



*Our Quarantine Diary  
& Virgilio Group  
present...*



# THE ETWINNERS' QUARANTINE



# The eTwinners' quarantine

What are you doing now, in and out of teaching?

**LAURA MAFFEI** 16 APRILE 2020 11:52

## Hâle Tandoğan /Turkey

Hello..I am Hale.I am a teacher in primary school. Quarantine days are very bad for teachers and students.

## Virginia Pozo, Spain

Greetings from the mountains at the center of my country. My name is Virginia Pozo and I am an Arts and Crafts teacher at a secondary school in a small village in Toledo. At the beginning of the quarantine I felt really lost, specially about how to teach arts online. At class I'm used to walk around the place checking how my students work, I always take their pencils and help them with their drawings, so how could I continue help them from the distance? I has been really hard, but finally we found the way using words, not drawings. The good thing of the situation has been that I explained and argumanted each mark, I've explained the good things and also the bad ones in each activity of each student. Normally at school they only want to know the mark and not to read anything, but during the quarantine the students have been much more receptive taking all my advices about how to improve their activities, and thanks to all the explanations about the mark thay have really understand the purpose of each activity. That's the most interesting and positive side of being an online teacher that I find. Another good point of this situation has been that I've have had to reinvent all the activities I normally suggest at class, I've had to adapt and invent new ones, and I can proudly say that my students have done really interesting design projects concerning the pandemia, and even comics about it. Instead of these great things I can't wait going back to school ...But then I won't take their pencils, I'll get used to use only mine...It's going to be difficult and strange, but we can do it!!!

## Burcu YALDIZ DURMUŞ-TURKEY

Hello, everyone.

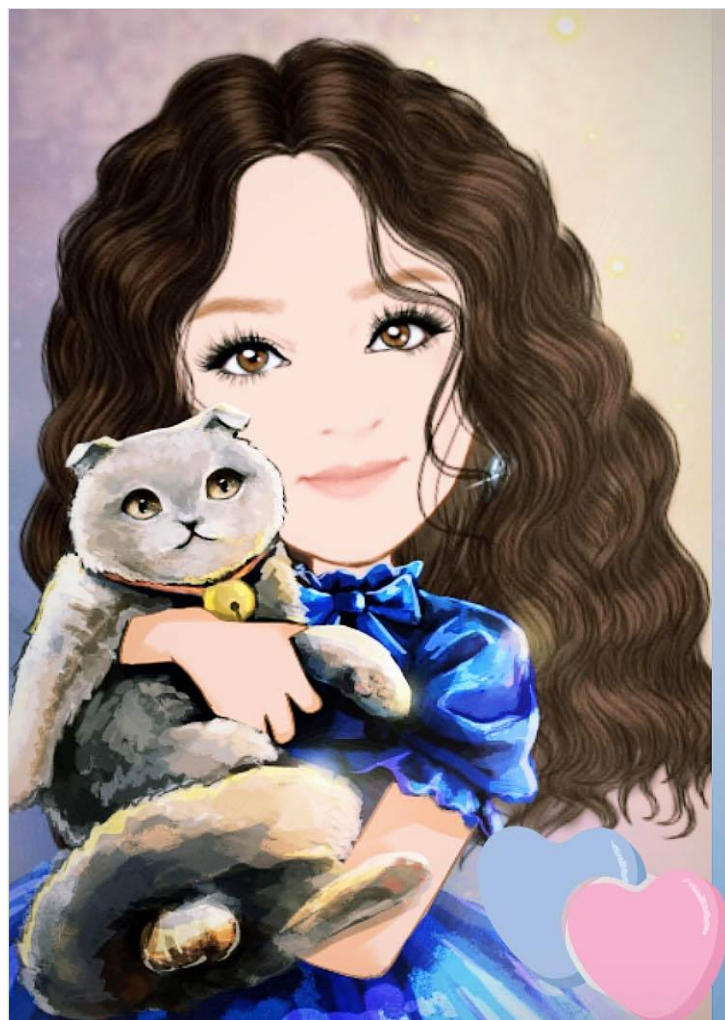
I am Burcu. I am an English teacher in a secondary school in Turkiye. I have a master degree in teaching English as a foreign language, so I am interested in international projects.

In this year, I have been engaging in the national and international projects. I had lots of plans about my students but the schools are closed due to the coronavirus.

On these lockdown days, I keep having online sessions with my students and always keep in touch with my project teams. Apart from these, I am really interested in self-education so I am improving myself by taking online courses, seminars and

learning labs which are really fruitful for me. I have lots of books to be finished, I am trying to finish them and watching my favourite series whose language is English or Spanish to improve my listening skill. Moreover, I am learning Spanish, I hope I can make it:)

I have lots of free time, so I try to do everything in my mind but I really miss travelling and the sea.



## Luisella Mori, Tuscany, Italy

Hi, my name's Luisella and I teach in a secondary school in Pontedera, Italy.

What about my quarantine? Well, being "the" digital teacher since forever,

I've adapted quite well to distance teaching, and I've really enjoyed some aspects of it! I've worked a lot with videos with my students, both by creating video **tutorials** for them, and asking them to make **videos** on different topics, for instance video-



book reviews, video-film **reviews**, video-roleplays on different topics, video-presentations made turning slides into videos, etc. I've also worked a lot on the **Twinspace** of "Our Quarantine Diary" project, especially on the **forum**, which the students have really enjoyed.

What I really miss at the moment is travelling, because I'm really into it, and I miss the feeling of planning the next trip (which, by the way, I'm still doing!), but at the same time I've appreciated family life and staying at home more than I could possibly think. My favourite moments under lockdown:

- **Cooking** and **baking** cakes with my daughter;
- Going for **a walk in the countryside** in the early morning, before starting video lessons;
- Having **breakfast at home** with my husband, a delicious bowl of natural yogurt with fresh fruit (which I never had time to do when I had to be at school at 7:50 am)
- Doing **yoga** and **pilates** with some teachers who taught online. I felt at ease exercising at home, more than at the gym, and I managed to do a good **sirsasana** for the first time in my life! Against the wall, of course, but still!

This last thing could explain why **online teaching might be better and more effective for some students**, especially the shy or more self-conscious ones: **being at home can give you that sense of comfort and well-being that helps you focus better** and be more self-confident! Some students actually disappeared during the lockdown, but others made great progress and worked really hard! Some students who were really passive at school positively surprised me during online lessons, and that's the best part about it!



## Marina Marino - Italie

Bonjour, je suis prof de FLE. Je vis à Livorno en Toscane, en Italie. Je suis Ambassadrice eTwinning depuis 2007 et j'utilise eTwinning dans ma pratique pédagogique quotidienne depuis 2006. Je trouve que eTwinning est la méthode la plus appropriée pour enseigner/apprendre au XXIème siècle. eTwinning transforme les élèves et les profs! Pendant le confinement, nous nous devons réinventer, construire, individualiser mais dans un délai restreint. Pour beaucoup d'élèves le lycée est le seul lieu où se construit un lien social voilà pourquoi notre projet est important car il va prendre une dimension sociale; pour eux l'urgence n'est pas tant de continuer à apprendre que de continuer à avoir une existence sociale. Et si ces deux objectifs pouvaient se rejoindre ? C'est le pari proposé ici avec notre projet.



## Loredana Attanasio - Italy

Hi! I'm a kindergarten teacher in a public school. My school is a happy small oasis in the country! There is a garden all around the school, two lunch rooms, a large entrance, all laboratories, infirmary...and toys all around.

My kids are 5 years old and next year they are going to primary school.

We separated on March...and probably we won't meet each other in the school...this is very sad...we cut our cord too early. In this quarantine period, I kept the link by cell phone using whatsapp platform, sending videos, messages and encouragements.

I send many videos for activities with the same methodologies I used in the classroom: workshops.

Example: make a pizza!! all together made a real neapolitan pizza!! in the evening we ate pizza and posted on the group!!

Some times I left kids organize the activity, flipped classroom. I asked them to explain the theme and what classmates should do...example: make biscuits, make salt dough.

The distance is a big problem for us and kids...with so young children it's important the emotional bond.

I wish to return as soon as possible to our routines!!



I paint my page in pink and enveloping all the dreams and wishes written here, I send them to space ,, After all, pink dreams have the ability to come true ,, Well, dream soon! – ANONIMO



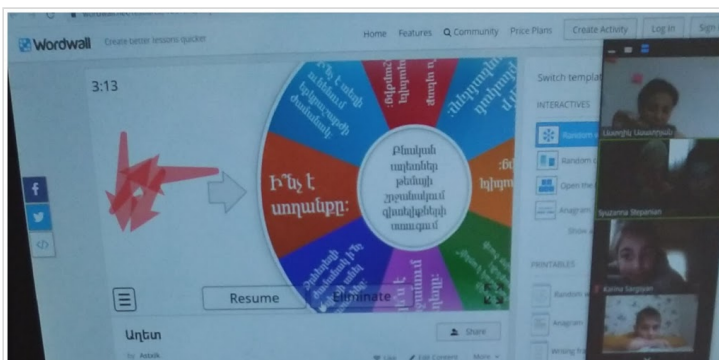
## Misket Köksal, İzmir Turkey

Hi I am an English teacher in a private middle school. I have been teaching English for twenty years. This year I have the 6th, 7th and 8th grades. During quarantine time I have online lessons every weekday. My students progressed a lot. Apart from my online lessons I assign them some interesting activities. For example I asked them to write a composition about their last summer holidays. Then I wanted them to make a video to talk about their holidays. Results were amazing. I also wanted them to prepare "Mothers' Day" cards for their mothers. I wanted them to make a video to introduce one of their rooms, etc. We are really having great time together.

But I think distance education in this quarantine period is a bit more difficult than face to face education. I wish we could return to our normal routines as soon as possible.

## Astghik Asatryan, Armenia

Greetings from Armenia ... I am Astghik. I teach in elementary school. My students are 6-11 year old students. From the very first day of classes I registered my students on the Moodle platform and started working. These were crazy days. I used to make the topics of the textbook electronic and put them on the website. At first my students found it difficult to use the site, but a week later they started to understand the essence. During this time I tried to ensure the continuity of education as efficiently and interestingly. I liked my students very much. I completely forgot about myself and my family (all 3 of my children were involved in their own learning process). I studied and worked. Now, when I look back, I see that after all this, when we move on to our normal lives, Live communication, which nothing can replace. Even our references to zoom.us They will never give us the benefits of existing education. I wish the whole world a healthy and trouble-free way out of this situation.



## Nataliya Orlyk, Ukraine

Hello, I've been an eTwinner . I teach English and French. This year I have pupils aged from 8 to 17 (the 3d grade, 5th, 8th and 11th forms). I can say it's eTwinning experience that has helped me to overcome the challenges of the quarantine time. I managed to organize the online studies of my students very quickly as I got acquainted with many It tools before this period. They helped me to make the learning process interesting and unusual. My pupils liked it.

At one of the online lessons we spoke about how we spent time during the quarantine and posted our thoughts on the Lino wall.

## Filiz Aslan, Salihli Manisa

Hello to everyone ..I teach English for 12 years. my students are 14 to 18 years old. I have been teaching or let me say try to teach something online but there have been so many problems. some students don't have internet and some don't have a computer or they don't come to the online lesson because the time doesn't suit them etc etc...the etwinning projects and the webinars are really the most exciting and interesting process of my covid days. besides I moved to a new house..now I am decorating my new home. I have two little boys, a year old baby and a five year old toddler. They always and always around me. I don't have even a minute for being alone. These statements can be understood as a complaint but not. I really got used to be at home. and I am thankful for everything I have. Only and only I really miss my students my class my school my daily routines

## TATIA MARDALEISHVILI, GEORGIA

Hello from Georgia !! I am English Teacher, our school is an eTwinning label school and We are very proud of it !! I have been actively involved in lots of international projects - I can definitely say that this is the field where from I get lots of



pleasure. eTwinning is a fundamental part of my professional development . eTwinning helps me to achieve my teaching goals with my pupils as they develop their language and digital competences. eTwinning projects keep my pupils motivated, Etwinning gives us great opportunity to exchange our experience with teachers from all over the world and gives students the environment where teaching-learning process is really motivating !

During this lockdown period I involved my students in lots of eTwinning projects !! They did very interesting activities with their foreign peers and enjoyed very much !! In this way - learning was more enjoyable for them !



### **Loredana Popa, Botosani, Romania**

I am an English teacher and an etwinner since 2010. For my students it was second nature to adjust to online work but the interaction is obviously not the same. Schools have been closed for more than 2 months and will remain so till September. Personally, I tried to see the good side of things, the silver lining. More time to finally catch up with all the project work that had been piling up with 2 erasmus ka229 and 2-3 etwinning projects haunting my nights:) just kidding. I am sad, since I have students who were supposed to go on mobilities in Portugal, Croatia, Lithuania and they will not get to do so. The 8th graders will leave school in a month or two so it is heartbreaking not to be able to do something about this. I focused on sleeping, as for the past 10 years, I have been

running on fumes, coffee and 3 hours of sleep a day. I get to work twice as much with my students now, so I love it. More chances to hear everybody since in class we did not have computers or sometimes not even internet. We started chain stories, some of my students and I, also a different kind of journal, not quarantine-related per se, but rather creative writing with a touch of personal emotional release for them. We choose something that is on our left or a character, a book or game character, an object, anything and we write diary entries every day from the perspective of that thing. It is good fun and I think they love it.

I have a chance to take more PD courses now, as I am addicted to learning new things all the time. Spending more time with my cats is a bonus as well, although i think they might rebel when i have to go back to school.

I record songs or stories for my students, depending on what they prefer. Alienation, like Derin says, is a pretty powerful enemy these days. I always forgive my students if they don't enter my online meetings because they were playing outside or taking a stroll in the sun. Learning can happen anywhere and anytime, but being a child, enjoying it is much more important. These are the padlets to the different kind of diary, one for primary and one for secondary. And I will add the story my 4th grader, together with my 7th grader and myself wrote. We will make it available and allow people to add different endings:) Raluca is the 7th grader, Sabina, the 4th grader. We are starting a new chain story with a few more students this time.

<https://padlet.com/terexutzta/32kmvihl6kpliv9t>  
<https://padlet.com/terexutzta/o30fconz2r1r3y18>

### **Simona Bernabei, Tuscany Italy**

I am an English teacher and I work with students from 14 to 18 years. I am working from home, so are they. Our everyday job has become more of a challenge, I think we need to rethink and reprogram our daily activities with students so that they are in a central position. I don't want to talk about my job here so specifically, because the way we thought the project is to share things on a different level so I just want to focus on the things of my job that affected my way of being as a person. The way I see it our students need to get something from us, a word, some sort of inspiration for the future, something that might help them overcome uncertainties, insecurities for some of them even loss of hope for the future.

I think teachers are concentrating too much on the learning side strictu sensu, whereas it would be much more relevant for us to try to make them feel less overwhelmed by the situation and less lonely. Parents don't have time to stop and talk to them, but they, especially if they're 18 or 19, think about the future a lot, or rather think "What will the future be like after this ? " This is probably the first time for us and also for most of our students when we are facing reality for what it is. Most of them have projects, they want to travel, and they want to celebrate their 18th birthday somewhere. Others want to study abroad work abroad, take part in Erasmus+ projects or experiences. And I don't know at this point if this will be possible for them. So I think what we need to do both as adults and professionals is to give them hope or at least try to. And this is what I'm doing or trying to do: I've asked some of my best friends, professionals

from around the world, to join us live and chat with them. Answering questions, asking questions, brainstorming... Because our students need to understand that there is a world out there which needs them.

It gets tiring for me sometimes, because energy is messing at this point, we too need to break away from this song. We don't see family we don't see friends we are stuck in our homes, just about to go back to normal life. And I'm more than convinced that our future will not be the same ever. But I think we owe our students something more than teaching Literature. We owe them some kind of energy to readjust their projects and move on.

## Marina Hussein, Portugal

Hi I am a maths and science teacher in the north of Portugal. My students are 11/12 years old. I am at home, they are at home. Now I am teaching online, of course it is not the same thing; there is nothing like social interaction. Humans were not born to speak through machines; technology is good but not enough. At home I work much more to school than when I was going to school. This is an overflow of work. Looks like you are available 24h/7. The personal and professional life blend in. When I am not teaching and doing anything related to that I am walking my 3 dogs, talking with my husband. I don't watch TV, unless 15m a day to see the news. Before it was depressing, Covid everywhere, awful numbers coming from Asia, Europe, America. Tomorrow I am going to the gym, one of my favourite activities; it is a paradox because it is tiring and I am not ambitious about my fitness. Maximum of 5 people in a garden. Let's see how it will be school after Covid or with Covid melting in our routines. Maybe something better, something worse but, for sure, different. For everybody!

## Laura Hernán Miguélez, Spain

Hello! I'm **Laura** from **Spain**. I'm a **Language Teacher**. I teach both **English and German** in Secondary Education. My students are aged between **12-18**.

- **CURRENT SITUATION: Technology triggers change.** Now, we are confronted with a new methodology used in teaching at schools around the world based 100% in videocalls and tasks via the net,
- **APPROACH: Let's be positive** I think this is a new **opportunity** for both teachers and students to **improve their technological competences/skills** and to **highly value what we are given in life**.
- **GOAL: Looking for a balance between progress and ethical principles in society.** As soon as we find this **balance** between progress and social development, we will be able to assume our commitment as human beings with UNESCO's principles and most International Organisations' principles. The one that comprises most of them is **Sustainable Development**.

- **MORALE:** we are all human beings at the same level and should be committed to live in a better world by helping society in the best of the possible ways from different points of view: political, economic, social, legal...

## Mojca Sterk, Slovenia

Hello to all the beautiful minds out there! I am a primary school teacher and my students are aged 11 to 15. We've been in lockdown for 2 months now and it's not getting an easier. I miss my kids very much. We have Zooms every week and we're also in contact through social media. It feels like I'm working all the time, sitting at my laptop or checking on my 3 kids at home who also have a lot of schoolwork to do. I hope life will soon get back to normal. But what I learned the most during this time is to be grateful for all I have, don't take things for granted. We still live in peace, we're healthy and have enough food in the fridge. We'll be alright <3



## Dhurata - Albania

Hi everybody! I am Dhurata Hoj from Albania.

## Çetin AÇIKGÖZ from Tokat, Turkey

Hi everyone! I work at a secondary school in Erbaa, Tokat. However, I have been teaching Primary school students, too. So, the quarantine days have been a little bit busy, trying to help my students be on track. Besides, I'm trying to read some books that I have ignored on school days; attending webinars and playing with my seven months old son :) I hope, everything will be fine soon. Thanks for this lovely project.

## Sónia Mendes, Portugal

Hi everybody!



## Derin Melis Yurdakul from Istanbul, Turkey

*During these challenging and tricky times, I just realized something that I should've realized before: Alienation. Although we're all trying to stay safe at home with our families, actually, our mental health is not safe at all. Unlikely, we tend to use social media very harshly, that much that we don't even chat with our parents and siblings. This seems fateful, but it's actually not. It kind of feels like we're wrapped around quarantine's fingers. As far as I can tell, everything's getting hazy. Anxiety's starting to gnaw at us as we're able to feel lack of somethings inside our hearts nowadays. The more we try not to get stressed, the more concerned we get. If you ask me, I would say that quarantine initially made me feel like it was going to be better this way. Afterwards, I just realized how important real life was. Not only getting to know people but making friends, meeting.. They're my mates and my teachers that I genuinely feel the lack of. It's not digestible for my mental health. But through this diary project, at least we can open up and utter our best wishes for each other. I believe that we can pull through this if we become one and help each other! All we need to do is just not putting ourselves through another problem. We are what we have, and we have to do with what we have. Stay happy, and just believe that we're going to be alright by biting off more than we can chew though we're in a pickle now. Everything's just temporary, but your love is permanent. Best wishes...*

## Ayla Öztürk from Niğde, Turkey

Hello, I'm Ayla from Turkey. I am a primary school teacher. As the whole world, we are having hard times. We are all at home. The school continues at home. I am constantly in contact with my students. I always talk to their parents online. I send assignments and studies. I'm doing checks. I work harder. I want them to read books all the time. Besides, I help them to play fun games at home. I have different activities. I miss my students and healthy days. I hope we get together before the health days together

## Ayşegül ERTOSUN from Antalya, Turkey

Hello, I Aysegul from Turkey. I am a primary school teacher. I have students between the ages of 7 and 10. As the whole world, we have a hard time. We are all at home. The school continues at home. I keep in touch with my students. I always talk to my students and their parents. I send assignments and studies. I'm doing checks. I work harder. I always want them to read books, I make them feel like I'm always with them. I help them play fun games at home. I miss my students and healthy days. I hope we get together before the health days.

## Nursel Kayisoglu from Istanbul, Turkey

I am a high school teacher in Istanbul. I have recently come across with "Quarantine days" diary and it feels so good to read about colleagues' experiences and feelings around Europe and we share the same feelings for this pandemic, and we are not alone.

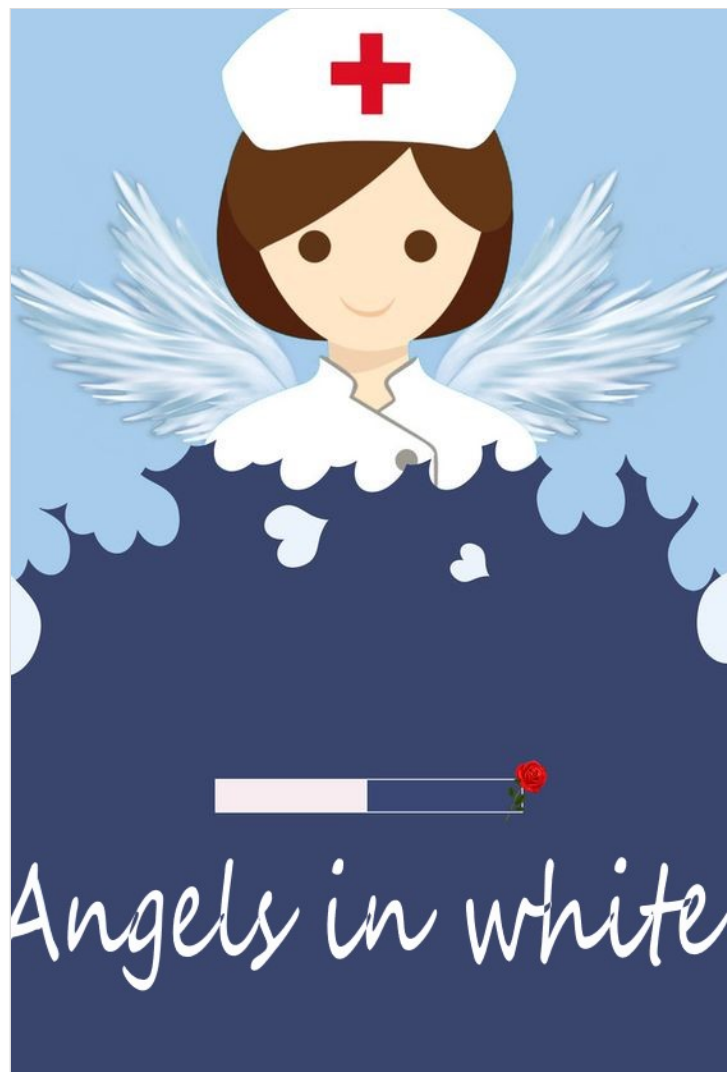
This period is unbelievable, it's been two months now that I am

home, and it has been rather difficult. I really miss school, my students and teacher friends and my daily routine and very simple things like drinking my coffee at my favorite cafe. I realized that how precious those little things and how precious is being healthy and with family. I really feel grateful for our doctors and nurses around the world as well. We are doing remote teaching as well but it is difficult as well. I just hope that things will get a bit normal soon... Greetings to you all.

## VALENTINA SOLOMON - Romania

I am a teacher from Romania. We adapt to the situation, and the traditional school has now become the online school. We try with the students to discover the positive parts of this period and we discuss together solutions in order to be able to get out of this pandemic well.

We are aware that social distancing is necessary. I can't help but bring a signal of gratitude to the entire medical staff around the world. That's why I did a project called: ANGELS IN WHITE!



## Deniz UĞUR/TURKEY

Hello everyone. I'm a Primary school teacher in a state school. I have a class, my pupils are from 7 to 10 old. As a teacher, I all the time could be in contact them and with their parents. To be in contact, really made us happy. Because it was hard time. I really missed my pupils eyes, voice, faces, talking about somethings..... I love all of them.

## Laurie, Italy

I am a native English speaker living in central Italy. In many ways I feel lucky that, having discovered eTwinning early in 2019, I was already familiar with many online tools and was using them in my teaching. So the move to 'didattica a distanza' has not been too traumatic. Also thanks to eTwinning, my class and I were halfway through a gardening project and I was able to send home some precious seeds along with their English books so that they could try planting at home.. with varying degrees of success! In fact, thanks to the lockdown, together we have discovered a love for gardening which is truly fantastic. But the lockdown brings sadness too.. I can sympathise with others here with families in different countries. My father in London turns 83 tomorrow and it is hard not knowing when we will meet again in person... a Zoom call is no replacement for being physically present.



*I share the same feeling Laurie, my mother is 82 and far from me.  
Be strong :-)* – SIMONA BERNABEI

*Simona: I share the same feeling Laurie, my mother is 82 and far  
from me. Be strong :-)* – ANONIMO

*Hope you see your father soon. Things are getting better, right?*

– MOJCA STERK

## Mónika, Hungary

I am a Primary School teacher, and I teach Italian language in Hungary.

I have a class, my pupils are 7/8 years old. As a teacher, I can be in contact them with their parents' help. Fortunately they really help me. But, I miss to be together in our classroom, and I miss to see their eyes, their faces, where I find an answer to my question, without asking - they understand what I try to explain them, they find difficult or easy what we are learnig, they find it interesting? I try to imagine them when I prepare a video, I talk about our school adventures, and I just hope to make easier them what I also find difficult in this period. Hope, it is possible. Fortunately we can meet online sometimes, and we can talk. As a person, I like to feel me close to my family and friends. My family live in three different countries, so you can imagine, it is not so easy... the best moments are when I talk with my family and friends. The best moments are the time we spend together.

## Mustafa Veli ŞAHİN Yalvaç / TURKEY

As the school principal, it was important to ensure that our teachers were moral despite all the difficulties during these pandemic days. It was also very important to lead and guide our teachers in online training. Because it was very important for our students to see their friends and teachers in the classroom, even in a virtual environment. We often had online meetings with our teachers. We had online meetings with student parents. It was necessary to ensure coordination between teachers - students at school. Although the pandemic collapses into the world like a nightmare, we are; We should never lose hope of tomorrow with our teachers and students. I believe that tomorrow will be much more beautiful. Wishing you a happy and healthy future.

## Filiz Aslan- Manisa Turkey

Hello, I am Filiz from Turkiye. To be a teacher means everything to me. So to be at home , not to see my pupils and not to be able to smell and feel the school really make me blue. I really love literature, taking photos and writing something. I have been keeping diary since I was born I think:) This project is really impressive and so creative...It gives me hope and peace..

## Alberto, Freixo/Portugal

Hello everyone! In these very difficult times in CORONAVIRUS, I refuse to be stressed and stress my students. I talk to them and provide them with small fitness maintenance tasks. Outside the virtual school, I take care of the house maintenance, ride my bike and keep myself safe. I wish you all good health and better days very soon. We are all in the same boat. Stay safe.



## Fatma,Bursa/Turkey

Ben özel eğitim meslek okulunda öğretmenim. Bu süreç çok farklı. Ama bu süreçte e.twinning'te olduğum için mutluyum ...



## Chara, Greece

Hello! My name is Chara (it means joy)! I am a primary school teacher in Greece. I have 3 children. I love travels, music and nature. I'm a teacher and the head master of my primary school. We do many things at our school and programmes for our pupils to know other cultures and accept each other's differences, and we have a love for environment.

We are still at home. We have missed so much our pupils through quarantine, although distant learning. Hope we are all courageous, creative and stay safe. It is so nice that we can support and learn from each other here.

<https://padlet.com/mamoxara/f0tamkmbthb6xqav>

## BusraBakar, TED Samsun, Turkey

Hello my dear colleagues

I am an English teacher at TED Samsun College. I have been teaching online these days, same like you. I try to encourage my students with different projects and short video calls. I've missed them very much. We did some activities together and now we are planning to make instant challenges. We did the brainstorming activity for it. Here are some activities we did;

<https://padlet.com/bsrbakar1/icd6l488ebynwruw>

<https://padlet.com/bsrbakar/2mfm8zljn4t0>

<https://padlet.com/bsrbakar/i2sz7s2yqdc>

<https://padlet.com/bsrbakar/fbxhjyhpov4ca1o>

<https://padlet.com/bsrbakar/95usumye8ts9lej5>

## Séverine, France

An example of diary for our pupils or students, but even teachers could do that!

(from Séverine, France and eTwinning project similar to this one: "Confinement confessions" on

<https://twinspace.etwinning.net/113377>)

## My isolation diary by severine.dumont on Genially

MY PERSONAL OPINION ON THE SOCIAL DISTANCING PERIOD, My self-portrait, My state of mind : COVID19 and I, The job I'd like to do, My artistic profile, Freedom, My studies, What I would have done if I could have gone out, Humour, My favourites, My secret object, Youtube and I, Table of contents, Author's name : Isolation diary, My state of mind after several days

GENIALLY



## Emiliana Rufo, Italy

Hello! I'm Emiliana.

I teach **English as a Foreign Language** in a Secondary School in Rome.

I've been teaching English for 16 years.

I'm specialized in developing **ICT** in the classroom. I like learning new things, I think **life-long learning** is the aim of a good teacher.

I like trying new methods to make my lessons interactive and I believe this digital period forces us to keep up with technological progress and I want to be at the forefront.

I am also **eTwinning Ambassador**. I'm so proud. I love my subject, my job and my students.

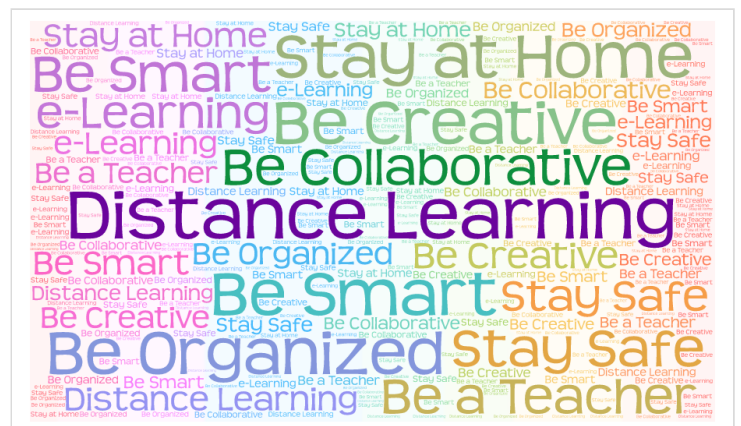
My **personal website**: <https://emilianarufo.wordpress.com/>

In this period of Quarantine I have tried to do my best for my students by using anything I know and I have studied about new methodologies and approaches, innovation technology, apps and softwares.

I haven't found any difficulties in creating lessons for my students because I am a Flipped Teacher and I have most of my lessons already organized in my **Repository of Materials**:

<https://www.pearltrees.com/emilianarufo>

I had some time for my **family** and my **hobbies** (cooking, gardening) but the most of the time I'm staying in front of a computer screen, **creating, writing, videorecording, HOPING** that it would be good and sufficient for my students to learn at home.



## News from France

We won't go back to our vocational high-school till June 2nd...

I'm still working on the eTwinning platform for different projects







## Sonia from TUNISIA

hello , I'm a secondary school teacher in my contry we have many difficult to collaborate with my pupils.this quarantine is very depressing for me . I spend my time reading watching t.v

*i feei the same things also. Let us be positive and we wil lbe wiser and healthy. – CHARIKLEIA MAMONA*

## Liliana from Italy

Hi everyone,

I'm a secondary school teacher in a stunningly beautiful town called Bologna, in the north of Italy. Like everybody else here I've been stuck at home for over two months now but I guess I shouldn't complaint as I'm still alive and kicking.

To be honest, I don't have much time to feel depressed as I'm working more than now from home than when I was in school. And there are positive sides too. All this emergency remote teaching, with all its faults and fallacies, has brought me nevertheless closer to my students and them to me (some of them anyway).

The 4th of May is drawing closer and for a lot of us here this means a tiny little piece of freedom regained: a few shops and commercial activities will reopen and we citizens will have a chance to go for strolls and see our relatives again. I know, it's not much but it's a start and we'll take it from here.

Stay home. Stay safe. Stay strong.

But above all,

Smile without a reason why....

*You have expressed everything very well. – VOILA*

## Martina Busse - Germany

It is nice to read, that we all seem to have similar challenges to deal with. The technology has already been there for a while but relying on it 100 per cent is something completely different.

Some students keep up the their work and enjoy the new ways, other are slowing down more and more.

I live in a small town with lots of green space around us and spring has been lovely so far.

We have started teaching some students who are about to take their final exams. Still I hope we can return to a more normal school life soon!



*HELLO! I am CHARA from Greece ! I llove Bologna! I was there in October with two of my friends for the first time ! We had a lovely t;ime! we fell in love with Bologna! feei the same things also. Let us be positive and we wil be wiser and healthy.*

*– CHARIKLEIA MAMONA*

## Hello from Naples -Italy!

This quarantine is very depressing but as a teacher I feel the duty to be positive for my students. WE've videolessons and it's very important for me to show themfirst my best smile.

for the rest of the day I spend my time networking ( but not too much), reading, and managing my husband :)!

## Gabriela - Senec, Slovensko

Ahojte, píšem vám zo Slovenska, srdca Európy. Pracujem na základnej škole ako asistent učiteľa pre deti so zameraním na výchovu a vzdelávanie. Škola sa u nás zavrela 8. marca. Odpočívajte v online svete, vidíte sa cez počítačový počítač, mobilov. S každýmými sa len počujeme. Chôdza bežného školského ruchu ráno pred začatím vyučovania, cez prestávky, úsmevy detí, kolegov. Všetci čakáme, že sa už skončíme a znova sa uvidíme naživo. Vaše deti teraz trávia tak, aby boli psíkom, veľa háčkujem a očakávali sa myslieť.

SPOLU TO ZVLÁDNEME!

**Hello everyone..I am Rima from Jordan..I study pre-school materials .. My 12 years of teaching experience .. With this difficult circumstances I find that I got a valuable opportunity for training and qualification of what may raise my level ... During school time we find it difficult to Access to courses, seminars and meetings as a result of the constant work pressure ... Why do not we make these times an investment for ourselves until we learn what is new and useful ... You must from this moment start .... Be strong to present to yourself, your students and your community what is useful ...**

## **Hello from France!**

I'm Séverine, an English teacher in a French vocational high-school near Dijon, in Burgundy, but also mother of 2 children, aged 8 and 11.

In quarantine, we had first to organise ourselves, (while their dad is still working): classes for the 3 of us, connecting all the time; then breaks for all of us (inside and outside activities: games; creative activities; a one-hour outing; etc...)

Now we are on "holiday" till May 4th, yet confined...same organisation without homework!

My children are lucky since we live in a house, at the countryside, aren't they? They've understood and respect the "Saty at home" message, as well as the "Wash your hands" one.

We are expected to go back to school on May 11th, but are doubtful about it...Wait and see!

Take care!



**RESTEZ CHEZ VOUS**

di NORMAN FAIT DES VIDÉOS

YOUTUBE

## **Alessia Ruggeri-Italy**

Hi everybody! I'm from the north of Italy and unfortunately our days are always the same. In the morning we've videolessons with our classes (2-3-4 hours-45 minutes each); in the afternoon

I follow some webinars about different topics such as: new strategies to lead an e-lesson, how to change our methods of evaluation, new tools to use with our students. I even have to manage my three children (above all the last one 5 yrs), I cook but fortunately my husband supports me with the management of the family and the house. I hope to put in action next schoolyear all these activities I'm learning now but dulcis in fundo I wish this hard moment will finish very soon. Bye bye!! I would like to share with you a video about Earth, because the day before yesterday was Earth day!! Good vision!!

## **Claudia - Italy**

My name is Claudia and I teach English in a small village near Rimini. My precious Erasmus projects are frozen at the moment, selections as well and I feel quite frustrated and sad. But I'm trying hard to stay emotionally strong. The digital lessons were thrilling at the beginning, becoming a little bit tougher afterwards, but I do realize we don't have any alternative at the moment.

I think our future society will deeply change from a society based on economics to one based on biology.

Take care, stay strong!

Claudia

## **Antonella Sellia - Italy**

Hello everyone!

I'm learning a lot during this quarantine and, in a certain sense, I'm having fun too. As a teacher I'm using more web tools and trying to be more creative in my job. As a mother I'm enjoying this time at home with my children. My son is 10 and he loves drawing comics, so I'm learning with him how to do that. We often play domino, board games (which had been for years on shelves) or cards. My daughter is 15 and she used to stay isolated in her room all day. Now she sometimes interrupts her isolation to give me her precious advice about how to keep fit at home. She has become my personal trainer ; ) and she is really strict with me! I'm reading a lot and listening to music. Recently I've shared a song with my students. It's about dreaming and it makes me feel more positive about the future. Here it is... It's for you all. Wishing you a million dreams. Bye!

## **Chiara Felici, teacher trainee - Italy**

Hi everyone! I'm Chiara from Cortona, Tuscany. I'm a student teacher and I study Primary Education Sciences at the University of Florence. I am also doing my training in a primary school in Cortona.

During these quarantine days I spend my time studying, networking, cooking, watching TV series. As a trainee teacher I'm trying many tools (like Powtoone, Power Point etc.) to make videos for my pupils (here you can see a photo of me while I'm recording a video for them) and to continue our eTwinning project about bees.

The first period of quarantine I felt depressed: so many worries about my training because of school closed and other bad thoughts. Now I got used to this new period: I try to continue



my activities and I try to develop my competences as a future teacher, also through eTwinning platform and this amazing project.

Many greetings



## The effects of quarantine for trainee teachers - England.

Hello,

My name is Ellyse and I am currently a trainee teacher in Greater Manchester, England.

The whole quarantine situation has been very stressful for trainee teachers as many of us are worried about how we will cope in September (the start of the academic year) due to lack of experience.

My University have provided us with work to do which will contribute as evidence towards our QTS (teaching qualification). However, this is not as useful as being in the classroom and is very time consuming.

Also, I am creating lessons to teach on google classroom for the department which I will work for next year. This has been a great experience and it is nice to be occupied during this difficult time as not many people have this luxury. The lessons consist of quizlet, activities on a powerpoint and weekly speaking routines. Unfortunately, not many pupils are engaging with this work, particularly in Key Stage 3 (11-14).

In my free time, I make sure to do exercise every morning, go for a long walk with my dog and I also like to do courses on Professional Development. This, along with the support from my mentor, helps to get rid of my worries for September. I also find that doing a workout and getting some fresh air in the morning always helps me to start my day positively.

*I am a teacher of English at a high school in Germany also using padlet in my online classroom. Can you imagine joining one of my collaborative padlet walls .... having a young native among us would be fantastic! – MARTINA BUSSE*

*Hello Ellsy, – MARTINA BUSSE*

*I forgot to enter with my account, I'm Chiara :-)* – CHIARA FELICI

*Hi Ellyse! I'm a trainee teacher too! I'm from Tuscany, Italy. I understand your worries, are the same for me. Greetings*

– ANONIMO

## Developing creativity

Answering your questions I would like to explain how I am trying to keep emotionally fine doing new things that can help me with my students and also with myself.

I have always liked photography but never had the time so I thought of having a look to all the photos I had and used an App (Photo Lab), and the result encouraged me to find a motivation to create a new scenery. Maybe you have also tried, would you like to share with me??

Isabel Parra (Almeria, Spain)

Photograph: Cabo de Gata (Almeria)



## Natascia Pica- Frosinone -Italia

Grazie Laura per avere creato questo PADLET. In questo momento sento che l'unica cosa sia aspettare e tranquillizzare i nostri bambini e le loro famiglie. Pazienza è la parola giusta. Intanto continuare con la didattica a distanza e avere cura di coinvolgere i bambini con attività stimolanti e coinvolgenti e farli sentire importanti e bravissimi come sempre. Si fidano di noi e incoraggiamoli nelle attività che fanno e nelle parole che dicono!!



## Kadir- Istanbul- Turkey

Thank you for accepting me this project, Dear Laura. I have been staying at home for about a month earlier. I'm so bored at home indeed. Until this time, I did very good things at home, for example I learned to cook while my wife was at work. Thanks to the zoom program, I have been giving classes to our students with distance education method. The lessons are very enjoyable, I have been assigning homework and I can easily check. I have finished nearly twenty books, many series and movies. My wife is a veterinarian, so she has to work for the pets and street animals. I'm sure the world and science will find a remedy for this virus soon. Because, in this way, there is no possibility to maintain our lives. A beautiful summer is coming up for us. There are very few days when we can get rid of this nightmare.

## Semiha- TÜRKİYE

.....Çok uzak ve çok yakın kısacası çevremizle ızalasyonlu bugünlerde önceliklerimiz ve önemlilerimiz kurtaracak yalnızlıktan bizi ...Paylaşmadığın her duygu esirdir sana vermediğin değeri beklemek bencillik zor günlerde paylaşın sevginizi çocuklarımız değerlilerimiz çok özlendiniz. Sıcak bir bahar gezisi ve ele ele tutuşup yokuş aşağı koşmak gibi hayallerimizdesiniz.Evden eğitim sürecinde sizinle olan tüm öğretmen ve değerli velilerimizi kutluyorum. Bir idareci olarak boş okulu açmak kadar kötü bir görevim var şimdilik . Bu okul sızsiz bir anlamsız...

## Adriana - Albania

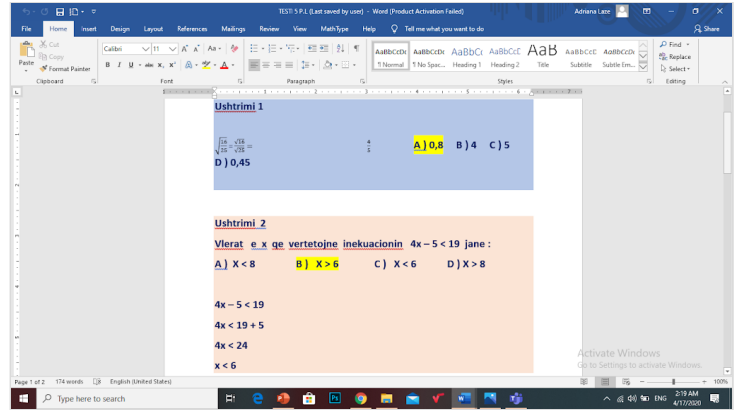
Thank you for the invitation on this project dear Laura , because I was thinking about a project like this.

In the 37 - th day of quarantine It is 2 : 09 in the morning 17 April.

Every day I stay later on the night working for students, making video , planning for tomorrow lessons on Google Classroom, asking for the best way to connect online with my students . I am trying to use Zoom , but it is difficult especially for the sixth grade students . Also I am trying to engage them by using Kahoot , mentimeter , Google form or formative and summative assessment. But I am attending different webinars and online meting in different platforms to learn about remote teaching . This as a teacher .

As a person I am not doing so much because remote teaching takes much more times . I need to make make my make up as every day when I went to school . I start my day by sending messages to my sister brothers and nieces that leaves around the Europe . It seems a dream to be again FREE

In the screenshot below I am showing you I am working preparing a video for my students at ninth grade , preparing them for their final exam



## Bahar - Turkey

It is really hard to believe all of these are happening. I feel like I'm in a science fiction movie... I try to convince myself that everthing will be okay soon. I work harder than before. I attend online courses and spen more time on etwinning platforms. I am trying to relieve my students with online materials. And I pray each day for this nightmare to end soon. And when it is over, I hope people will understand the value of living in peace. The most important thing is health...

*I agree with you, I had the same feeling of taking part in a science fiction film, but as always facts get over fiction. – ISABEL PARRA*

## Antonia Giulia Tangari - Italy

I like the idea of the bubble...i feel like being in it..I'm at home protected in my nest, in my shelter with my family, my kids..time is passing and I am starting to get used to this new way of living..making a lesson online, helping my kids with virtual classes, cooking at home all the time. At first it was so strange I missed so much going out, drinking cappuccino, not seeing my friends in person. Now i always use videocall to be in touch with my friends, my colleagues and thanks to etwinning and this project I spend a part of my time in a very pleasent way.



## Day 42. Simone-Italy

Are we going to "get used" to all this? That has been my recurrent question in the last few days. I was impressed by "things going on". People started to behave following new given instructions, we all did it, and now we go to our virtual classes every morning, we meet our students, then we manage our lives waiting for something, a sort of universal healing.

A couple of hours ago that feeling of waiting has been shaken suddenly. This Virus took one of my favourite writers, Luis Sepúlveda, a terrific teller of the consequences of man's behaviour in the world. I find quite difficult to realize and accept that, while I live in my parallel universe, out there many people are struggling against something bigger than boredom or the need to feel free.

If it is difficult to me I can only image how difficult it must be for my students.

## Elena - Italy

I share the idea of the bubble... Time is "suspended" both for us and for people we're used to dealing with.

As a teacher I try to keep in touch with my students (18 years old), listen to them, their fears, hopes, doubts...

As a person, I try to keep in touch with relatives, friends, colleagues: we're physically separated, but not emotionally... and I keep on dreaming about what I will do in the future ... where Europe, eTwinning and Erasmus have a very important place!



## Sanaa Altamimi/Jordan

I am Sanaa from Jordan and I have been teaching English language for primary stages for about 16 years. My life has changed dramatically like many people in the whole world since the pandemic of Corona Virus has begun. It was a strange feeling to witness this change in our life .I still remember when we were watching the news about a new virus spreading gradually in china and some countries. We sympathized with

those countries and felt sorry about them. Though, we didn't expect that we will be part of the scene.

Weeks later, the Jordanian government announced the lock down and home quarantine in the whole country. At the beginning, I imagined that we will stay at homes for some days before returning back to school and our daily life routine .

Since the 15<sup>th</sup> of March till this moment I have been following -up on the latest news about the numbers of infected people in my country and the world. Numbers were rising slowly. To observe the whole world's life changing is like a nightmare or like a horror movie. All the institutions and stores in Jordan were locked completely. I realized then that this way of life may cause me and my family health troubles and depression. And I recognized how beautiful our simple life was before Corona and how many possibilities of happiness and peace we were gifted by the creator.

My family and I are committed to staying at home and taking the warnings by doctors seriously .For about two and half months I went out for shopping just for four or five times to purchase the necessities like: medicine and food. No fast food any more. I prepare the deserts and meals at home with my family. We are getting used to this new life style more and more. The first two weeks of quarantine were so hard but the restrictions have been reduced because the health conditions are somewhat stable. Nowadays, we ought to take extra precautions when we go out like: wearing a mask, using hygiene all time and wearing gloves. Because of that, I feel hesitated to take a decision to go out.

I can say that I am so lucky to live in a village in these difficult times .The trees, the flowers and the blue sky ease my boredom and make me feel relax. From my home, I am teaching my students through Whatsup , video calls ,Zoom and Microsoft teams. I get stressed sometimes but I have to find some way to solve students problems because some of them complain of weak internet connection or lack mobiles and devices. So, I have to help students taking into account their status and living conditions . The minister of education announced that learning in this critical stage of time should concentrate on the gaining knowledge more than the grades. In order to be in touch with my students to support their learning, I joined some of them in contests of drawing, singing, and reading side by side with participating in the etwinning projects.

Indeed, I don't hide my belonging to many small details in my life before the quarantine .I miss my friends, my relatives and our companionship for shopping, touching anything any time without fear, getting on taxis or buses and shaking hands and hugging the people whom I love .Despite its bad side, the quarantine also has a appositive side. Now, I have more time to sit with mum and my family and more time to take Care of myself. The routine of my life has changed but I have extra time to sleep and relax. I can do many things every day any time more than any time before as: walking and sitting in my house garden, cooking delicious recipes, playing with my nephews and making charities for people in need. The funniest thing is that I am getting to know my colleagues better than before. We exchange ideas about our students and our fears as well as discussing many issues that we couldn't find time to talk about in atypical workday.

In fact, I am optimistic towards the future. I am sure that we can defeat this mysterious enemy which is Corona. I feel like

it is my responsible to make my students feel positive so I continued implementing my projects activities through technology .I have to be positive and optimistic to make my family feel happy too .Being a member in the entwining is Avery great and useful step have been taken . I have learned about using many tools digital and no digital which helped me to contact with my students and communicate with people all over the world and exchange knowledge. Currently, I am preparing for lecture for the parents of students about internet safety and other issues. Some of my students have more time to practice their hobbies. Briefly, I can say that right now I can teach my students without that stress associated my work in the school time.

Last but not least, I discovered that this life could be lived in different ways .It just needs some patience, motivation and hope. In my opinion, there will be good solid communities' relationships. Many people may be more tolerant and peaceful after the quarantine and the social distancing end. I hope my vision come true.



## Leticia Gil from Spain

The situation is uncertain. No one expected us to have to move to such a comprehensive distance education. In my case, I am a teacher of Early Childhood Education and I am trying to have the greatest contact with my students so that, especially, they are happy at home but also so that they do not lose their habits and routines acquired in the previous two years of Early

Childhood Education. So far they're doing well. They're champions.

*I would like to share something with you, I hope you like it*  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PC\\_NxAhTlZc&list=PL8S8EUbs69xK5gr2N12d8qnHpcNZQTTQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PC_NxAhTlZc&list=PL8S8EUbs69xK5gr2N12d8qnHpcNZQTTQ)  
6 – ISABEL PARRA

## Laura - Italy

I like the bubble as a wallpaper because that's how I feel: being in a bubble. Let's say, a lucky bubble, with my husband, me and my kid being safe. As a teacher, more than with tools I'm actually struggling in the effort to keep in touch with my students, to keep them involved and motivated, to keep on the same wavelength with them.

As a person, I try to focus on myself and my loved ones, I spend lots of time talking, writing and taking care of my pets and tiny garden. I don't know why, in this quarantine I have a need to take care of everybody and everything I can.

The worst thing of it all is that I can't sleep well at night, which makes me feel strange during the day...



*The same situation for me dear Laura . Last night I slept at 4 : 30 in the morning . Now is 2 : 30 in the morning and I do not know wich time I will go to bed .* – ADRIANA LAZE

*thank you guys. I think most of us share this same feeling of unesiness and... difficult to explain... brain always on the "on" mode.* – LAURA MAFFEI

*I know how you feel* – ANONIMO

\*\*\*\*\*