

## Erasmus KA+ Project

### The five senses in the garden

#### Minutes of meeting: Blyth, U.K., January 18 -21, 2016

Attending: LLeida, Spain x 2; Las Palmas, Gran Canaria x3; Cologne, Germany x 2

Partners arrived to Newcastle during Monday 18<sup>th</sup>. January. Those available met for a planning meeting, over dinner, on the evening.

#### **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2016:**

1. Partners were collected from their hotel and transported to The Dales School.
2. Partners toured the school to meet staff and children whilst gaining an understanding of the facilities, including the garden.
3. Formal planning meeting:

The coordinator reminded all partners of the main objectives of the project and made it clear that minutes must be detailed, whilst concise. It was agreed that copies of presentations given would form a large part of the minutes, whether available as a 'hard copy' or by referring to 'twin space' on the Etwinning site.

#### LLeida

- a) presentation included a plan of the school garden. They have completed the task of creating a project logo which will be shared with all partners and can be added to school letterheads etc.
- b) Details, including photographs, of planting of the pear tree and discussion re the problems of planting into arid ground.
- c) Children are growing beans and guided by 'visual work plans' which have been created as part of the project.
- d) The greenhouse is in the process of being built.

#### Germany

- a) The school garden is progressing with the installation of tables, including those which are recycled 'bobbins'.
- b) A woodland area is being developed.
- c) TEACCH is being used in the garden including: visual timetables / symbols related to planned activities in the garden.
- d) Work has begun on poetry around The Garden: senses and seasons.
- e) They planted their pear tree on 03.12.2016

### Las Palmas

- a) We were shown photographs and given explanation regarding the creation of a sheltered seed bed.
- b) Seeds and 'plugs' were planted and tended through to harvesting of tomatoes, cucumbers etc.
- c) Planting of the pear tree has been delayed as it needs to be colder to allow growth. The school is, therefore, waiting for winter!!

### Blyth

- a) The U.K. presentation was given as we toured the school and during the session which followed. Partners were shown the areas to be used by children during the project including: The garden, sensory room, potting shed, school pond, an outside classroom and school yards.
- b) During a cruise holiday, the Chair of the Governing body of the school, visited Las Palmas. She joined the meeting to report on her visit to Las Palmas and join us with an activity making models of birds using recycled plastic bottles. Instructions to be posted on Twin Space.
- c) Pear trees in position and beginning to grow.

### **General Discussion / Planning during the period of the 'mobility'.**

The following issues were raised and decisions made:-

- a) Partners will design visual guides, in the style of visual timetables, to the stages of planting bulbs etc.
- b) Partners will collect materials to be used to make lanterns for use at Christmas.
- c) A booklet should be created to support children to investigate gardens. For example: leaves collected and laminated which children can then take to the garden to find growing in location and begin to find out about the plant. Solve a riddle – give the clue and find the plant.
- d) Plan and lights and arts exhibition which may include: wrapping trees in wool of different colours, hanging lanterns which the children have made in trees and around the garden etc
- e) It was agreed that we needed to make alterations to the work / time plan.
- f) We plan to work toward the theme of 'Scarecrows' for the spring time of 2017
- g) Another theme will be 'Insects, birds and animals'.

## **Planning**

Work to be done between this meeting which will be presented in Cologne in March 2016 will be:-

1. A presentation by Germany on the use of Etwinning.
2. Development of installation and use of the greenhouse and cold frames.
3. Reports re plants particular to partner countries.
4. Creation of Planting / Harvest plans.
5. Visual recipes using produce from the garden.

In addition to the above, partners were given the opportunity to share the cultural aspects of the north east of England by visiting Durham Cathedral, The Angel of the North, Durham City and Newcastle upon Tyne.