



THE E-K Press NEWS



eTwinning Project - European partners news

December, 2015

A new Star Project has started

About the project E-K Press

Cultural diversity is a fact that is becoming increasingly manifest in our contemporary European societies. While it undeniably brings about advantages it also brings up a number of questions. Trying to remain pragmatic we wonder what could be done, to lessen social divisions and ensure a more harmonious co-existence, which would in turn strengthen social cohesion.

Through this project we endeavor to create a "journalistic kaleidoscope" highlighting cultural variety. As true reporters, photographers, writers, programmers, students revisit their own culture in some of its most important aspects: traditions, folk art, cuisine, cultural personalities and also discovered each partner country's culture.

The main objective of the project is awareness among students and all involved, acquiring the understanding of how to combine being both national and European citizens. Thanks to the project, participants mainly students will be familiarized with the rich diversity of European cultures. They also will improve their understanding and respect of the students from different ethnic groups.

Christmas around Europe
special edition of newspaper
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THE PROJECT LOGO



**Interview with Jean Paul Sánchez, Spain,
EK-press Logo winner – page 2**

Some more specific objectives will be achieved during the project:

- The development of skills in order to achieve communicative competence in a foreign language, development of artistic skills and skills in the written press.
- Creating school newspapers will have a great influence on personality development of students. It will enrich their cultural horizons, give them self-confidence, facilitating the communication with the others, developing team spirit and team work skills, familiarizing them with modern technology/new literacies (computer) and helping them choose a further occupation.

E-K Press Project

eTwinning project - <https://live.etwinning.net/projects/project/117500>
or the former Comenius website project: www.e-kaleidoscope.com



Interview with Jean Paul Sánchez, EK-Press Logo winner



Jean Paul is a student at "Virgen del Espino", in Soria Spain. He study first course of Basic Informatics. He is sixteen years old. This is his first year at this school. And now we have the opportunity to know some things about him and his great job with the EK-press logo.

B- Hello Jean Paul.

JP- Hello .Beyelin

B- Do you know anything about etwinning projects before this year?

JP- No I did not. Neither I hear that name "etwinning" before.

B- What do you think about the experience of participating in a etwinning project ?

JP- I enjoy to much with it. It was entertainment and learned new things.

B- What did you feel when you found out that you had won the Logo competition of the etwinning project

ek-press?

JP- I felt so grateful. I understood that I made a good job and it was confirmed with the award. To know that my job was selected was a good time.

B- How did you get the idea?

JP- I wanted to show more than words. Something related to communication and expression. I wanted to show what is behind the newspapers, That is the reason of the "code numbers" on the background of the logo. There are to much information behind the newspapers and we received only a summary of it.

B- How much effort did you take to do the logo?

JP- In my opinion too much time, I spent 4 hours to do it.

B- What tool did you use to make the logo?

JP- GIMP. It is a free software to work with potos similar to Photoshop. You can download it from <http://www.gimp.org/>

B- What did you think about the rest of logos?

JP- In my opinion I saw some logos better than mine. There was a high level in this work.

B- Do you want to tell something to your etwinning fellows?

JP- I like the work they are uploading to our twinspace. I am learning too much things about their countries and costumes.

"English entertains and teaches"

A visit to the children's oncology ward in Chorzów - Poland - Gimnazjum nr 6 in Ruda Śląska –Silesia

The workshop "English for playing and learning" students of School No. 6 im W. Korfantego in Rudzie Śl. composed of Paulina Kasperczyk, Maciek Dziopa, Alexander Kęska with the carer Mrs Aneta Gierczak visited the pediatric oncology department in Chorzow. They made Christmas lesson in English, learned Christmas carols and together drew a Christmas tree and Santa. To the hospital they came with gifts: office supplies, games and smile and hope that you always need to have. Hearts sewn by the students of the first class, which children received made them great joy.

On the occasion of the upcoming Christmas we visited the children's oncology department in Zabrze. Children got us to different games, stationery and heart-shaped pillows sewn by our students from class 1c: Agnieszka, Zaneta, Angelica and Marysia. Together with the children sang songs, learned English through play, drew. Time spent on cancer ward showed us that we should not give up, you have to enjoy every day because you never know what tomorrow will bring.



A typical Slovenian family

In this text I am going to write about how families in Slovenia live and what is the typical Slovenian family.

Slovenian families are very similar to families in Britain, because in both countries in a typical family home there are two parents and one or two children. But I have to say that Slovenia is still a little bit old-fashioned and

traditional because it's not very often here, like in Britain, that a child lives in a single – parent family or in a family with a step-parent and step-sisters and brothers. Most of the people in Slovenia live in houses with a big garden. In our capital city – Ljubljana and in our second biggest city in Slovenia – Maribor there are also a lot of people that live in flats.

Because Slovenia is not a country of opportunities a lot of young people leave to other countries to go to university and get a job. Because of that they live a long way from their parents, sisters, brothers, grandparents, uncles and aunts. They leave home when they are eighteen so they can go to university to another country or when they have a young family and they move to another country to get a job. When young people go to university they normally live

in a flat, in dorms or they share a house with some friends.

In Slovenia it is very often that grandparents live in the same house as their children with families. Not a lot of old people in our country live alone in their houses and apartments. Some live in an old people's home. Most families in Slovenia have got a pet. So this is something about families in Slovenia.

by Taja Berič, 8.a



Christmas around Europe

ST. NICOLAS' BIOGRAPHY

St. Nicholas lived in the fourth century. From his youth he was marked by great sensitivity to the material and spiritual needs of others. He joined the priesthood, he was the bishop of Myra (Asia Minor). He is a model of kindness and concern for fellow human beings, as well as ingenious mercy and goodness. He is the patron saint of sailors, bakers, prisoners, merchants and especially children. His body rests in Baria (Southern Italy). Each of us should be a contemporary **ST. NICOLAS**, not only on December 6 but throughout the whole year. **Nowadays** St. Nicholas is dressed in a red coat and he carries a huge sack with presents and gives them to children. In Poland St. Nicolas visits children on 6 December and on 24 December. On 6 December St. Nicolas leaves presents for children under their beds, on the window sill or in different other places. On 24 December St. Nicolas leaves presents under the Christmas Tree and children open the presents after Christmas Eve dinner.

By Bartłozmiej and Franek

Christmas Eve Dinner

Christmas Eve Dinner is an old Polish tradition. On the Christmas table there are 12 dishes. Why? Because there are 12 months in a year. A free place is left for an unexpected guest. The other tradition is decorating a Christmas tree. It was brought to Poland from Germany. We hang glass baubles and colorful chains. We decorate the Christmas tree before the Christmas Eve dinner. The first star symbolizes the Star of Bethlehem and when it appears on the sky we sit down to the special dinner. We share wafer and wish each other kindness, love, reconciliation and friendship. After the Christmas Eve dinner we open presents that Santa Claus or St. Nicolas has left under the Christmas tree.

By Karolina and Wiktoria



Christmas In Our Families

In Polish families Christmas Eve begins when the first star appears in the sky. On the table there is a lot of food: boiled wheat with poppy seeds and honey, the borsch with ravioli and the carp. In our families we always leave an empty plate for the unexpected guest. We also put hay under the tablecloth.

By Janek and Oskar

In my family we celebrate Christmas by having Christmas Eve, decorating Christmas tree, sharing wafer. In others houses in Poland there are mostly 12 dishes but in my house we only choose our favorites like fish, red beetroot soup, small dumplings. Me and my mom decorate Christmas tree. While we celebrate Christmas Eve we share wafer. And after that we open presents. Christmas in my family is a magic time full of happiness.

By Przemek

We usually spend Christmas Eve at my grandmum's. This is the time, when everybody is at home. We have a special dinner. On the table there are such dishes as: small dumplings, dumplings with mushrooms, carp, kutia and red beet soup. My favourite dishes are small dumplings and red beet soup. We always share the Christmas wafer and we try all the dishes. The most I like the moment when everybody opens presents. We find presents under the Christmas tree and open them after the dinner.

By Wiktoria

CHRISTMAS IN CALABRIA (Italy)

Christmas is an important festival in Italy. It's a magical time for everybody : adults and children . Schools are closed for two weeks.

In our country you can find decorations and lights in the shops and along the streets. Also our houses are full of Christmas decorations. Each family has got the Christmas Tree and the Crib.

Corso Numistrano in Lamezia Terme



The Crib



At school we learn lovely Christmas songs and if you are lucky you can meet carol singers and Bagpipers in the streets.

On Christmas Eve, on 24th December, we have a huge dinner with our relatives and at midnight we open our Christmas presents .

In our region , Calabria , there are the same traditions than in the rest of the country but not for the food.

A Christmas Eve dinner usually includes thirteen dishes, and it is always centered around seafood.

Our mums are busy making grispelle, fried leavened dough with potatoes and pignolata, a typical sweet made from small balls of fried dough and covered with honey and dusted with multi-colored candy sprinkles.



Of course panettone is also on our table !

By Vittoria Cianci and Elena Cittadino.

Italy



CHRISTMAS IN LAMEZIA TERME

Along Corso Giovanni Nicotera and Corso Numistrano will be set up the "Christmas Market", organized by the associations "Donne e futuro" and " Fratello Sole".

The stands will be full of ideas for our presents. Handicrafts, the genuine products of the earth, decoupage, candles, dollies, baskets and jams of all kinds: simple gifts, respecting our traditions.

The sale of various items and food is at the basis of local charitable non-profit organizations, to help ethnic groups living in the city with acute problems of integration.

The stands, visited in the frame of San Domenico's cloister, are accessible on Saturdays from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. and on Sundays from 9:30 to 1:00 and from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. The initiative seeks to combine for years solidarity with the tradition and culture of the area. There are different stands: those of organic food, with bread made with yeast, natural honey, books of land, traditional music, antiques, jewelry, pillows against neckaches of barley husk to sweets. In the same days creative workshops are open to the public.

by Maria Chiara Torcasio



The Nativity

The handcraft crib

The crib is a representation of the birth of Jesus, from medieval tradition. The traditional crib includes: the cave or the hut, the manger where baby Jesus is placed, the couple Mary and Joseph, the Three Wise Men, shepherds, sheep and lambs, the ox and the donkey, the angels of the Gloria in excelsis Deo. The figurine of Baby Jesus is placed in the manger at midnight on December 25th, while the figures of the Three Wise Man are put to worship Jesus on the Epiphany.

Avellino is the annual exhibition of the finest handcraft cribs from around the world, last year this exhibition was held in Lamezia Terme.

A live nativity scene

There is also another form of crib: a live nativity scene, where real people act. The nativity scene is a theatrical representation of Jesus' birth. The first nativity scene in history was the work of St. Francis of Assisi, in the village of Greccio, near Rieti, in 1223.

Now, entire cities and villages are organizing the live nativity set and the main protagonists are the local residents.



The nativity scene is an opportunity to show ancient crafts that are now endangered. In Lamezia people make many cribs from original materials such as pasta, paper, clay and more. Even in our school there is a really nice crib.

by Olena Polishchuk



Romania

Christmas around Europe



Romanian customs



Probably the best part of a Romanian Christmas is the laborious, magical suite of carols that can be heard all over the country during this wonderful time of the year, from the paths of the most remote villages to the classiest venues in the capital. Often accompanied by wishes for health, prosperity and fulfillment, Romanian carols are far from being just simple Christmas songs. They usually come together with rituals, special costumes, tools and even short theatrical performances, generating a genuine spectacle.

Children go caroling in the villages or towns on Christmas Eve. They make a star (called "Steaua") out of shiny paper and wood, and attach it to a broomstick for the leader of your group to carry. Hang bells and ribbons on it, along with a picture of the Holy Nativity.

The family and friends celebrate Christmas together around the pine tree where they find presents. Together enjoy the holiday meal. The traditional Christmas dessert is called "cozonac." This rich fruit bread requires a long Preparation time that begins early on the morning of Christmas Eve.

Other Christmas traditions and customs in Romania: waiting the arrival of Santa Claus with its bag full of gifts, a practice that takes place on Christmas Eve; the decorating of each city with millions of glowing lights and of course, the charming Christmas Markets sprinkled all over the country.



By Daria Nedelcu, VI A

In Elementary school Nicolae Titulescu from Bucharest this time is very special: is Christmas time. All school is decorated with the students work, with Christmas trees in each classrooms and in the main hall. Everywhere you can see students singing carols. On the School Radio station we can hear also many traditional carols or international carols. The primary school have presented or will presented Christmas shows on the Festivity room. We will be on vacation for holidays until January 11. So, we want to tell to all our partners Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Christmas Traditions on the stage

Is Christmas time, is Caroling time! Our little first grade students have prepared a traditional Christmas show on December 12, in the festivity room. Parents and grandparents have attended to this event. The Christmas Romanian traditions were performed on the stage, just like in the villages of the north of country. They weared folk costumes and masks. Santa Claus was there for the little students.

by Cristiana, VI B



How I spent the Christmas



This year, the Christmas was interesting, but too hot! There were +16 degrees in the middle of the day.

So, after we got up and opened the presents, Mum, Dad and I went to Voinesti, at my cousins' grandparents. There, we went caroling and got nuts, apples and cake. We served the Christmas dinner and we talked a lot about school and our presents. The next day we went to the church and then we went for a short ride in the forest. When we returned at home we served a traditional food with meat, sarmale with polenta and cake. In the evening we came back in Bucharest and drank tea. It was a hot tea in a hot day. This Christmas was very nice! But we didn't have snow.

by Alexandra Zaman, V C



Crăciun Fericit!

Romanian team wish you
Happy New Year!

Spain



Spanish Team wish you:
¡Feliz Año Nuevo!

NEW YEAR EVE !!!

In Spain, the tradition of New Year's Eve is the most widespread of the twelve grapes. It consists of eating a grape that gives each chime clock from door Sol in Madrid, at 12 pm on December 31, before, of course, accompanied with a nice dinner at the family meeting. It is said that those who do not eat 12 grapes before the end of the chimes will have a year of bad luck. Each city of Spain has a special place to welcome the New Year. There, thousands of people gather in front of a centennial clock. After 12 strokes, and in the New Year, it is very common congratulate the year to all family dinner and call all those outside. For this reason, the phone lines are jammed for several minutes after the entry of the New Year. Then it toasts with champagne, wine or cider. Some entered a golden jewel in the crown, usually a partnership, to wish luck in the coming year. This event is broadcast live on television. The 12 bells are issued each year from the door Sol in Madrid. Eat a grape every three seconds, one for each chime. Previously, before the chimes, a metal ball downs the clock and sound four quarters.

by Miriam de Miguel Delgado

THE RIDE OF KINGS

The Ride of Kings is a typical parade float, in Spanish, where the Magi (Melchor, Gaspar and Baltazar) and its assistants launch candies to children who see them from the street. The Three Kings Parade is held every January 5 afternoon. At night the children should go to bed early the next morning and have the gifts of the Magi who have previously requested in a letter. According to tradition children who have behaved badly during the past year they receive coal candy.

By Rivaldo Joel Vilela Landa

THE CHRISTMAS TABLE

Christmas meals are usually quite heavy. Usually it begins with a tasting of various entrees and appetizers, which can be both hot and cold. Then come the first course, the second and, of course, dessert. You can try everything: seafood, fish, meats, roasts, soups, cold cuts ... prepared especially succulent way. Special mention sweets that fill the table colorful dessert time. Made with almonds, honey, sugar, chocolate and fruit, among other ingredients, they become an object of worship for gourmands. Other traditional desserts is marzipan, which is in the form of "figures", the cakes and shortbread. Finally, on January 6, the day of the Magi, smaller living the excitement of discovering their gifts, and the largest of a delicious King cake with a hot chocolate. You'll see, if you decide to come to enjoy Christmas in Spain, will thank you forever.

by Beyelin Jesús García

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day

Christmas dinner in Spain takes place every December 24. This dinner, on Christmas Day, is all a family ritual and is usually held in the homes of the Spaniards with the whole family.

Although the dishes vary according to each family and each area of Spain, one thing is always true: it is a very hearty dinner, where appetizers, main course, dessert and finally, a variety of sweets, including nougat there and marzipan. As for the starters, prawns and shrimp is a dish that is usually missing. The main course is usually some meat, from lamb to pork, and even turkey stuffing.

Furthermore, it is tradition that night the King of Spain issues a speech to all Spaniards, which is televised.

The day after Christmas dinner, that is, on December 25, is celebrated on Christmas Day. Although normal in Spain is giving gifts on Three Kings Day, it is increasingly common among many families to be delivered this day, which is representative figure of Father Christmas or Santa Claus by influence of Anglo-Saxon culture. Christmas Day is common to continue meetings and family meals, the most common being the famous Christmas dinner will be held at noon.

by Felix Barba Pelarda.



MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR. 2016



FELIZ NAVIDAD Y PROSPERO AÑOS NUEVO 2016

Vesel Božič



Slovenia

Decorating the school



*HAPPY NEW YEAR
from pupils and teachers
of Primary school Radenci*

Christmas Workshops for parents and pupils of first to fifth class



Charity

PUPILS:

Collecting toys for the families who can not afford to buy toys for their children.

TEACHERS:

Collecting food for the families in need in our region.

Celebrating Independence and Unity Day

Independence and Unity Day is a Slovenian national holiday that occurs on every 26 December to commemorate the official proclamation of the Slovenian independence referendum on 26 December 1990.



Christmas Traditions

Advent is the time of four weeks before Christmas. We make beautiful wreaths or we buy them. We find a nice location for them, usually on the dinner table. Every Sunday we light one candle. It is also the time when we think about our past and what we can do better in the future. Traditional cake – POTICA: This is a traditional Slovene Christmas cake.



Božiček – Santa Claus

Santa gives presents only to good children. He rewards children on 24 December. Santa drives sledge. He has reindeers. Santa has got a lot of Tom Thumbs which helps to him. He lives on the North Pole.

Dedek mraz – Grandfather Frost - He lives under Triglav. Arrives by sled with a harness.

