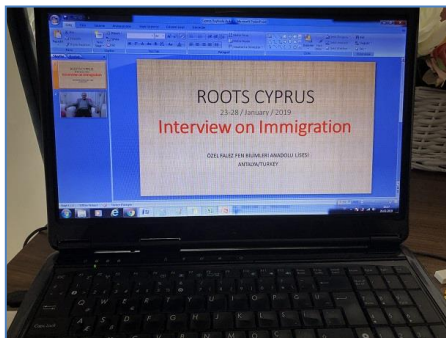
This was under the responsibility of Nisa Tezcan. She joined the seminar and dissemination meeting at the school given by the first participants, talked to her friends from first mobility in Finland, got some ideas about how to prepare, to deal with the presentation, she collected some materials, discussed with her friends and prepared the presentation.

\* Working with the survey on immigration;



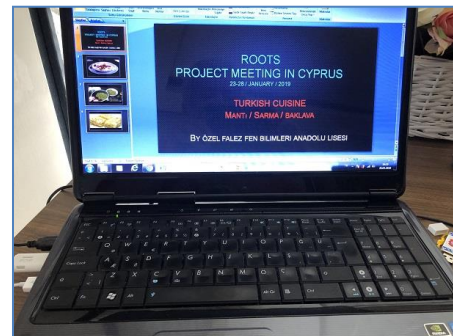
He gave the survey to some 50 students at school, collected them, sorted them out, discussed with his teachers how to organize the results, got suggestions from them and prepared a report of Turkish group.

\* Preparing a presentation on immigration by interviewing grandparents;



This task was taken by Damla Kalaycı. First, she took a video by interviewing her grandparents on immigration as she had grandparents from Romania as an immigrant years ago. The video was in Turkish as her grandparents could not speak English, so, she put the English subtitles. Therefore, her presentation was ready to present for the “Book of Stories”.

\* The best part of the preparations was to share and prepare some traditional Turkish dishes that would be presented at the [National Cuisine Day](#) during the Exchange. We all did our best and enjoyed while preparing this presentation.



**The experiences from our participants;**

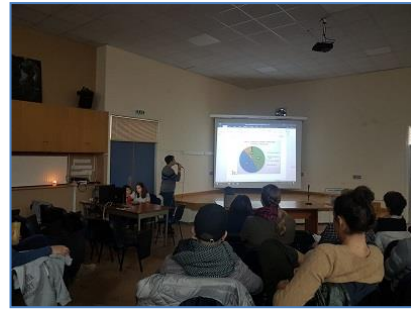
Hello, my name is Ahmet Mert MUTLU.

First, I want to express my feelings about the time before going to the Republic of Cyprus. This was not my first trip abroad, therefore I was not so excited about it but of course, I was a little excited about meeting new people and learning new cultures. While the preparation time and before starting to travel, I had no problem or concern about the trip but on the week before our trip, I had learned that we are going to stay in a hotel and not with a local family. Obviously, it made me sad because I was thinking if we stay with a local family, it would be easier to meet with more foreign people. On the other hand, our projects that we are going to present there was making me nervous. These were my feelings before I have started the trip.

Second, I want to tell about my experiences during the trip. Different from other countries there had been some difficulties arising from the Turkish and Cyprus governments. For example, while everybody had started to know each other in Cyprus, that day we were in Athens because we needed to get visas for Cyprus. And we could not get visas in Turkey, we had to get them only in Athens. I had no problem of being in Athens, but we met with the other students lately. About my experiences there, I didn't feel excluded myself either near my friends from Cyprus nor the others. Generally, I got along well with

almost everybody. During the time we spent there, I and my Turkish friends introduced our culture, food, language, etc. Learning new words and cultures was a great experience for me. Host students and teachers were hospitable. They hosted us in the best way and pay attention to our sensitivities. They took us to many places to visit and it was really a good experience doing this all together. I want to tell about the last day and our return trip. I was sad in return because I know I will miss my friends whom I met there. After a long trip, we came to Turkey. I am keeping in touch with most of my friends, but I am again adapted to my life. And if I had another chance to join this kind of project again, I mean going to abroad, I would accept it without thinking.

Lastly, I want to tell about what I have done after the trip. After the trip, my closest friends and people attending this project asked me about my experiences and what I was confronted with, and I replied to their questions. In our school, I and my two friends organized a presentation and a seminar to other students at the neighbouring school. My experiences were like this.



Hi my name is Nisa Tezcan. I am 15 years old. I am from Antalya/Turkey. I am studying at Özel Falez Fen Bilimleri Anadolu Lisesi. I went to Cyprus for Erasmus+ project. Before I went, I was so excited, happy and a bit scared because my English is not very good, but this was no problem. Also, I was scared to disagree with the Cypriots, but the Cypriots met us very well. I loved Limassol and Limassol's historical places. They all look like Antalya. We had so much fun in Cyprus. We learned 5 different cultures, foods, languages, etc. I thank to all teachers and all organizers for this nice week and I will wait for the next meeting in Turkey in November.



My name is Damla Kalaycı. I am 14 years old. For the first time this year I went to Cyprus with Erasmus+ project. At first, I was very uneasy, and I didn't think I could do that. Because I knew my English wasn't very good. At the same time, I didn't know how to understand in Cyprus and with other people from 5 countries. Further, I was a little worried about the presentations we made in Cyprus. When I got there, I realized that I didn't have to worry about that. Because I didn't feel alone at all there, and even though my English wasn't very good, I could still communicate with other participants easily. The people there were very friendly to us and I met many people there. So, I had confidence in myself.

In fact, it was not as difficult as it was thought. It was a lot of fun. I never thought I'd be so happy. I would love to go again.





### After we returned home, we made two disseminations;

Our headmaster, Mr. Birol Orak had a meeting with the school parents and explained the programme Erasmus+, School Partnerships Projects which have been going on in our school.



Our participants, Ahmet Mert Mutlu, Nisa Tezcan and Damla Kalaycı also had a meeting with the teachers and students from the neighbouring school. They shared their experiences with them. They explained how they were chosen for this project, how they prepared, what they did before and after the project. They answered their questions and suggested what they should do to join these projects and even how to write projects.



### See you in Catania, Italy in March !

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



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### 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.