## 2. Newsletter/ Erasmus + 2020 ,,Rembrandt`s movie camera"





### **OUR TRIPS & OTHER ACTIVITIES** We were able to implement our travel plans until the Corona crisis stopped us

Germany Crete Bulgaria Turkey Romania Italy

In our Erasmus + project everything went according to plan. The partners entered into a lively exchange. Teachers communicate regularly, the pupils exchange information, friendships develop, cooperation with local museums develops and we even managed to get in touch with Bill Viola. Shortly before the beginning of our last film, life in Europe and around the world was stopped by the Corona pandemic. We couldn't make our last two trips, couldn't finish our graduation film, and we probably won't go on a trip in 2020.

Our contact was limited to the virtual world. We could only get together virtually, but also with our students, so we had to adapt the project idea to the new requirements. Instead of making films together, we gave tasks to our students, who spent the Corona time alone at home with their parents. You should produce photos of famous Old Master paintings. We were very surprised when we found out that the Getty Museum in America had the same idea and started a big challenge online. The children were very creative and we could easily have taken part in the Getty Museum challenge. The children were already thrilled to see that their Erasmus friends in Europe could work on a common task despite the Corona crisis. It was also helpful to hear that children in other countries are doing the same, and it gets easier when you don't feel like you're going through a difficult time alone. Our thoughts were particularly with our Italian partners, because the media brought more and more bad news. Every contact was initially linked to the question: How are you? And the relief that everyone was fine was always felt.



We couldn't do because of Corono:

Trip to Bucharest (the flights we couldn't do:

Trip to Bucharest (the flights were already booked, the guest children were in contact with the host families, the program was organized) Trip to Crete (this is where our final meeting for the project should take

place)

European Art Day (all children should visit a museum in their home country)

# **RESULTS OF THE CORONA PERIOD**

Since work on our project was stopped by Corona, we had to cancel many flights that had already been booked, to make change requests, and we only reached our students through homeschooling. It was not possible to produce our final film. So we teachers gave our students the task of looking for a famous picture of the Old Masters on the Internet and to reproduce and take this picture at home. It must be noted which colored details, which light, which perspective and which section of the picture must be adopted by the painting. We gave our students two examples and waited eagerly for the results. The pupils could stage themselves or a family member or even implement a still life. The students informed us of the results in WhatsApp or Telegram.





























### 4TH MEETING -PLOVDIV<sub>2019</sub>









### OUR LAST TRIP IN THIS PROJECT TOOK US TO PLOVDIV IN OCTOBER 2019

The trip to Plovdiv was especially expected from all participants. The children were in contact with their host families weeks before the start of the trip, Skype and wrote messages. They also looked forward to the flight and the interesting program. The Bulgarian sun and the view of the delicious food were also tempting. We also wanted to plan our final film. A work of art should be selected that all groups wanted to implement in their films using our Bill Viola method. So far we have always had different works and now everyone should deal with the namesake of our project. Rembrandt's "Night Watch" should implement all groups. A masterpiece of European baroque art that is about freedom and loyalty.

But first of all many excursions, visits to some interesting museums and activities awaited us in Bulgaria. The Bulgarian hosts turned out to be considerate and very friendly. We went on many trips, visited museums, workshops, accompanied the lessons in the School and socialized great Contacts.







## COBRESPONDENCE WITH BILL VIOLA

It was a great wish of all of us to get in touch with mild artist Bill Viola. After all, we took advantage of his method. Bill Viola and the Old Masters of European Art were, so to speak, the parents of our I'm the italian teacher Jane's project idea.



In Europe we have a program called Erasmus. With this program children can make partnerships and can travel to get to know each other and carry out projects together. Three years ago we were in Florence and visited your exhibition in our free time. We were so impressed that we got the plan for our next Erasmus project. We have found partner schools in Turkey, Bulgaria, Italy, Romania, and Greece. For a year now we visit each other, visit museums and look for paintings that we bring to life in short films according to your method. We are having such great experiences with it, so we want to let you know that you have put us at work. We would like to show you the results if you are interested. We, the German students, found our paintings in Schwerin in the State Museum. They have a great collection of Dutch Baroque painters. May we invite you to see our short films? That would be a big deal for us!

Greetings from your students from Germany



Dear Bill Viola,

collegue, I teach in a primary school nearby Lucca- Tuscany, my students are 10. As Jane wrote you, we are partners in the same project, so I don't want to bore you giving you all the details as Jane has already written them... therefore here we are! in the picture I send you we were in our National museum and we were deciding to start working on that painting, it's : " The allegory of the freedom of Lucca". We prepared a short film trying to use your " slow motion " tecnique. We'll be very proud, happy and excited if you 'd decide to contact us! Greetings from the italian students and their teachers Lucia Moretti primary school in Colle di Compito and Massa Macinaia

#### Dear Lucia.

Thank you for your email. Please excuse the delay in response, sometimes it takes us a while to reply to inquires due to how busy we are. In any case, thank you for your kind email, and it's always great to see how Bill's work affects people, and especially in this case, engaging the kids is really charming. If you can upload a copy of the short film to Youtube or Vimeo and send us a link, we would be happy to view it. Best regards, Gene Zazzaro

**Bill Viola Studio** T: 562.439.7616 F: 562.439.2296 http://www.billviola.com









# **COORDINATOR`S STATEMENTES**



In the last two years we spent a lot of great moments together so is hard for me to choose one... Either we learned new things, made new friends, worked together, had fun or took part in creative workshops, all these are now wonderful memories. A special moment for me was when I realised what amazing partners I have in this project and that happened during the first mobility, in the top of the Galata Tower

#### Irina, Romania



During the wonderful two years of our partnership I have experienced so many different emotions such as finding international friends, enriching my knowledge about ART and enhancing my organisational skills as well as developing educational ideas One thing that I will always remember is a German student, called Erik, who joined the Bulgarian team while we were doing the mobility in Germany. He is so funny and talkative and hosted a Bulgarian boy who has just the opposite personality, so Erik helped him become more confident and outgoing. I will always remember the moment when all partners came to Plovdiv and were posing on the PLOVDIV TOGETHER symbol for a photo, I felt so proud of having these amazing people here, and that they will learn more about our school, our history, traditions and culture. The host families still talk about the exchange and how happy the children were.

Roxy, Bulgaria



Erasmus, Erasmus, Erasmus... reflections and thoughts... whenever  $\Gamma$  ve asked my colleagues to join this project, I always talked about open mindness, sharing best practice, knowledge of other people, cultures, languages and of course EUROPE!For me, in every European projective joint, the part that I prefer is the one who allows meta know and work with other people so different but, as the same time, so close to me because we share the same values and the same love for teaching and for our students. During the mobilities I like visiting the schools, to see how the classes are organised and to discover different ways of teaching and sometimes to discover that they are even similar. It is amazing to realise that, most in every country, teacher have the same problems and goals.. These things make me feeling to be a part of a greater system: the system of Education , where to educate means helping a kid to grow up more confident and strong in whatever it will decide to do in his life. I feel that I'm only one, little teacher, butI, we, will be able to contribute to the realisation of a better world.



Erasmus projects, which offer intercultural interaction and the possibility of the unity of different cultures, definitely open up our children's horizons and develop their creativity and involve them voluntarily in the activities. It is too perfect to be expressed in words for our students and us.Also,It is really proud to carry out the same project with such a fantastic, high-energy team. From the very first moment we met, our motivation was very high with entertaining short films, combining art, students and teachers with tolerance, respect and love. The event that impressed me most in the events organized at school with a warm welcome was that Turkish students in Bulgaria were looking forward to us and hugged sincerely. From the moment we arrived in Plovdiv, Bulgaria, we did not understand how a week has passed with a wonderfully programmed plan.

I hope we will have a chance to work on other projects that are inseparable. Zeynap, Turkey



The experience of working in this project is precious! Teachers and students working on Art, a new dimension of approaching the art being together with other European teachers and students. Our students and surely teachers were in a different, very special way, closer to art and to so many activities of our project. Calendar was a nice, joyful activity! Receiving and sending Christmas cards brought all of us much closer. We want to finalize all of our activities and going to final report!Thanks to our coordinator and to other partnercountries that we had a fruitful project time.



It's nice to know that an idea has now become reality. When we walked through Lucca in Italy, we discovered the street art artist BLUB,

in Istanbul we ate delicious food on the street and in PLOVDIV Ivan, the sports teacher, did small competitions everywhere. So we came up with our new idea for a new project. We end this great project now with wonderful partnerships that stay and we start a new Erasmus adventure. We will also continue to produce bill viola films with our museum in Schwerin. I think that's called sustainability. Europe is a brilliant idea if we let it stays alive.

Jane, Germany

Emmanouil, Greece