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Erasmus+



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# EDITORIAL

## YES! WE ARE ERASMUS+

Since 1987, year where the Erasmus programme was born, there have been different educational programmes and initiatives that have been developed so as to overcome some of the biggest challenges and needs that the different countries that belong to the EU have had to face. The improvement of social cohesion among members, the increase of employment figures of our young, the decrease of early school dropout rates and the compromise to develop educational programmes based on the quality and equity principles have been, without any doubt, the fundamental challenges and needs that have promoted and inspired the development of such programmes. The European Council and Parliament, aware of such needs, have designed a strategy of actions whose horizon is situated in 2002. A strategy that considers education and continuous training as the main core, able to have a positive impact on the needs and weaknesses mentioned before and overcome them in a real and effective way.

This roadmap, whose name is "Education and Training 2020" has among its main goals the increase of cooperation, exchange and mobility among students and teachers of all stages and educational and training variations that are included in the educational systems of the member countries. That is the reason why, between 2014-2020 the European Union has considerably financed the Erasmus+ programme. A cooperation and educational mobility programme that brings together the different European programmes developed so far, such as Leonardo, Comenius or Grundtvig, among others. And this is the context where Yes! is born, the European school magazine. An annual Erasmus Plus project that marks a new stage in the history of these schools from Italy, Poland, Romania, Turkey and Spain, being the latter the project coordinator.

There is a lot of effort behind, a lot of time looking for information where our students have become true reporters, full of interest and professionalism to transmit in a precise and accurate way information about their environment, their most important national days or the typical traditions from the country where they live. And the result is highly satisfactory. Both students and teachers who have taken part in the project have established a bond based on respect, diversity and mutual enrichment, feeling that each culture has a different way of living, feeling and acting that is no obstacle to live together in a globalised world as ours. Likewise, they have learnt that living among cultures is a highly positive experience and an excellent opportunity to achieve a multilingual educational project.

Finally, the process that has involved the first edition of YES Magazine includes a high number of ingredients that make it a powerful tool, a significant and competent project for the educational development of all the members that participate directly in it. We hope this is the first piece of an intense and long-term project.

SPANISH YES! WORKING TEAM



POLAND



TURKEY

# CULTURE AND SOCIETY AROUND US

## CULTURE AND TRADITIONS FROM TURKEY

### HOSPITALITY

The basic element of the Turkish hospitality is self-confidence. Turkish people feel themselves close to its best close. And they do their best. For Turks, human love is a high culture. Therefore only a measure of respect to the foreigner in the Turkish honor is high. The Turks feel a separate love against the guests from their homes so their first goal is to feed and comfort them. Then offering Turkish coffee is one of the important part of our culture



### THE TURKISH COFFEE

Turkish coffee is the only type of coffee among other coffee prepared by boiling . The first important element of the flavor is the quality of coffee . Next factor is the quality of the water is to be used . Never use tap water . Chlorine in tap water can spoil the taste of your coffee. Put in to coffee pot two teaspoons coffee for each cup and a cup of water . You can add sugar according to your desire at this stage. Healthier than white sugar, brown sugar, though Turkish coffee allows you to get a better foam Mix well on low heat coffee and sugar. Do not try to cook quickly over high heat .You will see that your foam is will be formed in a minute. Continue to take this foam cup boiling . The foam is taken again . Preferably 1 or 3 times Repeat this foam removal. Finally

put remaining coffee to cup and serve it with some Turkish delight or chocolate. Good appetite.



### TURKISH BATH

A Turkish bath starts with relaxation in a room (known as the warm room) that is heated by a continuous flow of hot, dry air, allowing the bather to perspire freely. Bathers may then move to an even hotter room (known as the hot room) before they wash in cold water. After performing a full body wash and receiving a massage bathers finally retire to the cooling-room for a period of relaxation. Before wedding ceremony bride and grooms friends were going to Turkish bath and have a relax. It was an old Turkish traditions. Now there are families go there.

### TRADITIONAL TURKISH WEDDING

Traditional Turkish wedding occurs from seeing the girl asking her from family promising, eating, sweet engagement ceremony henna night and wedding ceremony. Firstly the groom and his family, flower and chocolate goes to buy brides home and ask bride from her family. Then with the consent of families they promise and sweet is eaten. Later preparations begin and engagement ceremony is made. Some jewelry is bought. Photos are taken. Now it is time to henna night and wedding at henna night the friends

of bride gathers and dance and sing all together. At the end of night Henna is applied into the hands of the bride. At the wedding, Relatives and friends gather again convey goes around city with horns. Traditional dishes to the guests are served the guests. Jewelry is attached to the cake is eaten and ends happily.



## RAMADAN

Eid al-adha, Muslims fasting the month. Fasting begins with the break of the dawn and goes till sun is down. It means staying away from eating and drinking during the day. This doesn't mean being hungry. It is a kind of spiritual muslim worship. The fast starts an hour before dawn and finishes with the evening call to prayer. Ramadan is very important because Quran holy book of muslims was brought down a day in ramadan so this they is called the night of Qadr. Muslims go to mosques every night and pray God. At the end of fasting period. The feast of Ramadan begins it is a kind of candy feast. Everybody visits their elders neighbour relatives and kiss their hand. In this month Muslims are in have and happiness. Everybody give children Money and sugar. Poor people are helped and given feast. Ramadan is the sultan of eleven months.



## THE FEAST OF SACRIFICE

By muslims, according to the Hijri Calendar, the tenth of dhul-Hijjah for four days from the day of a celebrated religious holidays. On the tenth of dhu'l-hijjah, on the first and on the second day of 'Ayyam-l-nahr' (Cutting days), and the previous day, the ninth day of dhul-Hijjah called Eve. Eid al-adha, at the same time, the Islamic world, every

year, the hajj in Mecca, the time they exercise. Eid al-adha, the majority of the population in many countries, Muslim religious holidays as well as being a public holiday is declared. Ramadan with the religion of Islam, the two most important holidays.

The hijri calendar is a lunar calendar, which is solar-based gregorian calendar 11-12 days shorter. Therefore, every year, the Feast of Sacrifice 11-12 day is celebrated early. Approximately 33 years to a day on the same date corresponds to.



WRITTEN BY TURKISH STUDENTS

# CULTURE AND TRADITIONS FROM POLAND

## THE POLISH LEGENDS

Legends are very important in the life of all nations. Do you know our Polish legends? If no, please listen...



The first legend is about Lech, Czech and Rus. A long time ago there were three brothers, Lech Czech and Rus. They were the rulers of 3 different Slavic tribes. They lived in peace but suddenly...they started to suffer from the lack of food. They started an expedition to look for a new place to live. They were travelling day and night. The next day they arrived at the plains and Rus decided to establish his settlement here. In this place after many years Russia was founded. Czech and Lech with their tribes went further. Czech stayed in the high mountains. Later the new country, the Czech Republic, was established. Lech with his people went farther....He arrived at a beautiful land, full of trees and animals. Suddenly, the white eagle appeared above the heads of Lech's people. Here after many years the city of Gniezno was built. The city was later the first capital of Poland. Our homeland was established here and the white eagle became our national emblem.

By Krystian Skrzeczyński 3rd grade

## ST.ANDREW'S DAY IN POLAND

St. Andrew's Day in Poland is the day of fortune telling and magic. The holiday is also called "Jędrzejki" or „Jędrzejówki“. In Poland we organise St. Andrew's parties on the 29th of November in the evening. The people organise very fantastic funny parties with fortune telling.



In Scotland St. Andrew's Day is a national holiday because the patron saint of Scotland is St. Andrew. The Scots celebrate the day very noisily. Everyone has the day off. The people hang flags in the whole country and dance traditional dances.

### **THE HISTORY OF ST.ANDREW'S DAY**

We don't know when exactly the tradition was born. A long time ago the fortune tellings were organised separately for unmarried girls and young boys and they were treated very seriously. Later the common parties with fortune tellings were organised. Nowadays, St. Andrew's Day is a very funny, joyful party gathering for young people.

### **ST.ANDREW'S DAY IN OUR SCHOOL**

Before St. Andrew's evening we prepare magic, secret shows to introduce everyone in a special mysterious mood. The students change themselves into wizards and fairies, the outcomes are very mysterious and fanciful. We set up some tables for wizards and fairies and we decorate them. The students from classes 4,5 and 6 prepare many kinds of fortune tellings. Next, other students approach them and choose fortune tellings.



### **1.Fortune telling Draw the object**

We need a wedding ring and a rosary to tell the future. The other students choose one object with closed eyes. If the person chooses the rosary it means monastic status for her/his in the future and drawing the ring means a wedding in the future.

## 2. Fortune telling with shoes

Firstly we have to collect the left shoes of the young women or girls. We place them in a line from the wall to the door. The girl whose left shoe is the first behind the door will marry soon.

## 3. Fortune telling for boys – the magic heart

We need some pins and a paper in the shape of big heart with the names of the girls. Each boy puts a pin on the heart. The name he pins is the name of his future wife.

## 4. Fortune telling with wax.

The wax and the paper key are the things we need to predict the future. We pour some hot wax on cold water through the key. From the shape of the wax we can foretell who will be a girlfriend or boyfriend of the person.



Every year we have the fortune telling for our school. Can you believe that last year our head teacher Mrs. Teresa Kamińska foretold us that in 2015 we will travel a lot of times to other countries to represent our school and meet new fantastic people. This fortune telling came true !!!!

After shows and fortune telling we have the disco. We love funny and entertaining disco contests e.g. the contest with frisbees. In the contests we pass two frisbees in opposite directions. When the music stops, the students, who have frisbees, have to dance together. We have a lot of fun then! Another contest is dancing with the balloons tied to the feet. This student, who is dancing the longest time with the balloons is the winner of the contest.

We love St. Andrew's Day in our school. Do you

have such funny and magic holidays in your school? What is the St. Andrew's Day in your school, how do you organize it?

Unfortunately we have to say goodbye now but we hope that we will meet soon.

Kind regards from the students of Publiczna Szkoła Podstawowa im. Marii Konopnickiej w Olkovicach. Thank you !!!

By: Weronika Fottyn, Emilia Rąbkowska, Aleksandra Radecka, Klaudia Tulo, Zuzanna Majewska, 5th grade

## CHRISTMAS IN POLAND

Christmas is a time of magic, joy and beauty. In Poland Christmas is the most ceremonial holiday. The whole family takes part in the cultivation of tradition through e.g. the decoration of the Christmas tree. The tradition is from pagan times. It was the symbol of safety, prosperity, health and happiness. The tree should be decorated on Christmas Eve in the morning. When the first star is in the sky, after fasting all day, the whole family sits down to Christmas supper.

12 traditional dishes should be on the table:

- Pierogi
- dried fruit compote
- carp
- mushrooms
- red borsch with uszka
- herrings
- poppy seed cake



Before the supper we usually break a wafer with the family. It's a custom known only in Poland. Each person from the family is supposed to take a small part of the wafer from the second person, break the wafer with the second person as well wish the second person Merry Christmas.



Before preparing the table we should remember some things. We should leave one place at the table for a deceased person from the family or for the traveler.

After breaking the wafer we usually sing carols. The most popular are: „Silent night” and „Today in Bethlehem”. About midnight we go to a ceremonial holy mass and we also sing carols here. At night Santa Claus comes to the children and he puts presents for them under the Christmas Tree.



Also in our school a few days before Christmas we prepare a Nativity play on the history of the Jesus's birth.

Christmas holidays are very familiar, very full and very joyful. The holiday usually encourages us to reflection and remembrances.

By Karol Kisielewski and Jakub Kornafel,  
6th grade

## ALL SAINTS' DAY

*For those who passed away into unknown world  
The flame of the candle is swaying in the wind.  
Hurry up to love people they pass away so fast....*

The first of November in Poland is All Saints' Day. This day we remember our relatives who have died, in particular the dead from our families. The day before the feast we clean the tombs. In the morning we put the flowers on the tombs and burn the lights. While the candles are lit, we believe, we hope that one day the people from our families who passed away will come back to us. The view of the cemetery at night is very beautiful. The colorful leaves are falling down in the autumn evening sunshine, the candles are

glimmering in the dark and beautiful chrysanthemums are standing on the tombs. In the evening we often look at the beautiful decorations on the tombs. The evening stroll is often the opportunity to talk about stories from the past.

The tradition of our school is that every year before All Saints' Day we go to the nearest forest to tidy the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. We bring flowers and candles here and we pray some minutes at the tomb together. In such a situation we cannot behave badly. If we behave badly then it means we had a bad upbringing. We should behave really seriously.

A legend is connected with this unusual place. Would you like to hear it?

A long time ago, in the time of the Second World War, in this place, a young soldier was killed. We don't know what his name was, we only know that he was a very good and brave man. The legend says that he always carried a photo of his family and his house over his heart.

Next to this place the fern has grown up, the plant is very big and has big, beautiful, white flowers. From time to time the ghost of the dead soldier visits the place and cries ...



For generations we have visited the tombs of the dead people from our families. Since the Second World War 70 years have passed. It was 70 years of peace. We hope that never again will there be wars in Europe and in the rest of the world, people will be able to live in peace and children will be able to go to school every day.

By Ewelina Wasiak, Kinga Jaskólska, Zofia Makulska, Angelika Andziak, 5th grade





POLAND



ROMANIA

# A DAY AT MY SCHOOL

## THE DAY IN POLISH SCHOOL: YESTERDAY, TODAY AND TOMORROW

The school is constantly changing. Today we will go back in time to see what the school was like many years ago.

### OUR SCHOOL IN THE PAST

The school in my grandparents' childhood was different than now. In the evening I asked my granny how was the school when she was a child.



- When I was in school we wore school uniforms
- said my granny.
- What color were the school uniforms then? – I asked.
- They were navy and blue with white collars.
- Did you have cinema at school? – I asked again
- Yes – answered my granny – we watched a lot of films and fairy tales.
- Granny, did you sometimes play?
- Of course, even more than the children play now – smiled granny – We played tag, hopscotch and hide and seek.
- How was the school? – I asked
- The school was poorer than now. The walls outside were gray but the classrooms were colorful and we had many children's paintings on the walls. We didn't have such a big gym like you have. The gym was small and sometimes

we played sports games outside – finished my granny.

Since the time when my grandma was a child the school changed. You know what the school was like earlier. Now we will tell you what it is like now.

### OUR SCHOOL TODAY

Our school is very modern. We learn a lot of school subjects here. We study Polish, English, math, biology, history. We also practice a lot of sports: frisbee, basketball, handball and hockey. The lessons start at 8 am and usually finish at 1.30 pm. We go to school and go home by school bus or with our parents by cars. Our classroom is very nice and we have a lot of flowers here. During the break we talk with our friends and teachers.



We also have many different holidays in our school. On November 10, 2014, we had a very important ceremony. It was the ceremony of opening the new wing of the school building for kindergarten and the first grade.

The guests at this ceremony were the mayor of the community Promna and the members of the council of the community.

We students have prepared a performance to present it during the ceremony. The performance was very funny and joy, we danced a lot of dances here. We are happy that our school will be bigger, more modern and more colorful now.



### OUR SCHOOL IN THE FUTURE

Now you know our school from the past and present. We would like to tell you about our dreams. We hope that you will like them.

One day we asked Anna, our friend, how is she of dreaming her ideal school?

- My dream is to have robots in the school of the future. They could clean, tidy up and cook. In 100 years the school will be more colorful, the classrooms will be very big and spacious. The lessons would be more interesting e.g. in history we could move into the past. Instead of books we could use tablets or iPods. In the school of the future we won't have as many tests as now.

Anna gave free rein to her imagination.

- I am sure that the school in the future will be really great and the children will love it!

By Natalia Barańska, Maja Pachniak, Magdalena Blesznowska, 4th grade

## A DAY IN ROMANIAN SCHOOL

Our school is very spacious. It has a 3-room library, a teachers' room, a gym, a festive hall, a doctor's, a dentist's, and many classrooms and laboratories. The schoolyard is not very big, but it is very nice. We also have a basketball court and a small football field outside. There is also a little schoolyard where there is a tree and a patch of flowers – sometimes I take a walk there.



I love this place! It is a magical place where we learn to be good people. I am glad I have competent teachers and also great friends at school.



WRITTEN BY TEODORA TRIF  
CLASS SIXTH

We start our lessons at 8 o'clock in the morning. We usually stay at school until 2 pm. Every 50 minutes we have a break. During breaks I either eat a sandwich or I play with my best friends. I have about 1,000 schoolmates and a lot of classmates: 31. We are each good at different subjects. We learn German and French. We are 22 who study German and 9 who study French. These are the foreign languages that we learn besides English, as we all learn English!



The English classes are splendid! I learn a lot of new things every day. I have a book, a notebook, a special notebook and a small copybook for verbs. I learn how to speak, write and read in English. I especially like the classes when we watch video clips and when we write and draw. I get good marks for speaking and writing, but I have some problems with reading and listening.





POLAND



SPAIN

# EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AT MY SCHOOL

## SPANISH ACTIVITIES

### SPEND THE NIGHT OUT

Last October, five years old boys and girls spent a night out for the first time.

This experience was unforgettable.



Look! Look! What a funny evening!



WRITTEN BY: FIVE YEARS OLD BOYS AND GIRLS  
TRANSLATED BY: CARLA HEREDIA AND ROCÍO

### 1001 NIGHTS

On the 21st of November of 2014, kids from fifth and sixth of Primary visited Escalante Theatre situated in Landerer Street number 5 in Valencia. They went by bus to Serranos Towers. Then, they had a snack all together in a square. They went to see a play called 1001 Nights. It was very funny because there was a sultan that kills his wife because she was hanging around with another man and since that day he married with one woman each day. Then, he kills them. One day Serezade wants to get married with him because she wants to stop that. Every night, she told stories and the prince liked them a lot. The next day, they want to kill Serezade but the prince stops them because he wants she to tell them the story of Alladin. 1001 nights later, Serezade told the prince the story of Alladin and then they had three sons. All the town was happy forever.



WRITTEN: SORAYA BURGUET PARDO, PRIMARY  
5TH A  
TRANSLATED:

## POLISH ACTIVITIES

### STUDENTS' SPORTS CLUB "BLUE" IN OLKOWICE



We are writing to you from the Public Primary School in Olkowice in Poland. We would like to share with you our Polish achievements in sports. Our volleyball national team won the World Cup this year. It was a big success for Polish sports. We also have wonderful winter sportsmen. Our ski jumper Kamil Stoch won two gold medals in the Olympic Games in Sochi and he won the Cristal Ball. Justyna Kowalczyk, our famous cross country skier, won a gold medal in the Olympic Games in Sochi, too.

exists thanks to their voluntary work.

The students are very eager to participate in the trainings. Thanks to it our younger friends won a gold medal in football competition and we, older schoolgirls, won the contest in mini handball. Our boys won third place in the same competition.



We practice also one unusual sport frisbee. Every year we participate in such sports events like: The Championship of Poland in Frisbee and the Memorial of Wł. Strzyżewski in Warsaw. We achieve very big successes here. In the Championship of Poland we take a very high position every year. We also practice volleyball, basketball, hockey and different disciplines. Our school can boast a very big gallery of trophies.

We think that sport is very important.

We love it !!!

Our school also has many sports achievements. Sports play an important role in the life of our school. Sports help to implement the feeling of justice and the power of the character.

We have P-E lessons in our school. Besides PE we have got our small club UKS „Błękitni (blue)”, where we take part in trainings.

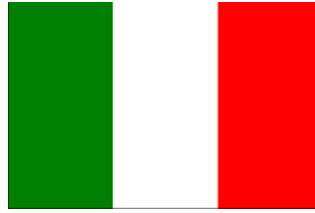
The club exists for 1998. The trainings are organized in the gym and on the football field every Monday.

The trainer and president of the club is Mrs. Izabela Dworska and vice trainer and vice-president is Mr. Zygmunt Jabłoński. The club





TURKEY



ITALY



SPAIN

# SPORTS AND TRADITIONAL GAMES

## TURKEY: WIPES PUSS

Wipes puss is a fun game in which children and young people's play. They are divided into two groups before they play the game. At least 20 or 50 meters up would be between the two groups. Before starting the game a handkerchief holder and the referee are selected. Referee puts handkerchief holder to the centre and draw a circle with a radius around him 1,5 or 2 metre and put children in order one by one.

At a certain place handkerchief holder stands and puts hands down like stalactites . With the whistle or command of the referee one person from each group , run quickly to bring handkerchief to the group without catching by any opponents.If the first group can not take away from handkerchief , both in other words, they have come to the side of the handkerchief holder simultaneously begins a confrontation between competitors. Opponents constantly watch for contemplative moments of each other. Therefore, they say each other interesting remarks and have a strange look to distract their attention. Because someone will run towards to the own group at the end of this scramble , quickly grabbing handkerchief .Without grabbing hankerchief they are not allowed to exceed 1,5-2 m.radius limit circle. One tactic used here in , whether as if grabbing wipes is not to take . If the opponent is mistaken immediately and groups on behalf of limit switches 1 point is earned . If one of the players started to grab the handkerchief and run towards his group , the others try to catch him. The person who brings handkerchief to the his group without catching, gets 1 point.If he is caught after grabbing handkerchief ,opponent group gets 1 point.



WRITTEN BY TUKISH STUDENTS

## ITALY: THE GAME OF "PAMPANO"

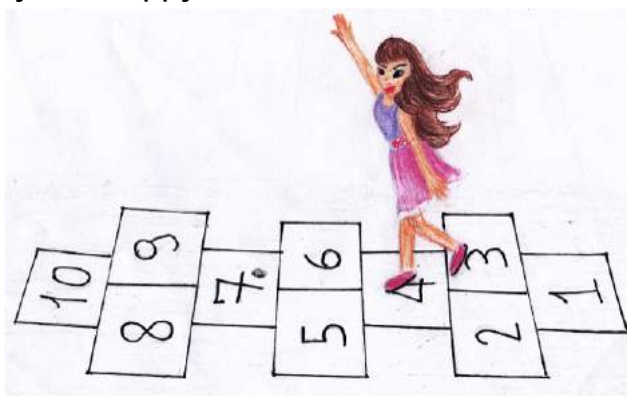
All Italian children play this game and it was played in the past, too: we suppose that even the Romans knew it!

All you need is a piece of chalk to draw on the pavement ( or another flat surface ).

Draw four squares, close together, and a big one: one first square and then two others together ; repeat it four times and, at last, one on the top. Number them from one to ten, starting from the first one.

Once drawn, take as many stones as the players number and take turns to play.

At this point the players throw their own stone : the stone needs to land on every square going in order of the numbers and the player goes and gets it by jumping on one leg. After the player goes back the same way; if not, do it all again. If the stone does not go into the right square, all you need to do is throwing it again. You can play it in many different ways but every time playing guys are happy and amuse themselves!



## ITALY: FOOTBALL

Dear Erasmus friends,

In this letter we would like to talk about football ( we really like it!) and Italian league.

Football is a very challenging sport: when you play you make your best for your team; if you win or lose, it does not matter because playing with your friends is the most important aspect. Italian teams have Italian and foreign football players; Sassuolo's team is the only one whose players are all Italian.

The most popular Italian teams are Juventus, Milan, Inter, Fiorentina , Roma, Lazio and Napoli. Some football players have become famous all over the world: Maradona, Pogba, Del Piero, Nedved and Buffon.

If you don't play football, you have to try it: it's a really hard sport with strict rules but it's amazing, too!

We're waiting for you reply in order to know what you think about football.

## SPAIN: ACROSPORT

Last term, the two groups of Primary 5th practiced Acrosport in Physical Education class.

### ORIGIN

The word Acrosport comes from the greek word "Acrobateo" which means climb on someone's.

### DEFINITION

This sport combines acrobacy with choreography as its exercises integrate three essential elements:

- Making body pyramids.
- Gymnastic abilities on the floor.
- Dancing and jumping.
- Music that support the choreography.

### CHARACTERISTICS

- Strength, flexibility, precision and body control.
- This sport is very visual and dynamic.

### HOW LONG DOES AN ACROSPORT EXERCISE LAST?

It depends on the type of exercise. About two minutes and thirty seconds.

### GROUPING

- Pairs: two girls, two boys or one girl and one boy.
- Three girls.
- Four boys.
- Mixed groups: from three to six members.

### WHAT DO MEMBERS DO DURING AN ACROSPORT EXERCISE?

Some of them form the base of the pyramid. Others climb up on base people to make figures. One person helps and other observes the figure and gives the group advice.





ITALY



TURKEY

## OPINION ARTICLES

### IRON DEFICIENCY: ANEMIA

It is the most commonly seen reason of anemia among children. It is the most commonly seen on teenagers.

Mainly clinical findings are paleness, loss of appetite, weakness, sleep disorders and unsucces . In same cases loss of attention and hiperactivity is seen.

Iron is an element taken from food. Iron is most commonly found in red meat, liver and egg. Besides, vegetables, legumes, grapes and molasses contain lots of iron. But the iron in the meat is much more useful.

The reason of the iron deficiency among children is not getting the iron from the foods.

Less commonly, iron deficiency may result from stomach intestine system, absorbtion disorders die to menstutation period.

Blood test is done for diagnosis. The hemoglobin and iron levels found in the blood is evaluated .

For treatment, firstly the reason is searched and it is removed . The most common reason is not taking the adequate . Iron from nutrition . In iron deficiency treatment ferro (+2) salt form medicines are used. If the patients can not tolerate it +3 form is used .

As iron deficiency anemia is still the most commonly reason of anemia , it is an important problem that affects the public health. That's why the prevention of iron deficiency is important.



SPECIALIST DOCTOR NİLGÜN SEVINÇ  
NINE SEPTEMBER UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL  
SPECIALIST OF CHILD HEALTH AND DISEASES

### SCHOOL AND PLAY: BY GIANFRANCO STACCIOLI



*Gianfranco Staccioli is born in Florence in 1939, pedagogist, professor in Florence University in Science Education where he teaches "Games and Animation Methodologies". His book more famous is "Il gioco e il giocare" (Game and playing) (1998).*

To Play at school is the easiest thing in the world. The minute the teachers loosen their attention when teaching that all the students (no matter their age) begin to play. Very often they play even if the teacher is explaining the lesson...but this is another issue. Children would play constantly and with anything. We always connect playing at school with action as a break from the learning activities; with children running around, confronting each other or fighting. But this is not the case. Children would play at anytime with anything: an object, an idea or simply a word anything that can take them miles away from what they are asked to do. It takes only a few seconds to move from one world to the other. Adults would do the same thing; they actually do exactly the same but don't admit it to themselves. They simply play with many different aspects of their everyday life. Playing at school is the most difficult thing in the world. It is very common to make children play.



Education at all levels uses games for conveying in a playful way notions, concepts or information. All types of didactics at some point define themselves as "playful" by using gimmicks or proposals disguised as games such as individual or group games, funny stories, conundrums, game of the goose for multiplications or syllables....Not to mention John Locke who invented a dice with 32 faces for teaching the alphabet or even Desmarests who printed many different historical games: the Game of the French History, The Game of The Queens and let 's not forget Father Duval who invented also many different games such as The Game of The World, The Game of Geography....No surprise that nobody so far has tried to produce an encyclopedia of all the existing didactics games, as same would require a huge work. Inventing a didactic game is fairly easy and it seems to be even easier to make it popular among children. Nevertheless, no matter how easy it may seem, playing at school seems to be the most difficult thing in the world. As a matter of fact it doesn't require only the actual participation, involvement or availability of the Player. Indeed the player must be able to distinguish between the real world and the fantasy world which at first glance might seem all one. While playing, one is fully immersed into the actual ludic actions and at the same time one is aware of being in a fantasy world, a different world where a lot is possible even if it is not true. While

playing we always pretend; there is always a certain amount of symbolism involved in every game. The ability to be in and out of the game, as Bateson would say, requires from the Player a certain degree of flexibility and lightness (as Italo Calvino defines it) not just while playing but also continuing out of the game. The true game is the one that does not exhaust itself while playing but the one which produces effects in all aspects of life, happy or sad, for all of us. As in a game where you can play at different levels with an increasing degree of difficulties, it is down to the teacher to decide at which level the pupils will be playing. The first one that leaves the children play on their own has with it many different positive elements. In schools very often you might have heard a person say: "Time for work now not for playing!". This person, maybe unconsciously, has got in his mind a model of schizophrenic life, in which playing is completely separated from work, work time separated from free time, effort separated from relax. This person sees life as a continuous suffering, a "Mal de vivre" (as Montale defines it) that can only be relieved by getting away from the every-day life through a short (and illusive) holiday. This scheme homeworks/recreation is the prelude to this idea of grown-up life. According to Pedagogues and Sociologists, playing offers a model of social life which reflects a specific culture but it is also a way of projecting oneself into the future, to understand what the

future will be like. The first level offers a model that cannot satisfy those teachers who believe and know that the way you propose games to children has a knock-on effect not only on their immediate behavior but also on their future life. At this point one might choose to step to the next level by transforming teaching into a game. Any lesson at school can be turned into a game, into something funny and can make learning easier. This is all about choosing to reduce day-to-day stress and offering another model of life. In short: "Life is tough let's make it easier". Therefore, we must attempt to make pleasant teachers' and pupils' daily living by turning it into playful moments trying to keep a distance from suffering and tension. Let's play then! As Lorenzo Dei Medici would say: "Cerchiamo di essere lieti perchè di doman non c'è certezza" (Let's be gay today, as to tomorrow none can tell). Even in this second level, the playing approach, we end up feeling pessimistic as we see a human being who believes that life is all about difficulties and daily suffering and consequently he makes all the efforts to ignore and remove anything which is bad, sad or tiring. A playful teaching for a happy life. Clearly this approach takes us to a higher level where there is no alternation between sadness and happiness, work and play. But it embraces a way of living which reminds us of an escape from reality. since life is what it is, I have no alternative but to be always happy and since all pupils hate school, let's turn

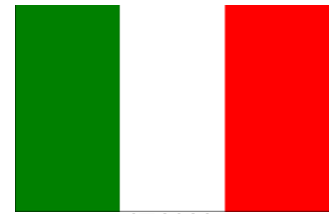
The third level of playing, as we mentioned earlier, is the highest challenge and also the most difficult to achieve (difficult but not complicated). In this case it is not a matter of what we do, which game we organize or how long we will be playing. It is only a question of how we play and how we are in and out of the game. We must plan a day at school where pupils are always comfortable: where they can communicate and express themselves where there is room to be creative, enjoying moments of solitude or mixing up with others because they are happy to be there and do things together. What is relevant is that they play, less relevant is the type of the game. It is not the actual "Game" here that matters but the "Play". If we share this point of view there are no important things like homeworks and less important things such as games for example. Janus Korczak used to write: when I am talking to a child or playing with him, a moment of my life is joining a moment of his life and these two shared moments have exactly the same degree of maturity. If one shares this view, it doesn't matter if one counts from seven till one thousand rather than discussing why we always end up seeing the same side of the moon or rather than reading or creating poetry or imagine and draw the secret life of a worm....the pleasure of learning and the pleasure of teaching. A place where it is possible to play with those things that you already know and play with others that you have never come across with. In short: a school where you play till you drop, a school where you play for a better living. There are different ideas of how to reach this level of play in the school system. Rovatti and Zoletto (La scuola dei Giochi – the school of games) believe that it is not possible to teach with this totally playful orientated approach because today our school is governed by a bureaucratic and organizational system that hinders or even blocks any attempt to implement "the school of games". I personally have a different opinion. Let me explain with an example: Martin Bueber used to write about Rabbi Loeb, a Teacher, who would travel around the world to save the soul of the living and the dead. Rabbi Loeb said once: I went to see the Teacher Maggid not for his teaching but only to see how he would do and undo his shoes. So to me this is what it is all about. A playful teaching

in school can be conveyed through the teachers and more precisely through their way of being with the pupils, through their degree of "passion" in teaching, through their way of "doing their shoes". What is going to be left as an indelible impression on each pupil will be for sure and above all those teachings without a name, "invisible" and not scheduled, those teachings which come from the person itself. A playful teacher can do a playful school even where there are many rules, bans or limits of any kind. I hope that this playful approach can somehow be found in your project.





ROMANIA



ITALY

# INTERVIEWS

## ROMANIA: MY PASSION

Paula Popescu is 12 years old and she is one of the best gymnasts in Sibiu. She is a student at Colegiul National Gheorghe Lazar in Sibiu and has gracefully accepted to answer the questions of Stefania Prode, one of her classmates, for our YES! magazine.

Interviewer: How long have you been practising gymnastics?

Paula: I started when I was 4 years old.

Interviewer: Why have you chosen gymnastics?

Paula: I was watching a gymnastics competition on TV, and I thought it was interesting and I decided to practise this sport.

Interviewer: When was your first competition?

Paula: The first competition I participated in took place in Deva . I was 7. I won my first ever medal there, a bronze one, as I came in third in the vault competition.

this success we are all very proud of?

Paula: My trainer, Miss Andreea Enescu, taught and supported me a lot, with good advice and constant encouragement, step by step. And now I am here, eager to do even more.

Interviewer: How often do you do your training?

Paula: I go to the town's gym five times a week and I work for three hours every time.

Interviewer: As far as the future is concerned, are you going to have a career in gymnastics, or do you intend to practise it as a hobby?

Paula: I haven't given this much thought, to be honest. However, I believe I would like to go as far as I can in gymnastics and be as good as possible. Perhaps as good as Nadia Comaneci .

Interviewer: Do you have any other hobbies?

Paula: I love painting very much.

Interviewer: Thank you, and good luck!



Interviewer: Are you excited when you start a new competition?

Paula: Most of the times I am. Now it really depends on how important that competition is.

Interviewer: Who helped you in achieving all

WRITTEN BY ROMANIAN STUDENTS

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Deva = Romanian town, about 120 km from Sibiu;

Nadia Comaneci = a well-known Romanian gymnast, the first female gymnast to be awarded a perfect score of 10 in an Olympic gymnastic event (1976 - Montreal, Canada).

# ITALY: INTERVIEW TO SILVIA LAMBRUSCHI, ROLLER SKATE WORLD CHAMPION 2014

- **When were you born?** I was born in Sarzana, 9th October 1994.

- **How did you choose to practice rollerskating?** When I was 5, I went skiing and broke my leg. To help my muscles go back to normal after the injury my mother booked me in a roller skating school.

- **How old were you when you began to take part to important skating competitions?** I was 13 back in 2007 when I was picked by the National Team. They talked about me in the Skating Community. To be part of the National Team you need to reach a certain amount of points. There are no qualifying competitions.

- **How many hours do you train daily?** I wake up early and go straight to my training lessons. During winter 4 hours per day and in summer twice a day for about 7/8 hours to prepare me for the season. A year training is at stake in a 4 minutes race.

- **What is your daily routine?** I wake up early and go straight to my training lessons.

- **What do you eat?** I follow a specific diet for the training to the competitions. For Breakfast: tea, dry biscuits with jam or yoghurt. At Lunch time: pasta and coffee. For Dinner: meat or fish with vegetables.

- **Where do you train?** I usually train in Castelnuovo Magra- Palvotrisia in an open air rink. In bad weather conditions, I go to the Hockey rink in the next door town of Sarzana. Occasionally in La Spezia.

- **How many skates do you wear per year?** Only one pair. I train with the same pair for 6/7 months from March till October. When in competition, it's better to wear used skates.

- **How did you get that high in the competition?** Non stop training sessions, strong will and also Latin American dance and dance in general helped me a lot to improve elegance. Unfortunately I had to stop because I did not have enough time to do everything.

- **Was it difficult to combine both studies and skating?** I attended the Istituto Tecnico Commerciale in Sarzana. After school I would go straight to my training classes and if in La Spezia I would study in the car on my way there.

- **How do you feel before attending a competition?** The night before I am very tense,

I feel anxious but then just before the competition I am very focused and I feel absolutely nothing.

- **Does your family come and see you during your competitions?** Yes, they are always there and when I have to go abroad for international competitions I stay with the national team, but my family follows me.

- **Do you also teach children skating lessons?** Yes, I do. I teach to a small group of young girls. Last November I attended a course to become a level 3 certified Instructor. In my spare time I coach in my roller skating club.

- **Which is the competition you are most proud of?** Maybe the first competition ever.... I was only 7 years old. And also last year competition because I managed to get ready for it in only two and a half months, because of a previous injury.

- **How about the most exciting skating competition so far?** This year competition. It was the first time I took part to a worldwide championship. They gave me third in the podium but I managed to get the second one.

- **What did go through your mind when you realized that you won the title of World Champion?** At the beginning you do not realize it, then when on the podium it all comes down to you and the feelings fly high. When in competition, I always have beautiful emotions...



WRITTEN BY ITALIAN STUDENTS  
ISTITUTO ISA 13 SARZANA, SAN LAZZARO PRIMARY  
SCHOOL  
INTERVIEW DATED ON DECEMBER THE 11th 2014



POLAND



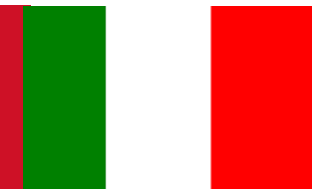
TURKEY



SPAIN



ROMANIA



ITALY

# MY LANGUAGE

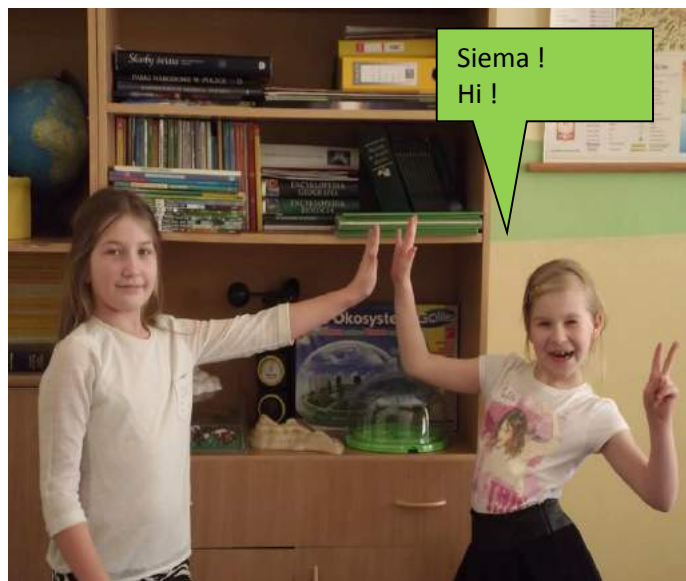


## We love Poland and Polish!



Our homeland is the Republic of Poland. Our flag is white and red. The national emblem of Poland is the White Eagle on a red background. The capital of Poland is Warsaw. The former capitals of Poland were Gniezno and Cracow. Warsaw lies on the river Vistula. Warsaw is a beautiful city. There are many monuments and interesting places there. The Palace of Culture and Science, Lazienki Park, the monument of Frederick Chopin. There are the Tatry Mountains in southern Poland. The biggest cities are: Gdansk, Cracow, Poznan, Wroclaw, Szczecin, Lublin. Poland lies by the Baltic Sea. The official language of Poland is Polish. We love our country and we like the colors of our flag.

By Weronika Radecka, Wiktoria Dudek, Wiktoria Sieradzan i Adrian Skrzeczyński.





**DZIĘKUJEMY !!!! THANK YOU** by Monika Piwowarska



# CLASSROOM ROUTINES IN VALENCIÀ

Albal is in Valencia, on the East coast of Spain. In our region we have two official languages, Spanish and Valencià. Here you have a selection of classroom language. in Valencià.

**WE ASK FOR HELP**



**WE GET IN THE CLASSROOM AND HANG OUR JACKETS OUTSIDE. WE ALSO HAVE AN ART LESSON AND HAVE A SNACK.**





## MY LANGUAGE IS TURKISH



Turkey is like a bridge between Europe and Asia. There are 81 provinces in our country and our capital city is Ankara. Our flag is red and white. Also has a crescent and star. The biggest city is İstanbul. Ldyian treasures stand in the Uşak Archaeological museum . Our country has many historical monuments and natural beauties. Our country is covered by Aegean, Black sea and Mediternean sea. We love our country.



Hello!!!!

(merhaba)



Good afternoon

(tünaydın)



Good morning!

(Günaydın)

Good morning!

(günaydın)



How are you?  
(nasılsın?)

I'm fine thank you  
(iyiyim teşekkür ederim)

Enjoy your meal!  
(afiyet olsun)



See you soon!

Yakında görüşürüz.





## ITALIAN HANDY DICTIONARY

Our five year-old students prepared for their Erasmus' friends a handy dictionary, especially addressed to the ones who are coming over.

How to survive in our beautiful country? Easy, just learn the vocabulary that your young italian friends explained through pictures.

We want a new friend to feel welcome, so we say **BENVENUTO!**

When we arrive among friends and we want to say "Hello", we use **CIAO** and **ARRIVEDERCI** to say "bye-bye".



If the people we meet are adults, we'd rather use:

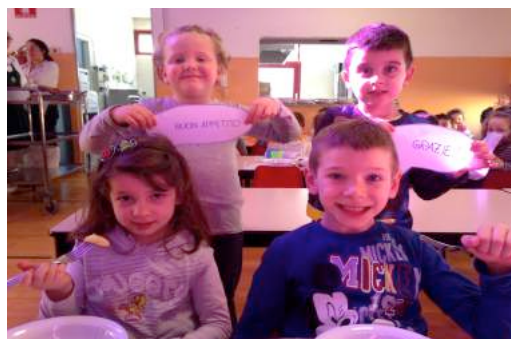
**BUONGIORNO** to say "Good morning", **BUONA NOTTE** to say "Good night",



**BUON POMERIGGIO** to say "Good afternoon"

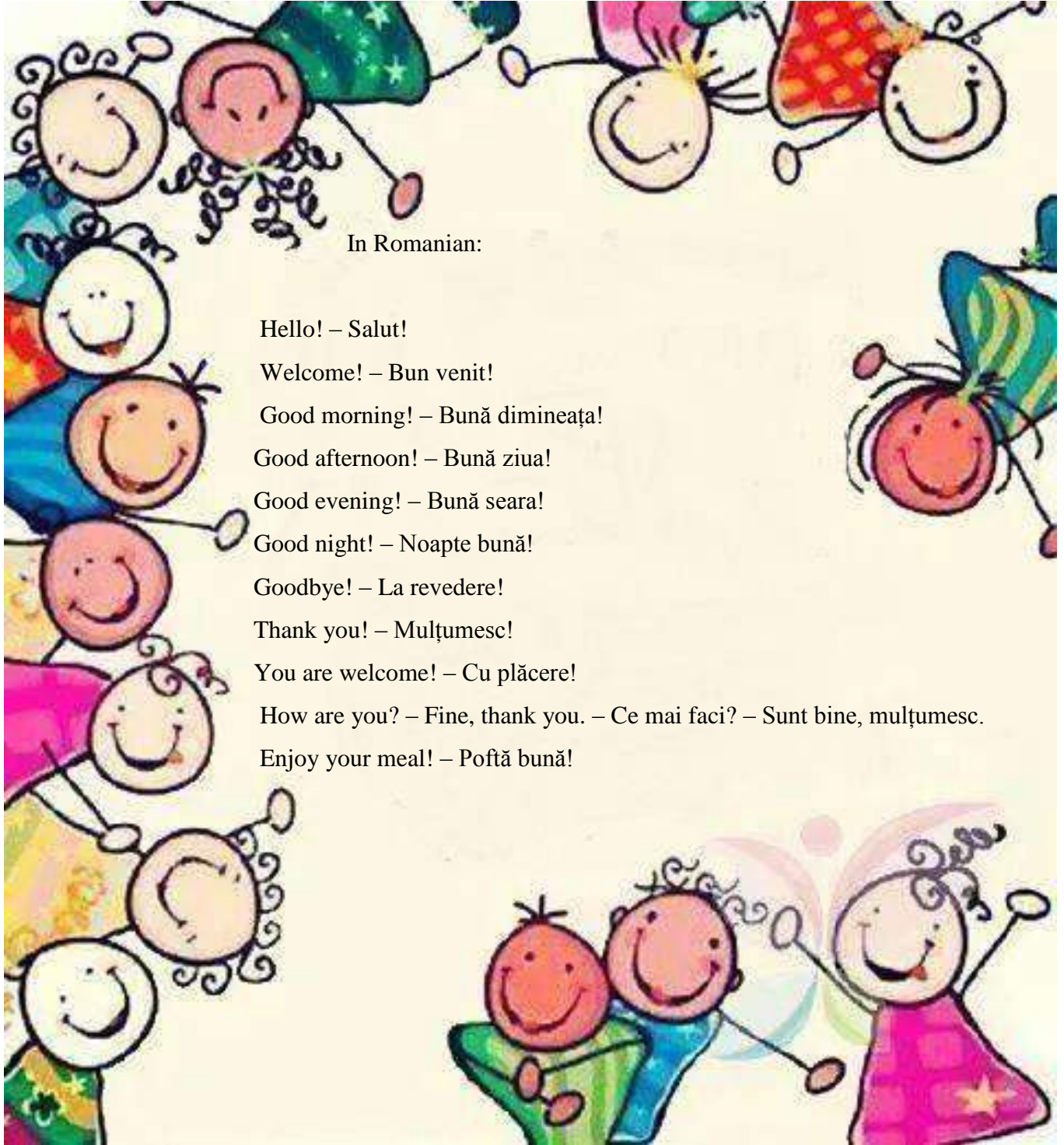
We use **BUONGIORNO** or **BUONA NOTTE** even to wish a great day and "sleep tight".

When we sit down together to eat, we use to say **BUON APPETITO**, meaning "enjoy your meal". Italians thank saying **GRAZIE**.





## USEFUL WORDS IN ROMANIAN



In Romanian:

Hello! – Salut!

Welcome! – Bun venit!

Good morning! – Bună dimineața!

Good afternoon! – Bună ziua!

Good evening! – Bună seara!

Good night! – Noapte bună!

Goodbye! – La revedere!

Thank you! – Mulțumesc!

You are welcome! – Cu plăcere!

How are you? – Fine, thank you. – Ce mai faci? – Sunt bine, mulțumesc.

Enjoy your meal! – Poftă bună!

# LATEST NEWS

## 1st MEETING IN ALBAL, VALENCIA, SPAIN

Last January our school was pleased to receive the visit of our international friends. We had our first international meeting here in Valencia from the 26th to the 30th of January. The previous Saturday and Sunday our friends arrived to Valencia airport. It was incredible to meet them for the first time!!!



They were very tired but very happy to be in Valencia!

On Monday we had the Welcome Ceremony at School. All teachers and students welcomed our new friends. The Major of Albal, Mr. Ramón Marí wanted to say hello to them as well. Ana, the music teacher, offered our friends songs and a typical Valencian dance performed by Valencian students.



During the week we had different workshops at school. We learnt how to dance Sevillanas, we studied a little bit of Spanish and Valenciano and we made a framework using sand from the beach.



Our local authorities welcomed our friends at the Town Hall. We visited the building and they exchanged presents.



Our friends visited representative places of our area. We went to visit Albal, to La Albufera, to L'Oceanogràfic and to the city centre of Valencia. We had a great time!!





We were interviewed by local journalists.



Teachers had a great opportunity for sharing teaching practice as well as they had time to coordinate to prepare this magazine.



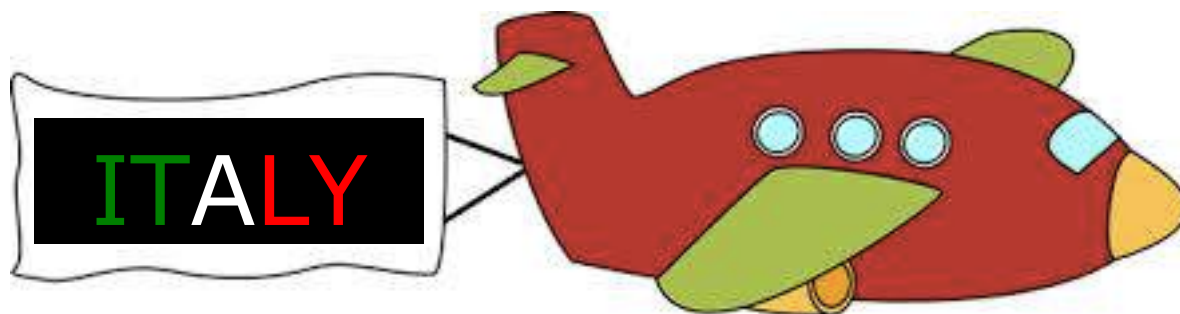
We were sad when Friday arrived and we had to say good bye to our friends. We prepared a good bye ceremony where we gave them certificates of participation. After that, all teachers and students had a snack at school.



I have no words to describe how wonderful this experience has been for our school and for our lives. As Project Coordinator I would like to thank the Directive Team of our school for their help and support; European Coordinators, for their hard work and enthusiasm towards this Project; my colleagues, for their help and trust in this experience and my students, because they are the reason for all this work.

Now a new challenge is about to arrive....**NEXT MEETING... SARZANA, ITALY!!!**

COMING SOON



BY JULIA DOMINGUEZ  
PROJECT COORDINATOR



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