**CELEBRATION OF THE SCHOOL DAY OF NON-VIOLENCE AND PEACE IN SPAIN**

**Newsletter:**

Peace and tolerance are key values in our Erasmus+ Project “We are European, We are Equal.” They have particular importance at IES Guadalquivir in Spain as we work hard with pupils to help them resolve conflicts in their day-to-day lives. Learning to manage emotions and respecting the backgrounds and beliefs of other pupils are core values we try to instil in our pupils. For this reason, the celebration of the “School Day of Non-Violence and Peace” was chosen as a key international day by all the project partners who face similar challenges. 

On Wednesday 30th of January we started the celebrations by reading a collaborative Peace manifesto written by pupils from Greece, Italy and Spain. This manifesto highlighted the origins of the European Union and the peace we take for granted in our continent. Building on this, pupils completing their vocational course in our school prepared a board using textile material to symbolize peace. Furthermore, some pupils created art work based on the peace symbol. We even took part in a Peace race in which one of our pupils won the first place.   
  
On Thursday 31st of January, we held 3 different workshops offered by the local Town Hall and delivered by different local NGOs in relation to peace. The first one focused on cooperative games designed for first year pupils and delivered by the Barbiana Association. The second workshop, delivered to second year pupils by InterRed, introduced the idea of using games to bring people from different communities together. The third workshop explored conflict resolution delivered by ACPP to third and fourth years. The week ended with pupils writing letters with peace wishes to their school mates.

All these activities involved a whole school approach, raised awareness on the importance of Peace in Europe, and contributed to the growing sense of communal respect and tolerance in school. This celebration, held in the three partner schools, received very positive feedback from all participants and proved to be a key activity in our project.