

2019 - 2022

ERASMUS+ NEWSPAPER



Erasmus+

***„INTERACTIVE HOLIDAY
CALENDAR IN EUROPE”***

Mobility 1 - Short-term joint staff training events - Bulgaria

ANI PETROVA, BULGARIA

The first mobility of the project titled “Interactive holiday calendar in Europe” was organized and carried out by Bulgarian partners from 144 Secondary school in Sofia. The first day of the exchange, Monday, the twenty fourth of November was dedicated to introduction, knowing each other and talking generally about the project. The day started with a welcome speech of the headmistress Mrs Velichka Nikolova and Bulgarian organization team Snezhana Stancheva, Anka Petrova, Vanya Uzunova, Valentin Ivanov, Rositsa Atanasova.



Foreign guests were welcomed with short musical programme, which presented them 3 different styles of folklore singing and costumes from several Bulgarian areas. After that the teachers had a guided tour around the school. They were in all parts of the school and saw classes at working time. After that the meeting continued with presentations of schools, cities and countries of all six partners.

In the afternoon of the first day, the partners talked about the project and assigned the tasks, fixed the dates and the activities. The partners discussed and agreed upon the dates of the future project meetings. They are as follows:

- Poland from 22 to 28 March 2020;
- Portugal from 31May to 6 June.

As a final of the first day partners participated in a dancing workshop at the host school. On the second day there was a cultural visit to Sofia city center. We visited the Ethnographic museum where we saw many interesting artefacts from the past, listening a lecture. The partners also visited remarkable places in Sofia like: National Palace of Culture, Vitosha Boulevard, St. Nedelya Church, Church St. Petka, Largo Square, Statue of Sofia, Largo Square, Banya Bashi Mosque, Sofia Synagogue, Turkish Bath- Sofia Regional Museum, Mineral Water Springs, Russian Church, Aleksander Nevsky Cathedral.

The third day began with a short trip to small village called Baylovo. There the participants took part in a workshop, where they got the opportunity to experience several Bulgarian customs.

In the afternoon, all participants have met the mayor of Mladost Municipality. After that the teachers returned to the school and worked together preparing the relevant documents of the project. Several documents were signed, the certificates and the documents were handed out. Host participants organized a logo competition and all partners voted and selected the best logo of the project for official use. The chosen logo includes the project name on it and all flags of the participating countries. The evaluation of the project will be done by sending and completing it within one week, it means that the host should send the participants the evaluation form via emails and the dead line to complete and sand it back is 6th December.

Moreover, the partners decided on assigning tasks for the completion of the project. According to this:

- Bulgaria is responsible for preparing, organizing implementing the Facebook page and the deadline is 5.12.2019. All partners will contribute to it after that;
- Bulgaria is also responsible for registration of the project on eTwinning as soon as possible !;
- Bulgaria is responsible for collecting and presenting the results of the evaluation about the 1st mobility;
- All countries are responsible for preparing a presentation, containing an article about Meeting in Sofia (till the end of January) and disseminate the results of it in their schools;
- Poland is responsible for collecting these articles and with photos taken during the mobility will publish them in the newspaper;
- All countries are responsible for making 20 Xmas cards decorated with symbols of their traditional celebrations and customs. Each school should send at least 4 postcards to other partner countries till 6th December, so it should be possible for all the partners to organize the exhibition till the middle of the month. Then photos will be taken and uploaded on the eTwinning and Facebook pages.

For the next mobility in Poland we also decided that: Students should gather info about 2 or 3 (not more) spring holidays in their countries. They chose the most important ones and prepare a slide- show presentation. These presentations will be for the short-term exchange



of groups of pupils in Poland in March. They will be used for the final product of the project activities, Creating an interactive calendar of the traditional holidays of the participating countries. Students of Poland should create a video film about one traditional spring holiday of their country or reenactment of the chosen one.

Report by the Greek visitors

GEORGIA MAKROGIORGOU , GREECE



Our first meeting in Sofia, at 144 Secondary school, was an extraordinary experience. It was fruitful concerning the organizational part of the project and at the same time, we got in touch with the history and the traditions of the host school.

On the first day, we visited the school, exchanged presents and information concerning our countries, places and schools. Simultaneously, we had time to discuss important matters about the project: Every partner expressed their options on the activities, the methodology and the deadlines. We also shared responsibilities and set the exact dates of the next mobilities.

Simultaneously, the Bulgarian school had organized presentations with students' engagement in artistic activities with folklore singing. We were guided throughout all school and got the best impressions. It is a vivid school, full of art and creativity, with happy teachers and happy students.

On the second day we visited Sofia city center. Representative teachers, guided us to famous sights, squares and museums, such as the Ethnographic museum, Vitosha Boulevard, St. Nedelya Church, Church St. Petka, Largo Square, Statue of Sofia, Largo Square, Banya Bashi Mosque, Sofia Synagogue, Turkish Bath- Sofia Regional Museum, Mineral Water Springs, Russian Church, Aleksander Nevsky Cathedral.

On the third day we took a short trip to a small village outside Sofia, called Baylovo. A workshop was organized there for us and we had a wonderful time, full of creativity. We prepared traditional cheese pie, we made traditional dolls and we danced traditional dances.

When the time for saying goodbye came, the general feeling was that we were full of positive emotions, concerning the traditions of Bulgaria and the characteristics of the people who offered hospitality from the bottom of their heart. We were also full of knowledge and self-confidence concerning the future implementation of our project.



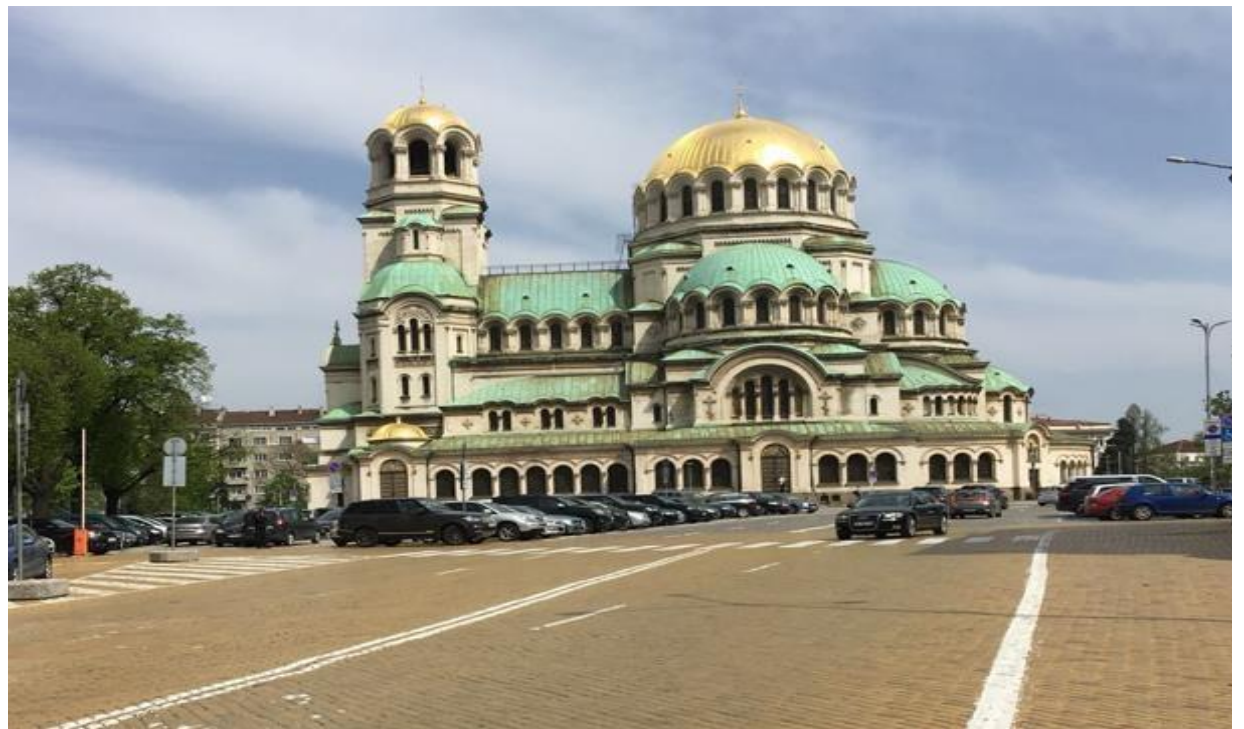


KICK-OFF TRANSNATIONAL PARTNER MEETING

Mobility to Bulgaria (24/11/2019 to 28/11/2019)

BY JÚLIA BORGES, AGRUPAMENTO DE ESCOLAS DE ALCOCHETE

The kick-off meeting of this project took place in Sofia, the country's capital. Although this mobility was not approved in the project, the Narodni Buditeli School in Sofia and all the other partners, understood that this is the most important meeting, since it is in these meetings that works are decided, strategies are outlined and mobilities are decided, so that all partners can start their work for the smooth functioning of all parties and the successful completion of the project. On the first day we had a welcome activity with some songs sung by students. We make a tour around the school and every partner presented their city, country and school. Bulgarian partners showed a huge and spectacular school wardrobe, where traditional costumes from all over Bulgarian



territory are kept. After that we were making decisions about the work to be carried out by each partner, means of dissemination and evaluation. In a family atmosphere, as only Bulgarians make us feel, in a museum house with a traditional music, we held a craft workshop and learned: how to spin wool, make traditional Bulgarian dolls and make homemade "banitsa" We visited the city, and a Sofia Vocational School of Tourism, where we had lunch. Later we went to visit the National Art Gallery. The Bulgarian teachers tried to teach us to dance "Horo", for me it was a relaxing moment and allowed us to meet fellow choreographers. On the last day, we were offered a musical show, where the students presented us with more songs and dances.

The evaluation was carried out, the certificates were distributed and the meeting was closed. We thank all the partners for their sympathy, especially the Bulgarian partners who made us feel very welcome, they were very helpful and made us feel at home.



MOBILITY TO BULGARIA (24/11/2019 TO 28/11/2019)

GÖZDE KARAKOÇ, ÖZEL ÇERKEZKÖY GÜLERÇİN ORTAOKULU

Our students, arrived Bulgaria on 24 November. We stayed at the Bulgarian students' houses for a week and had the opportunity to get to know and observe a different culture closely. On the first day of the mobility, our students attended the English lesson at school and made a presentation introducing their own country. Then they visited the Ethnography Museum.

As a school activity, they learned how to make bread and pastries at a local bakery. After visiting the houses of the famous politicians and poets of the city, they toured the city of Koprivstitsa, one of the oldest settlements in Bulgaria. As a continuation of the activities, they visited the house of writer Elin Pelin in Baylovo village. They experienced the Bulgarian culture.





They sorted corn and made pies and attended the doll workshop. They visited the Turkish Embassy and got information about the Bulgarian-Turkish education system. They visited the Bulgarian Parliament. They saw the Alexander Nevski Cathedral, one of the city's landmarks.

They visited Plovdiv, one of the important cities of Bulgaria. At the certificate ceremony held in Plovdiv, they received certificates from Bulgarian teachers for their participation in the project. Our students communicated with their host families and their children in English, and they also improved their foreign language skills. On Saturday, at 12:00, they were bid farewell by their host families and set off on their way back.



POLISH TEACHERS IN BULGARIA

IZABELA KIJO, POLAND

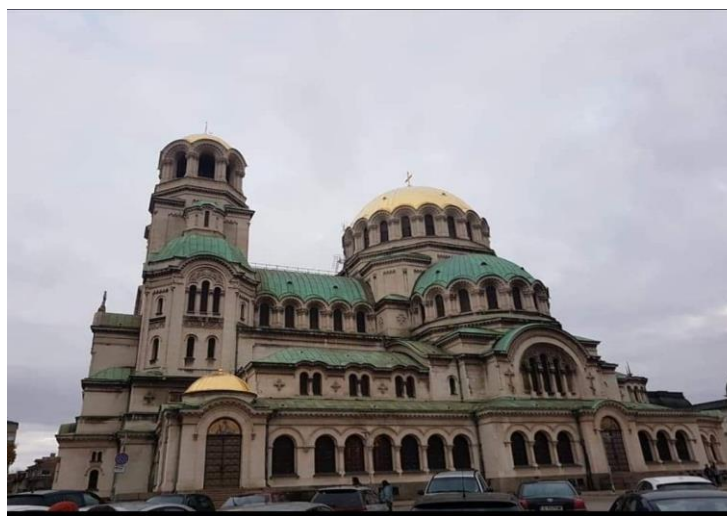
The first short term mobility took place in Bulgaria – Sofia. Our primary school was represented by two teachers – Izabela Kijo and Monika Olejnik.

It was a great opportunity to meet Erasmus partners and make friends. The mobility was very fruitful, full of activities and surprises. The hosts took care of each details and prepared plenty of interesting classes.

Due to the fact that it was our first meeting, the first day was devoted to discussions and talks about the entire project. We could get to know each other and our expectations. We made the most important decisions and then we introduced our countries and schools. The guests were greeted by the students in traditional Bulgarian way – which is similar to Polish. We also listened to traditional Bulgarian songs and visited the whole school. The wardrobe with dance costumes made the greatest impression on us. Of course we could not miss dance classes. The second day started early and was very demanding. We spent the whole day exploring the capital – Sofia. We visited the most important places and tried traditional dishes. We were tired but satisfied and full of positive impressions. Last day, we



moved back in time. The hosts organised the trip to nearby village – Baylovo ,where we participated in workshop connected with preparing traditional food and dolls. We were singing, dancing, eating and having a wonderful time. Unfortunately, all good things must come to an end and it was time to say goodbye. We came back full of optimism, knowledge and gratitude for such a warm and friendly welcome in Bulgaria.



STUDENTS' ESSAYS



The importance of traditions in our life

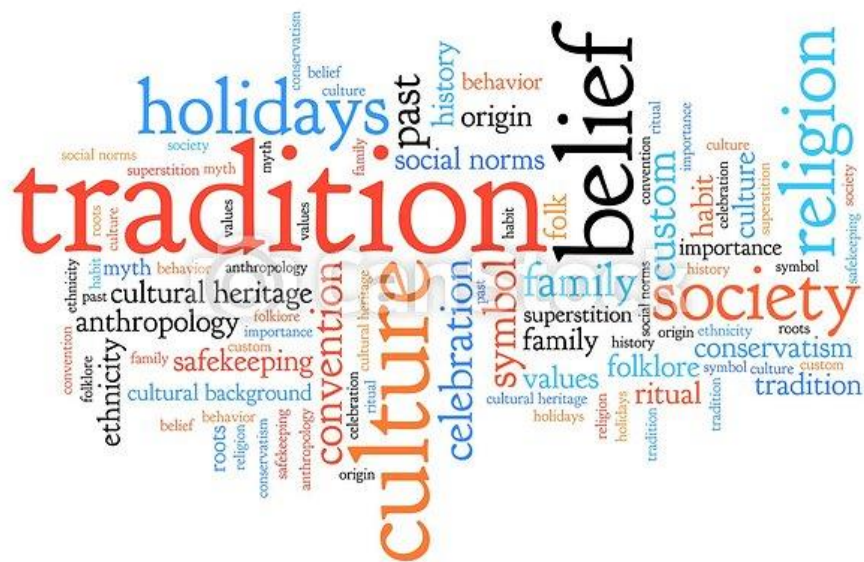
NICK, GREECE, D1

It is very important to keep the traditions in our life, for a lot of reasons. First of all, to honor our ancestors, who fought for freedom, respect of social rights and for a better world. Secondly, keeping the traditions helps us being united, promoting values of living. Thirdly, celebrations with dances, music, traditional food, promote positive emotions to people, keeping them happy, giving strength to endure the difficulties of living. In Greek revolution which led to our country's independence, the role of the tradition was very important.

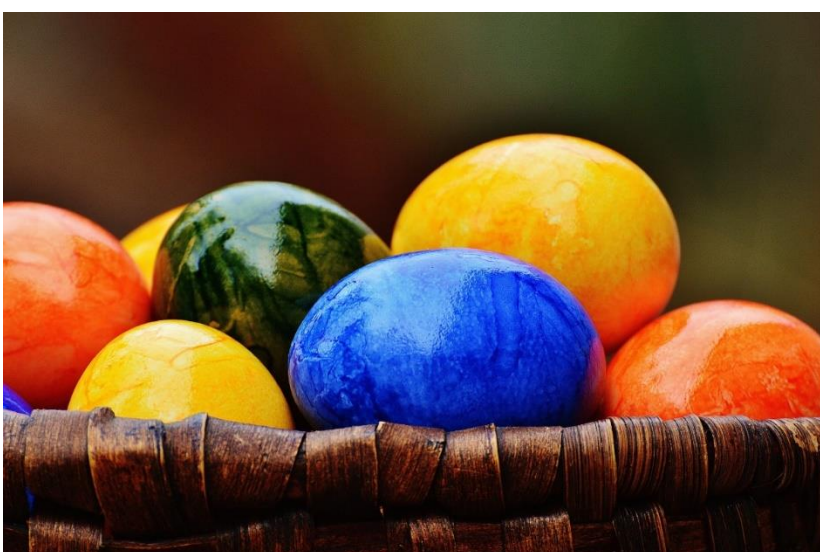
Traditions make a country special

THEODORE, GREECE, D1

In our multicultural world, with the people moving from country to country, with immigration and commerce, the countries have gained a lot of 'new traditions' coming with the newpeople. It is very important for a country to respect the traditions of all people. In our country, Greece, with the exchange of populations after the wars, a lot of people have moved, carrying their customs to their new 'homes'.



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The most popular traditional holiday in my country

DESPINA, GREECE, D1

The most important holiday in my country is Easter, as it is linked with a lot of traditions for the holy week and the days of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. People fast the whole week, following the church services. On Great Thursday, we colour red eggs and we prepare 'tsoureki', the traditional sweet bread for the day of Easter. On Great Saturday at midnight we celebrate the resurrection at the church, holding candles and praying. On Sunday, we eat roasted lamb and the whole family is gathered, eating together and dancing traditional dances.

The importance of traditions in our life

ZOFIA ANTONIAK, 7A, POLAND

There are some types of traditions: folk, family, religious, cultural or personal. They are cherished by nations, families or only some people. The same tradition can have different meaning to everyone and can evoke different emotions. They also play different roles. Family traditions are passed down between generations and they are often really unique to the family. Thanks to them, we can make memories, connect our bloodline or form a feeling of safety and belonging. Religious traditions allow the believers to express their love and faith in God.

By participating in religious events some can experience spiritual feelings. Cultural traditions are celebrated among societies. They enable people to feel identity, unity and belonging to the same nation. As far as personal traditions, I think we create them ourselves. We all have our individual manners or morals that were influenced by our ancestors to which we still add new values. To sum up, I think traditions form our lives and make them fulfilled and happier. They often bring us happiness, comfort and express our culture. Our brains adapt to changes that traditions make and form memories, that will stay with us for the rest of our lives, so we can say they are immortal. No matter their nature, they are important to the same extent.



The most popular traditional holiday in my country

HUBERT ZDUN, POLAND, 8B

In Poland we have many holidays, both traditional and national ones but also quite unusual.

We celebrate all sorts of holidays important to our nation, such as the Flag Day or Independence Day, but also holidays known all over the world, such as Easter. Nevertheless, in my opinion, the most popular one is still Christmas. The holiday is known all over the world and probably cultivated in every country. In Poland, we also have our own traditions and customs which are not celebrated in other countries. Preparation for Christmas starts a few days before with buying presents for the members of the family and cooking traditional meals. The Christmas Eve supper is the most important for us. Traditionally there are 12 different dishes on the table and everyone has to taste each of them. According to tradition, when the first star appears in the sky, heralding the birth of Jesus, Christmas Eve participants share the wafer and give each other best wishes for the coming year.

After supper, it is time to unwrap the presents lying under the Christmas tree. The following days are much more relaxed. Usually everyone visits their families, eats meals together and talks to their loved ones. It is a time of peace and quiet, a break from everyday life. All take place in a very intimate family atmosphere, with the sound of carols and tables full of food. It is by far the most popular and most gladly celebrated holiday in Poland with its unique customs rooted in our culture and tradition. I must admit it is my favourite family time of the year.

Why is it important to keep traditions alive?

HUBERT ZDUN, POLAND, 8B

Every country has its own population, area, national symbols. What is more important they have their own heritage, traditions and culture which differ them from other countries. I will focus on traditions and try to show why we should keep them alive. First and foremost, by cherishing national traditions we pay homage to our ancestors and show them our respect. It is also the way to express our gratitude to them since they fought in the past for our freedom and we should thank them by participating in national events. What is most important in nurturing traditions? By cherishing traditions we show respect for the values that are important to society. Besides, traditions enrich our culture and in this way we become a stronger and more attractive country for tourists. Poland has a culture that we can boast about beyond the borders of our country. National cuisine is also a part of culture. Traditional Polish food, such as dumplings or pork chops, make us recognized among other countries. This is also an element of our tradition which we like to maintain. We also need to maintain traditions because it ensure nation continuity. Every generation can add their own values and history based on former foundations. It is our responsibility to keep them alive and pass down from generation to generation. To keep them in our homes, in our lives, in our hearts and in the hearts of future generations.

The Rose Festival – one of the most beautiful traditional Bulgarian holidays.

ANNA KOZAROVA, 10TH GRADE, BULGARIA

To start with, the Rose Festival is not the most popular but one of the most beautiful traditional Bulgarian holidays.

It is one of my favorite holidays because it is dedicated to beauty and flowers. It is celebrated every year in June in The Rose Valley (also called The Valley of Roses) - a region in central Bulgaria, where the famed Bulgarian oil-bearing rose grows and where rose oil and rose water has been produced for centuries. The rose, one of the symbols of Bulgaria, is called the "queen of flowers" because people from many cultures around the world have enjoyed her beauty and fragrance.

The Rose Festival has more than a hundred years of history. It all started back in 1903, when the citizens of the town of Kazanlak for the first time organized a Rose Festival. It was dedicated not only to beauty and flowers, but also to charity.

In the 1930s, the Rose Festival gained greater national fame and over the years it has become a colorful Festival, which is gaining popularity around the world.

The Rose Festival in Bulgaria is one of the most exciting festivals of the rose in the world. Thousands of visitors travel to the Rose Valley in Bulgaria to discover the hidden mystery behind the celebration of the rose. The festival includes authentic rituals and events such as rose-picking /harvesting ritual in the rose gardens/, a rose parade along the streets of the town, rose queen ceremony and kukeri show. The most important part of the holiday is the ritual "Rose picking and rosary". The rose pickers are dressed in folk costumes. Rose picking starts early in the morning and lasts until noon - the flowers should be fresh and not fully bloomed in order to preserve its aroma and humidity. The ritual continues with boiling of rose oil and tasting of freshly produced rose water, rose jam and gylu brandy. Next is the carnival procession, which is the largest street carnival in our country and after that a folklore performance and welcoming the newly elected Queen of Roses. Craftsmen and artists present works of folk crafts and applied art. I think that everyone who loves and respects the Bulgarian traditions should visit or take part in this beautiful holiday at least once in their life.

In conclusion, the celebration of the Rose Festival is a tradition that must be preserved for the generations to come.



Why is it important to keep traditions alive?

EMILIA IVANOVA, BULGARIA, 11TH GRADE

“ Just as the weakest wind can knock down a tree without a root, so a society without traditions cannot withstand the calamities that can strike it from outside!” Genrik Senkevich

In today's global and rapidly changing world, traditions are more important than ever. They give us a sense of belonging and meaning of life, make us feel safe and secure. If we have unsolvable questions, we just have to turn to the traditions and history of our country to find the right answers. Traditions are an important part of our culture. They help shape society and the family. They are the connection between past, present and future.

The Bulgarian calendar has a great variety of holidays, customs and rituals. In them we see the richness of our folk culture, combining ancient traditions and beliefs. Bulgarian customs are a key element of our overall cultural tradition and have probably helped to preserve the Bulgarian spirit in the ups and downs of time. Culture, folklore, rituals, customs and beliefs are mixed together to give rise to traditions that began far in the past but are still alive today. Bulgarian folk traditions have preserved many holidays that have passed through the centuries and are still alive today. In their holidays the Bulgarians have woven the





The importance of traditions in our live.

IVANA VASILEVA , BULGARIA, 10TH GRADE

Traditions are an important part of society. Established by our ancestors, passed down from generation to generation, they are a source of lessons for the present and the future. They are a source of virtue, morality, wisdom and aesthetics. In order to get to know a nation, its traditions and related customs and rituals as an integral part of folk culture must be get known. In addition, it is important not to forget that traditions and customs are among the things preserving a nation over the centuries.

We, the young people often ask ourselves the question - who am I and how am I different from others? The right direction is to look for an answer to this question not only within ourselves but also in our history, in our customs and traditions.

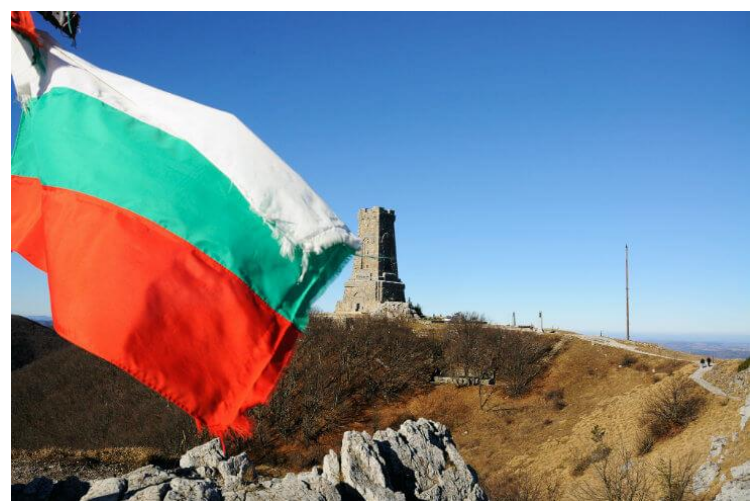
Bulgaria is an ancient country with unique heritage - majestic nature, rich past and culture. Traditions represent a bridge between the old culture and the young generation, which perceives it as knowledge of the life of their ancestors. Our history and our national spirit are built on the basis of traditions. Traditions and customs are what unite Bulgarians, no matter where they are in the world. Traditions are important because they impact our lives in a lot of positive ways. They provide a sense of belonging and meaning to our lives, a feeling of connection with time, place or people.

As for me, every touch of an old Bulgarian tradition or custom, folk song or dance fills me with positive emotions, vitality and energy. It makes me forget the little things of everyday life and feel proud to be part of something beautiful and valuable.

Traditions have passed through the centuries and that is why they carry deep meaning and significance. As W. Somerset Mogham said " Tradition is a leader, not a prisoner".

characteristic elements of their way of life and beliefs. With the customs and the rituals performed during the holidays, they have expressed their hopes for a better life. The holidays of the Bulgarians are connected with nature and its laws. Characteristic rites and customs are performed on each holiday according to the season. All of them are rich in rituals. The good and the cheerfulness, the sorrow and the hope are hidden in them.

To summarize, a lot of Bulgarian traditions and customs are preserved to this day and it is up to us to keep them alive for years to come, in order to remember the important things in life, to remember that they make us unique as a nation and create a sense of pride in each of us.



The importance of traditions in our life

VANDA VARELA, PORTUGAL

In a time in which society in general seems to be losing important values, it is important to preserve our culture, in order to maintain our national identity and our integrity.

What's more, in a world where everyone is "always in a hurry" and people don't seem to find the time to be with others or engage in more relaxing activities, traditions are more important than ever before. They give us a sense of belonging.



Being regular behaviours that a group of people repeat over and over again, at the same point in time and in the same way, traditions connect generations, bring people together, give them a sense of belonging and comfort. This sense of comfort comes from the sense of being part of a group or society that has the same values and beliefs.

In conclusion, as part of a society and as members of a family group, it's natural that we look forward to being together. Traditions allow us to do this. In addition, some of these traditions tend to be fun and we can't forget that they allow children and grown-ups to create nice memories and pass them on to the next generation.



Why is it important to keep traditions alive?

João, PORTUGAL (Class 9G)

The first thing that comes to mind when asked the question about the importance of keeping traditions alive is that culture is the identity of a people. Preserving traditions allows a people to maintain its unity and identity.

It's that unity as a group that throughout time resulted in rituals, music, singing, dancing, and other customs associated to a certain group at a specific moment in the calendar. Traditions are possible because individuals came together and traditions exist to keep individuals together as part of a group or society.

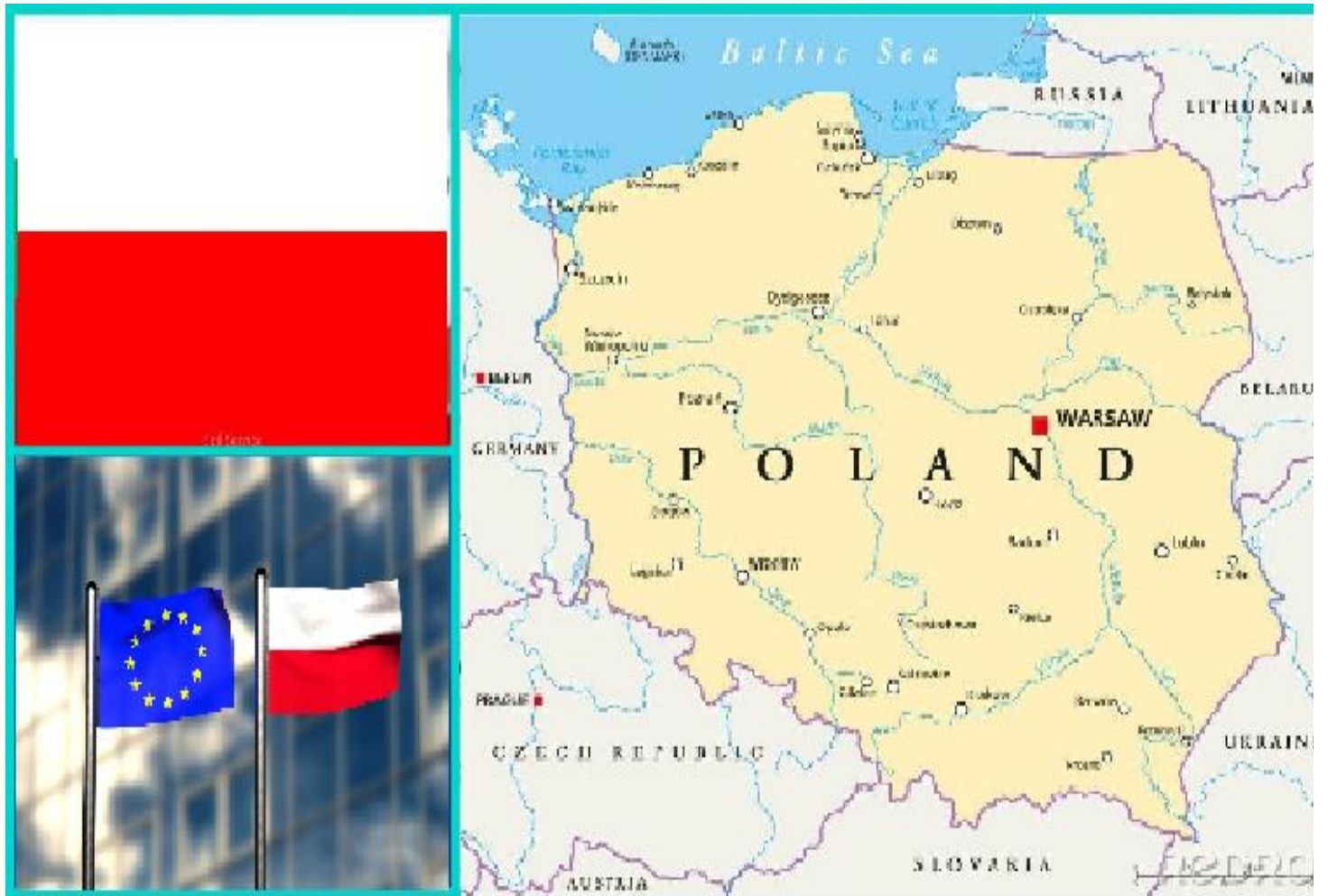
Traditions are about the past, but also about the future, since by keeping them alive we are giving future generations the right to enjoy and learn from them. They are a way to teach young people about the past and to help them understand the present. They are one of the most important ways to build relationships, acquire values and conquer a sense of belonging to a group. That's why, traditions are the identity of a people but they play a major role in shaping an individual's identity, as well.

The most popular traditional holiday in my country

Maria, PORTUGAL (Class 9G)

Along with Christmas, Easter is the most important celebration in Portugal. In general, Portuguese people are very devoted, which makes it understandable for this time of the year to be so sacred. During Lent many people make sure they attend church and, especially in the past, some very devoted people only ate fish during this period that precedes Easter. For most people Easter festivities start with Good Friday, which is a public holiday in Portugal, unlike most other European countries. On this day devoted Catholics don't eat meat. In the evening there are processions called "The Burial of the Lord". Easter Sunday is the family day and it is traditional to have a roast lamb for the main meal. This is also a public holiday in Portugal. Although Easter Monday is not an official public holiday in Portugal, some people take the day off to spend more time with their families on picnics and other outdoor activities. It is part of the Portuguese tradition for people to give each other almonds at Easter. As they have the shape of eggs, they represent Spring fertility or resurrection. There are several types: coated with a hard candy shell in a variety of colours, coated in chocolate or coated in caramelized sugar.

C2 Short - term exchanges of groups of pupils – VIRTUAL MOBILITY IN POLAND.



The virtual mobility in Poland began on the 14th of March. It was our first meeting – students and teachers. Unfortunately, the pandemic thwarted our plans. We had to hold the mobility online. The mobility started with the project opening ceremony. Mrs. Izabela Kijo welcomed all the guests, presented the delegation and recalled the goals of our project. Then, she said about the tasks and the schedule of the mobility. In this part the delegations had some time to exchange greetings and present themselves. Later, there were the slide show presentations about the traditional spring holidays in our countries. That was really interesting because we had a chance to know the differences and similarities between the spring holidays in each country. Next part was devoted to welcome party and ice breaking games. Students could talk to each other about their families, hobbies and schools. Our guests took part in PE, Polish and Music online lessons. The first day passed very quickly and was really exciting.

The second day (15th March) started with the activity called „Active Morning”. Each delegation introduced and taught one national or folk dance. We had a lot of fun. Later, there was a discussion on the similarities and differences in the ways spring holidays are celebrated in each country. Students had to make posters presenting similarities and differences. Polish students had to prepare a poster about similarities and differences between Poland and Romania. The last part of the second day was dedicated to Polish folklore – there were traditional songs, games and food.

During the third day (16th March) all the partners took part in the online workshops which were conducted by Mrs. Bożena Szmigler. She showed us how to make Easter eggs, paper flowers and Easter baskets. Then, we had a lot of time to prepare our version of Easter decorations. At the end of the day each country had an opportunity to present their works and decorations.

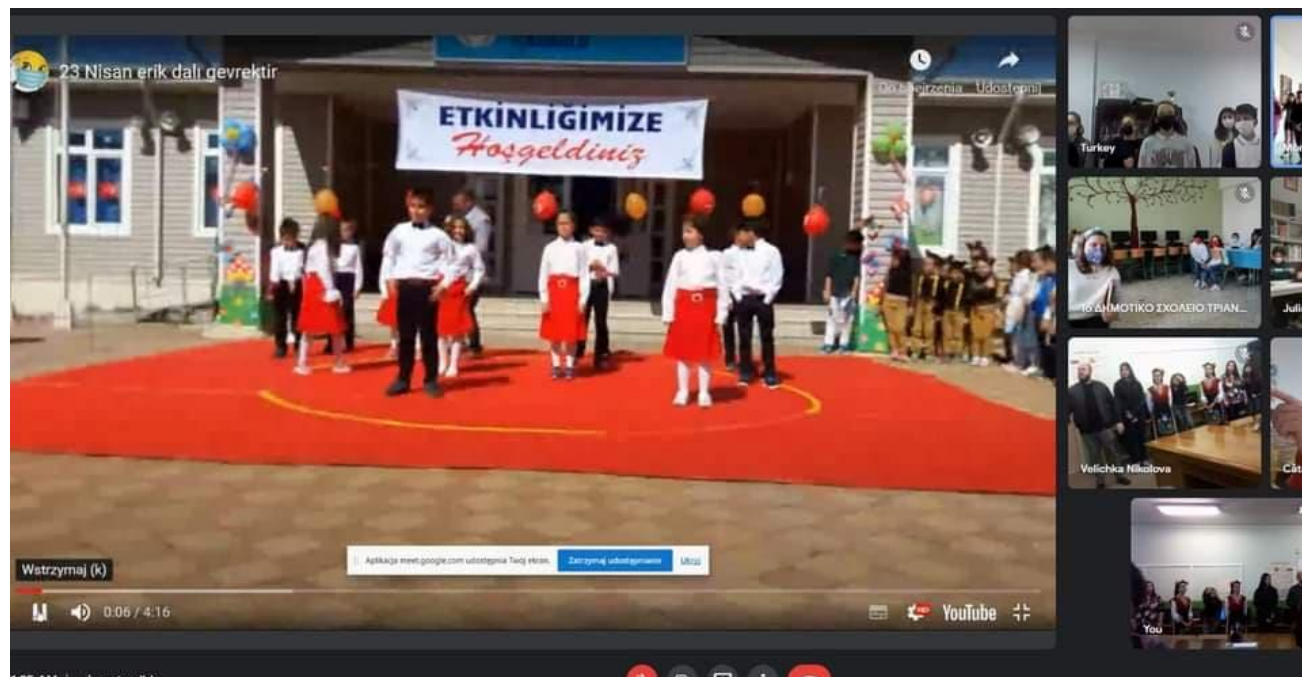
Thursday (17th March) started with a fashion show in traditional Polish costumes. The girls and teachers were dressed in local traditional dresses. At the same time, two students Łucja and Filip showed the presentation connected with different Polish traditional costumes and they described the elements of them. After that, we prepared a short video about Łowicz embroidery and weaving. Students from our school participated in the workshops a week earlier and they created amazing things. Then, it was a high time to talk about the spring holidays symbols. Each partner presented



their country's symbols and students had to prepare lapbooks as an offline activity. Polish team had to compare Polish and Romanian symbols. That was really learning experience.

The last day – Friday (18th March) was devoted to reflections and evaluation. There were the last workshops for students which were called „Mosaic of Impressions”. They had to prepare short notes and posters about their impressions and feeling about the virtual mobility in Poland. At once, there was also a teachers’ online meeting. We were talking about plans for the future and details of the mobility in Portugal. It was hard to believe that the time had passed so fast. The virtual mobility ended with the closing ceremony. Mrs. Monika Stań and Mrs. Izabela Kijo thanked for the whole week, great cooperation and gave the virtual certificates. Then we watched an unforgettable „Shadow thearte” prepared by students and Mrs. Renata Wójcik (Polish teacher) which showed the way of Jesus during the Holly Week. It was touching for all of us.

Despite the fact that we only saw each other via computer screens, we had a great time and what's the most important the goals of our mobility were achieved. Both students and teachers learned new things and expanded their knowledge about spring holidays in our countries. We hope that our partners also gained new knowledge about Poland and our traditions. It was an amazing adventure for us. We were proud that we could cooperate with such wonderful people.



Virtual mobility (14/3-18/3 2022)

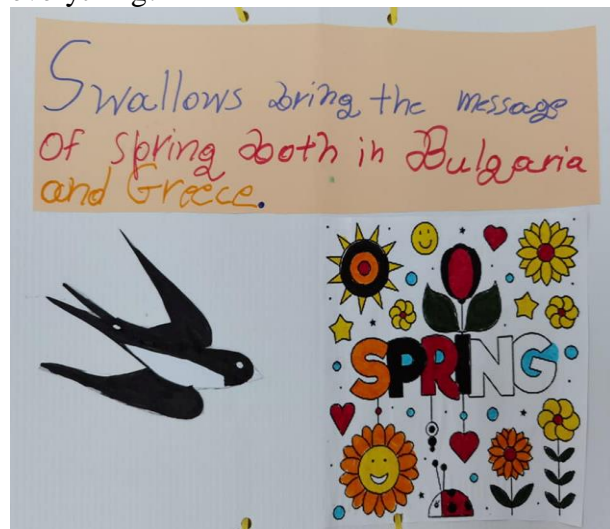
1 Dimotiko Sxoleio Triandrias-Thessaloniki, Greece

GEORGIA MAKROGIORGOU , GREECE

The experience of the virtual mobility was unique. It was our first time to participate in a 'distant' activity and we were a little stressed at the beginning, mostly about technical problems that might appear. However, everything was fine. The Polish school had prepared a detailed schedule about all the actions.

On the first day, we had the chance to experience moments of Polish culture, with presentations of the host school. Afterwards, the students of all schools of our partnership presented the spring holidays in their country. There were also ice-breaking activities with the students presenting themselves. From the very first moment, our stress disappeared and we felt at home.

The following days were full of interaction, creativity, dances and games. We danced traditional dances of all countries, we made handicrafts (Easter eggs, baskets and flowers), we prepared posters and lapbooks spotting similarities and differences among spring holidays in all countries, we played interactive games, attended a presentation of traditional Polish costumes and watched a really impressive performance of shadow theatre! Students and teachers in the 1 Dimotiko Sxoleio Triandrias were really enthusiastic with everything!



Virtual mobility

Poland 14-18 March
2022

Impressions of the participants in the mobility from 144 Narodni Buditeli school, Bulgaria

It was the first time for us to participate in a virtual meeting with students and teachers from other countries working on a project. So we were excited before the meeting but also curious to experience something new.

The meeting started with an opening ceremony which gave us the opportunity to get acquainted with the host school and get a glimpse into Polish culture.

The activities that followed were interesting and useful because they gave us the opportunity to enrich our knowledge of the traditional spring holidays and customs of our partners as well as their symbols.

It was a pleasure for us to find out the similarities and differences in the ways these holidays are celebrated in Bulgaria and Greece.

The ice breaking games were very funny and helped me learn about the schools, hobbies, and interests of the other participants in this meeting. It was a new experience for me.

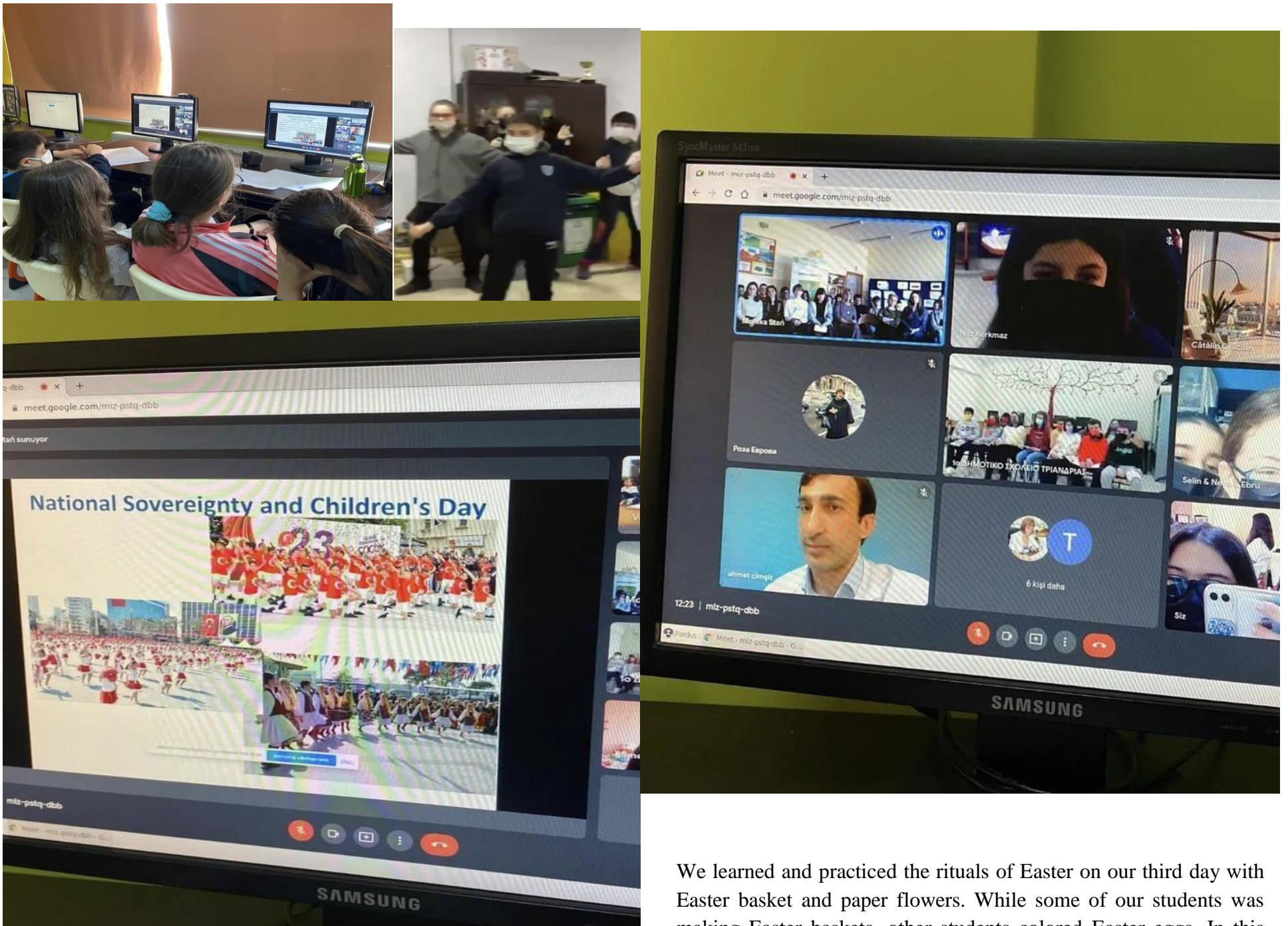
One of the most interesting activity was the so-called Active Morning. Our partners' national dance lessons were a way to learn more about their culture.

The Easter eggs painting, making paper flowers, making a lapbook for the symbols of the spring holidays of Greece and Bulgaria - it was all an existing and fun way to learn more about the spring traditions and customs. I learned a lot new things. The mobility was a great opportunity to meet new people and to learn a lot new things.



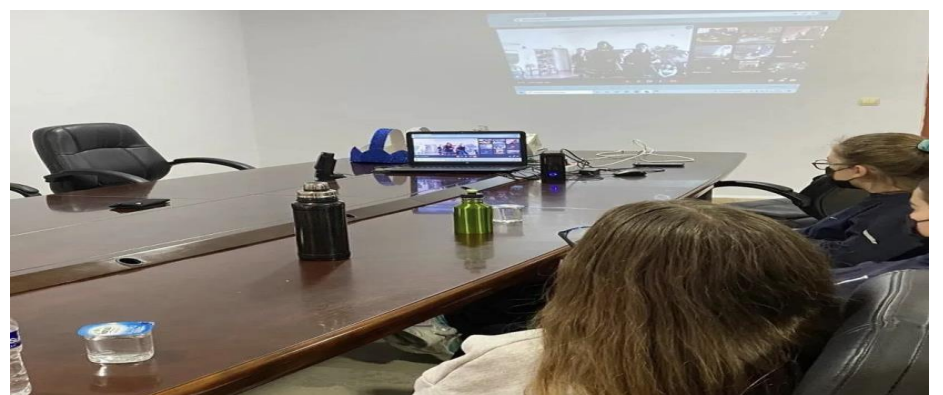


FIRST VIRTUAL MOBILITY IN POLAND – TURKEY TEAM



Our Online Erasmus programme, which the participation of students from different countries, took place from 14/03/2022 till 17/03/2022 in Poland. Students from each country made a presentation about "traditional spring holidays" by getting to know each other and giving brief information about themselves. In the presentation of each country, there were very important details about the spring holidays, colorful videos and visuals, as well as the local clothes worn by the students. With these presentations, students interacted with each other and learned about different cultures and civilizations. On the second day of the Erasmus programme, our students learned by practicing traditional folk dances of different countries, and had a lot of fun at the same time. Each country lined up to perform their traditional folk dance, and there were some wonderful displays for all students. In these images, we have seen the unique clothes of each country.

We learned and practiced the rituals of Easter on our third day with Easter basket and paper flowers. While some of our students was making Easter baskets, other students colored Easter eggs. In this event, in which each student revealed their creativity, very colorful and entertaining images emerged. On the fourth day of our erasmus programme, our students attended a presentation about a museum in Łowicz and learned about the symbols of Spring holidays. While the view of the online museum arouses curiosity in our students, the fact that it is a trip that includes cultural and historical information of different countries has greatly affected this program and our students. All the partners mentioned have argued that this Erasmus program supports education in shaping childhood and creating feelings of belonging.





Virtual Mobility to Poland (14/03/2022 to 18/03/2022) (Júlia Borges, Agrupamento de Escolas de Alcochete)

The first experience of a virtual meeting always has to take into account technological problems, sound, image, etc.

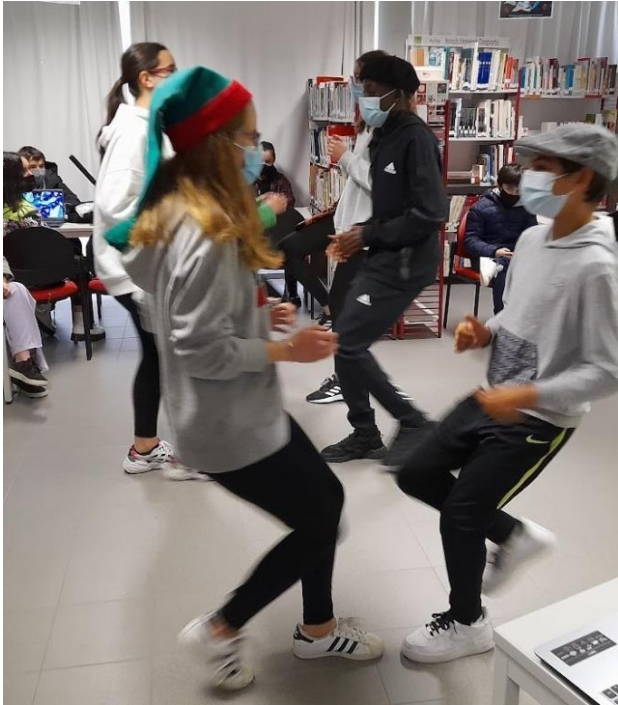
After these small initial problems, the work proposed by the Polish partners began. The work began with the greeting and introduction of all participants, followed by the presentation of the host school, as well as highlights of Polish culture.

The spring holidays were presented by the students of all schools of our partnership. After that there were ice-breaking activities between students.

In the following days there was a lot of interaction between all the participants, with traditional dances from their countries, and craft activities representative of the Easter season, such as the decoration of eggs, we made flowers and baskets, prepared lapbooks and posters showing similarities and differences between the spring holidays in the different participating countries.



We attended a presentation of a traditional Polish costumes, played interactive games and watched a very beautiful performance of shadow theatre.



**Virtual mobility 14-18 march 2022 in
Szkoła Podstawowa im. ks. Jana
Twardowskiego Maków-Poland**

CATALIN CRACIUN ,ROMANIA

We primary school students were very happy to take part in this Erasmus + project activity to learn more about the traditions and customs of other European countries. It is our first experience, and we were very happy to meet students from other countries, even if they were bitterer than us, one day we will grow up. All the activities during this virtual mobility were interesting, I made flowers, I decorated Easter eggs, in a word it was very beautiful





We were very pleased to participate in a presentation of traditional Polish costumes and watched a truly impressive performance of shadow theater.



Virtual mobility Poland 14-18 March 2022

Impressions of the participants in the mobility from 144 Narodni Buditeli school, Bulgaria

It was the first time for us to participate in a virtual meeting with students and teachers from other countries working on a project . So we were excited before the meeting but also curious to experience something new.

The meeting started with an opening ceremony which gave us the opportunity to get acquainted with the host school and get a glimpse into Polish culture.

The activities that followed were interesting and useful because they gave us the opportunity to enrich our knowledge of the traditional spring holidays and customs of our partners as well as their symbols.

It was a pleasure for us to find out the similarities and differences in the ways these holidays are celebrated in Bulgaria and Greece.

The ice breaking games were very funny and helped me learn about the schools, hobbies, and interests of the other participants in this meeting.It was a new experience for me.

One of the most interesting activity was the so-called Active Morning. Our partners' national dance lessons were a way to learn more about their culture. The Easter eggs painting, making paper flowers, making a lapbook for the symbols of the spring holidays of Greece and Bulgaria - it was all an existing and fun way to learn more about the spring traditions and customs. learned a lot new things. The mobility was a great opportunity to meet new people and to learn a lot new things.



„Mosaic of Impressions”

Barbara, 7b, Poland

Each of us enjoyed the erasmus immensely. We learned a lot about other countries' cultures and traditions. However, we must admit that at the beginning we were not eager to take part in this project, but eventually that changed. Every day we learnt something new and that's why the Erasmus became a very interesting experience for us.

Aleksandra, 7b, Poland

Our impressions of the Erasmus+ project are very positive. We had a great time and learnt a lot about the culture of other countries. There was a really great atmosphere and everything was perfect! We spent this time getting to know each other and learning a lot!

Oliwia, 7b, Poland

In our opinion it was really nice to spend time and meet new people. We had a chance to learn about traditions of other countries and show you ours. During games it was really fun and cool. Doing artwork was a bit complicated and we had a slight crash. We enjoyed dancing the most.

Julia, 7b, Poland

For the past week we have been participating in a workshop about spring holidays in other Erasmus+ project countries. We were impressed by how many interesting things there were in this workshop. We learned about spring traditions of other countries. We danced national dances, had fun and made comparative posters of Poland and Romania. We enjoyed the dances the most. We danced Turkish, Romanian, Greek, Portuguese, Bulgarian and our own, Polish dances. Everything was very well done. We impressed!

Erasmus+ in Poland - my feelings

My favorite activity during this whole project were national dances, because now i can see how unique every country is.

Also playing ice-breaking games was really fun for me

This project was a chance for me to learn some languages



On Monday, we learned about the traditions of other countries.

We made Easter decorations on Wednesday

On Friday, the project finished and we summed up the whole week.

Erasmus+

On Thursday, we presented folk costumes and made lapbooki.

On Tuesday we started the morning with folk dances and finish with posters.

I am very happy that I could take part in the project and improve my English. I am also positively surprised by the wasps that I met.

Łucja





Erasmus+ Our impressions after the Erasmus+ project



Mobility

- ❖ Opportunity to know a new country and it's culture
- ❖ Meet new people, make friends and learn another language
- ❖ Reinforces knowledges, skills and attitudes
- ❖ Educational, social, personal and professional development
- ❖ A way to share and change ideas
- ❖ Stimulates creativity and curiosity
- ❖ Be independent and a better person

Hope to see you soon!
Alcochete - Portugal



An experience for LIFE!

WE ALL BELONG TO EUROPE

PORTUGUESE STUDENTS' EVALUATION

Hi! My name is vitória. It was a pleasure to meet you all, I really enjoyed interacting with you . My favourite activity were the ice breaking games. And I hope to meet you soon here in Portugal.

hello my name is carolina, I really enjoyed this week this project is awesome. The activity that I liked the most was the ice breaking games from yesterday. I hope to see you soon here in Portugal and I'm really glad that I'm part of this project.

hello my name is Soraia. I loved to be part of this project. My favourite activity were the ice breaking games. It was nice to meet all of you. And I hope to see you here in Portugal.

Hello my name is Miriam Cardoso. I love being part of this project, I really want to go to the outside to meet you face to face. It was really fun to be here this week. You guys look lots of fun. I can't wait to welcome you here! Kisses from Portugal.

Hi , my name is Miriam Costa. I love this project. My favourite activity were the ice breaking games. It was really fun. Im waiting here for you!

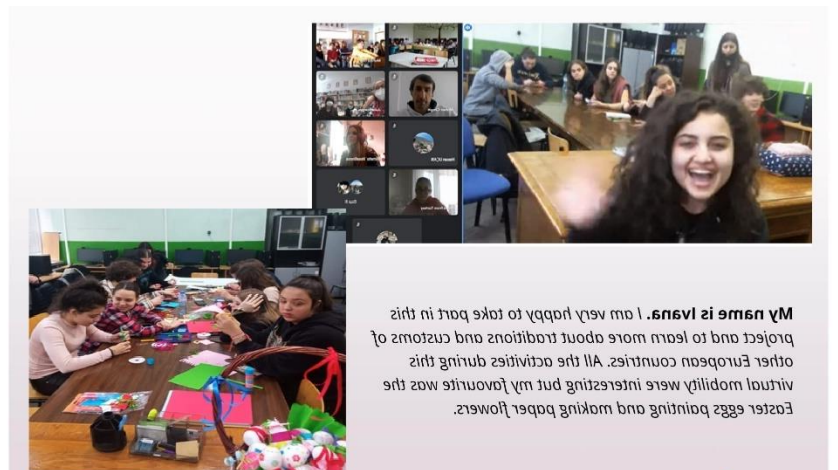
Hello , my name is Carolina. I loved this project. My favourite activities were to make the easter eggs and the ice breaking games.

hi my name is Marta Soares. I've loved the ERASMUS+ project! It has been a pleasure to work with all these diffent country's, cultures and languages! I'm very gland that I was able to get admitted into this. My experience was amazing, I'm very excited to meet you in person. Thank you and until next time!

STUDENTS FROM BULGARIA

Daria Shanova

The participation in the project meeting was a very good way to get acquainted with the culture and traditions of different countries. In my opinion all the online and offline project activities were very interesting and useful. I liked the way the tasks and themes were presented. The ice breaking games were very funny and helped me learn about the schools, hobbies, and interests of the other participants in this meeting. It was a new experience for me.



My name is Iana. I am very happy to take part in this project and to learn more about traditions and customs of other European countries. All the activities during this virtual meeting were interesting and I favorite was the Easter eggs painting and making paper flowers.



Yoan Tsankov

This virtual mobility was an existing and fun way to learn more about the spring holidays and traditions of other countries. It was interesting to find similarities and differences in the ways our Greek partners are celebrated the spring traditional holidays and to make a poster about them.



Let's talk about some of the most prominent traditional Bulgarian holidays - the spring holidays!

My name is Milena. I study choreography at my school and for me the most interesting activity was the so-called Active Morning. Our partners' national dance lessons were a way to learn more about their culture. I enjoyed taking part in this online meeting.



Anna Kozarova

I am very happy to be part of the project because it is important to keep the traditions alive. This online mobility was very interesting and useful. We had a lot of different activities. It was a lot of fun to make a poster about the similarities and differences between the Greek and Bulgarian spring holidays. I am grateful for this week because thank to the activities we did I learned a lot new things. The mobility was a great opportunity to meet new people.



My name is Rumén. The week of the online project meeting was memorable because of the creative activities I did with my classmates and our European partners. Every day was something new and interesting. It was a pleasure to me to take part in the mobility and to learn more about the ways the traditional spring holidays are celebrated in other countries.



Mitko Miladinov

I really loved being a part of such an amazing project meeting. I had the opportunity to learn so much about other cultures and traditions and to meet students and teachers from our project partners countries. I am looking forward to meeting all of you so we can have a great time together, this time in person.








Maria-Mei Pencheva


This online mobility was very useful for me. I learned a lot of new interesting things about our partners, their countries, school life and their traditions. The participation in this meeting helped me to improve my English. I liked all the activities especially making a lapbook for the symbols of the spring holidays of Greece and Bulgaria.



Maria Veselinova
I had an amazing time participating in this project. I loved learning about other cultures and creating a video to represent my own country. Decorating together was extremely fun too! I'm looking forward to learning more and meeting with my new friends again.

My name is Bozhidara. I am so glad that I had the opportunity to be a part of this project. It was really fun and interesting to meet new people and learn about the cultures of other countries. I really loved the ice breaking games and all of the projects that we made. I really hope that I'd have the chance to be a part of this again.



I am grateful to have participated in this project and I want to thank everyone for the amazing experience. I loved the games we played and the dances and drawings we did. Meeting new friends and seeing people from other countries was very interesting too. I think the project turned out lovely and that whole week of doing it was very exciting, which kept me going through it. I am looking forward to doing something similar again because I'd gladly do it one more time. It was all very intriguing and thrilling. **Sincerely from me, Victor from Bulgaria.**




The people /teachers and students/ we met



The activities we did



POSTER CREATED BY GREEK STUDENTS



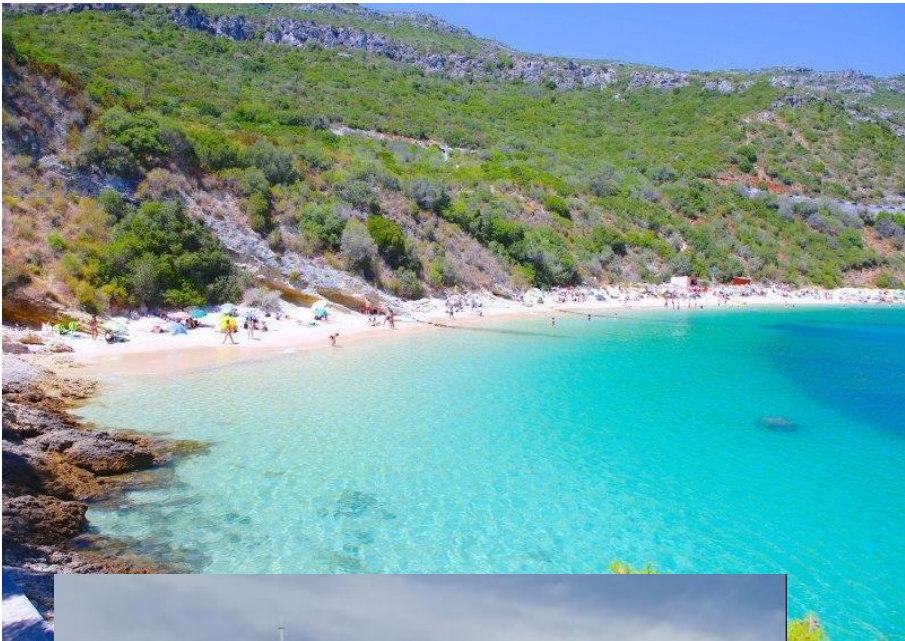
C3 SHORT - TERM EXCHANGES OF GROUPS OF PUPILS –MOBILITY IN PORTUGAL.

Mobility to Portugal (08/6/2022 to 14/6/2022)

JÚLIA BORGES, AGRUPAMENTO DE ESCOLAS DE ALCOCHETE

During this week we try to do maximum to show to the partners our culture, how we live, our little town and our river Tagus. The time was short and there are so much to show: how we play with bulls in the street, to have a picnic in the field where are horses, enjoy lunch aboard the "Bote Leão". We tried to give a little idea of how we are, our culture, how we welcome partners and celebrate our holidays. During the whole week we visited Lisbon where we went to visit the Bordalo Pinheiro museum and the beautiful garden. Visit to Setúbal and eat "Sardinhas assadas". They interacted with school students, saw a puppet theater, made by Portuguese students, visited the Municipal Museum and in a workshop they learned how to make medals for Our Lady of Atalaia. We visited the village of Alcochete and took a walk along the Tagus River in the Bote Leão, we were received at the Alcochete City Hall where we had a snack and received some gifts.





BULGARIA

What impressed us during the mobility in Portugal?

The school of our partners from Portugal in Alcochete is very nice and somehow different from ours in Bulgaria. The first thing I noticed when we entered it were the large figures on the ceilings. It has a bookstore, a spacious library with computers, a music room with many musical instruments. I liked the place for charity. There were donations for children in need - food, clothes, toys and books. But above all I was impressed by the students - noisy like us but very friendly and kind.

I really enjoyed participating in the mobility in Portugal, because I met wonderful people and made friends with some of them. When we were in their school we attended a music class. My school is a school of arts and I study music /play the piano/ so it was a pleasure to be in such a class. I was very impressed by the way the Portuguese students study the beauty of music. I played the piano for them. We all had a great experience talking in the language of music.

The last day of the project meeting was extremely interesting. In the morning we watched a school theater "Robertices". The students who took part in it were very talented. Then the closing ceremony began. Each of us was awarded certificates. Ivana from my school and I were asked to sing. It was a pleasure for us to sing two nice Bulgarian songs.

The long-awaited surprise followed - a boat trip on the river. The boat was handmade. The landscape was beautiful. The last day was magical.



GREECE

We had fun in Alcochete, Portugal!

BY DEPPY, 12 YEARS OLD, 1 DIMOTIKO SXOLEIO TRIANDRIAS, THESSALONIKI, GREECE

Firstly I have to say that "Erasmus" had a lot of fun and I am not regretting this wonderful experience. I met new people, I learnt about the culture and I also made a lot of friends! Our team had a lot of fun too!

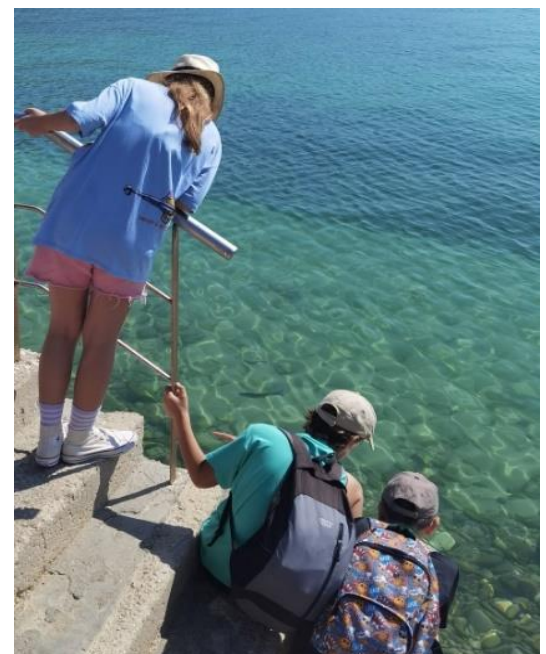
1st Day: We entered the school from Alcochete for the first time! We were waving to everyone, we got a lot of hugs and we had a little tour at their school which had fun! They gave us traditional food, juice and tea!

2st Day: We went to a mountain for a walk. After this whole walk we really swam at the Atlantic Ocean! We went to the dolphin museum which was really pretty and charming! But my favorite part of the day was the afternoon because we visited "Cals do Contre" (Lisbon square). We ate waffles all together and we played at a nearby park.

3st Day: We had to walk 6 kilometers at the "Salinas". After that our principal bought us ice cream! We also went to Sporting stadium! My friends got so excited!

4st Day: We visited Lisbon again at the Bardaro Pineiro museum! My favorite part was the part that we saw a whole garden with peacocks. They were so lovely! After this exotic museum we ate pizza at a beautiful place (Rua Augusta)

5st Day: Some kids from their school played theater! After the play we got flowers and presents! We also visited the mayor! We were just a little bit noisy! Then we ate cake and then we got in a boat! We were laughing all the time and it had fun!





Alcochete, Portugal! APRILL 222

ROMANIA

Erasmus + is the life-changing program for both teachers and students. Each experience brings invaluable cultural and educational riches. The experience spent at Agrupamento de Escolas de Alcochete was one with a special load. Although our team was reduced in number due to a student injury, the three boys had fun and made new friends.

On the first day of the mobility, our team visited the school, got to know the students and the school representatives. The very welcoming hosts offered the guests a traditional culinary delight.



The second day began with a trip to the mountainous area around Alcochete.

After exploring the mountainous areas, the students made contact for the first time with the water of the Atlantic Ocean, visiting the port, all this leading to a state of joy and a unique experience.

On the third day I discovered how the sea salt is collected from the salt pans around "Salinas". Our students discovered the totally different collection method from ours in the country, where we only have underground salt mines, a stage of mining.

Day 4 of mobility in Portugal was dedicated to museum visits which was very delightful for the students



Day 5 of mobility. The children from the host school made a play that they presented to us, then we all participated in the kraft art activity, and the treasure hunt.

Our students had a lot of fun, they were impressed by the hospitality and warmth with which they were received this week at the school in Portugal.



POLAND

Polish team in Alcochete in Portugal!

On the 9th of May four students of our school – Weronika Zarebska, Amelia Piechut, Zofia Antoniuk and Dominika Wawrzyn with two of their teachers Ms Karolina Bartoszek and Mrs Monika Olejnik flew to the capital of Portugal – Lisbon to get to Alcochete – a place where the mobility of Erasmus+ project took place.

On the first day, they met the groups from Romania, Greece and Turkey and together they visited Agrupamento de Escolas de Alcochete. During the PE classes our girls were invited to learn a Zumba dance, what integrated the teams. On that day there was another international activity, which was scavenger hunt. During this game, the participants of the mobility were divided into international teams and were discovering the most important places of Alcochete. On Tuesday there was one of the most exhausting activities - a walk at the salines which was about 9 kilometers. The girls learnt there how the salt is extracted. During the mobility, they visited interesting places such as Lisbon or Setubal, where they could learn some history and get to know the culture of Portugal. During the final ceremony, the Polish team received certificates, they watched a puppet show in English. However, the best surprise of the last day of the mobility was a cruise, during which all the participants swam under the Vasco da Gama bridge and could see it in all its glory. During the free time the Polish team could explore the wonderful garden and swimming pool within the antique hotel in Alcochete.



The mobility in Portugal was a great adventure, which allowed to get to know the culture of the country, the traditions and holidays people in Alcochete celebrate. The students had a great opportunity to speak English and make new, international friendships.



C4 SHORT - TERM EXCHANGES OF GROUPS OF PUPILS –MOBILITY IN ROMANIA.

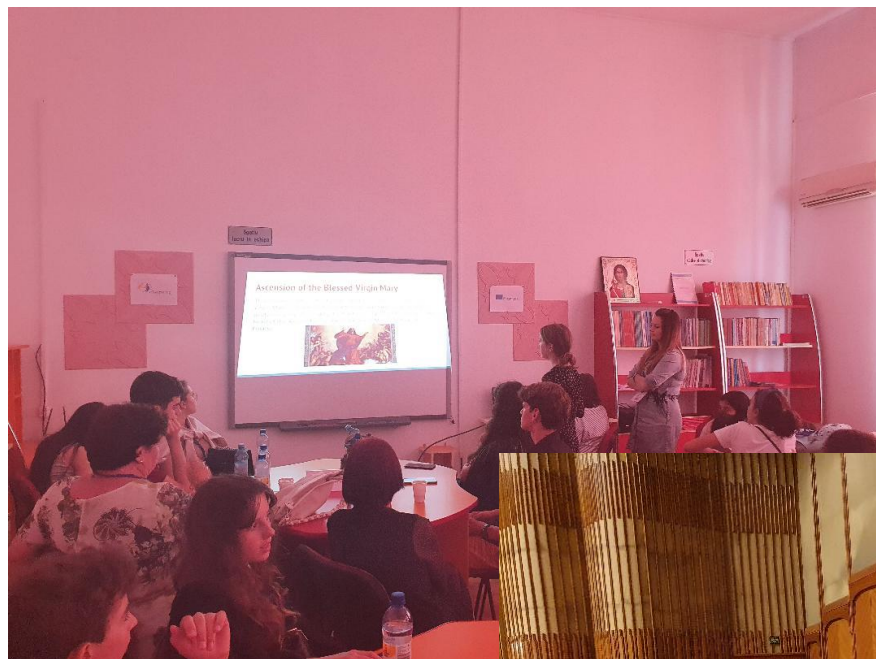
**Scoala Gimnaziala „George Valsan,,
Amara-Ialomita-Romania
29 May-4 June 2022**

The mobility from Romania took place between May 29 and June 4 physically, being hosted by the George Valsan Amara Secondary School, Ialomita County.

It started on Sunday, May 29 by receiving the delegations from each country. The first day of mobility included a cultural day, namely the visit of the second largest building in the world, namely the House of the People - or the Palace of the Parliament. then activities at the Village Museum in Bucharest.



The next day, the children's day was celebrated in our school, then we presented the spring holidays to each school.



At the same time, the project and program inspector Simona Tont and the mayor Alin Sorin Sandu were also present at the opening activity in the school.



The third cultural day aimed at making a trip to Dino Parc, the second largest dinosaur park in South-East Europe, and visiting Bran Castle, known in the world as Dracula's Castle.



On the fourth day, we had a lighting workshop at the National Museum of Agriculture in Slobozia, where students and teachers painted mugs, braided special bracelets, took note of the spring and summer holidays from the exhibitions held in this museum.



I visited the Cathedral of Slobozia, the Ascension of the God, on the very day of the patron saint.



The fifth day took place in the dendrological park of Amara, the largest park in South-East Romania, a park of 70 hectares. Here the students participated in the treasure hunt, made constructions with the help of birds and gummy candies, participated in activities of kraft art.



Shared moments from our participation in the mobility in Romania 29 May - 04 June

The Bulgarian students participated in the mobility

The project meeting in Romania started in Bucharest. We visited the Palace of Parliament. It was really exciting to see and learn more about the world's second -largest administrative building.

We were also very impressed by the Dimitrie Gusti Village museum - an open-air ethnographic museum. There we saw authentic rural houses from different regions of the country and different time periods.

The next day we were in the town of Amara and were warmly welcome by the students and teachers of the host school.

After a tour of the school, all partners gave presentations about their countries, cities and schools. The next activity was presenting of the presentations for the traditional summer holidays. The presentations were interesting and useful and gave us the opportunity to expand our knowledge about our partners - schools, traditions and customs.

It was a real pleasure for us to participate in the workshop in National Museum of Agriculture , where we showed our creative skills.

We visited the Saint Hierarch Nicolae church in Amara and Ascension of the Lord cathedral in Slobozia and had a trip to Dyno Park and Bran Castle. We will keep wonderful memories of visiting these sights of Romania. The last day was filled with fun games - treasure hunting, sports games, art craft activities and finally Certificate award ceremony.

It was a week that gave us a lot of emotions, new friendships and knowledge about other cultures.





Mobility in Romania 29/05/2022 - 04/06/2022

**Abdullah Kagan Güre /
Özel Çerkezköy Gülerçin Ortaokulu**

On the first day, we were greeted nicely by Mr. Catalin at Bucharest Airport. We were very excited for this meeting. We were hosted very well in Euro Hotel where we stayed.

On the second day in Romania, we went to the Parliament Building after breakfast. It's forty years old and has huge rooms. One clap sounds has many claps. A Bulgarian student named Gabi sang a song for us here and we enjoyed it very much.

Then we went to the city museum and saw different cultural objects in every place we went. It was incredible. They took us to Amara for dinner. The food we ate there was delicious. We finished our french fries and fish with a chat with our new friends.

When we went out to eat, we bought some food and went to the animal museum. In this museum, where many photographs were taken, we collected unforgettable memories. For dinner, we attended a dinner with Bulgarian and Portuguese participants. This was very important in terms of communication and acquaintance between students and teachers.



On our third day in Romania, we woke up early and took the bus to Dino Park. We also ate our sandwiches on the bus. We had our lunch at the restaurant next to Dino park. It was great for us to discover new places with new people. When we went to Dino Park again, we saw very old animals. We continued our journey with Dracula House. We bought nice gifts for our family and friends from there. We would like to leave a nice note; 1th June is Children's Day for Romania!

On our 4th day in Romania, when we went to school, we met Romanian students. Students opened a "welcome" banner for us. We celebrated the children's day in the garden of the school and everything was beautiful. They put on good shows for us. For example, magician did some magic. Then, we watched each country's own presentation and ate our hamburger for lunch. After our meal, we went to the church next to the school.

On our 5th day, we visited the painting museum. We made wristband and we painted the glass. Then we had our dinner at the restaurant.



On the 6th day, we went to the park, which is 10 minutes away, and played various games there. The game was to find the hidden photo from a cake. After this game, we got our Erasmus certificates. On the last day, we went to the geology museum and saw stones. We drank our coffee by the lake and went to the restaurant for dinner. This program has certainly been very useful for all students.



‘The mobility in Romania was a lifetime experience’

**George, 11 years old, 1 DimotikoSxoleio
Triandrias, Thessaloniki, Greece**

We travelled to Bucharest Romania. We visited the House of People. It was huge and I liked it very much.

The next day we travelled by bus to Amara. The way students and teachers welcomed us in Secondary School George Valsan was very moving. I will never forget it! There, we met children from the other countries Portugal, Poland, Bulgaria and Turkey and we had our presentation. We also met the mayor of Amara

who was very friendly. The following days we visited Saint Nicholas church, Amara Dino Park where we saw a lot of dinosaur models in various sizes. We also visited the famous Bran Castle. The castle was very big and a little bit scary!

In the national museum of Agriculture we painted our own cups and during the last day we had a treasure hunt, sport games and art workshop in Amara Park.

Sadly, we had to come home! I’ve made a lot of new friends from all over Europe! Thank you, Erasmus+ !!



„WE DIDN'T REALISE WE WERE MAKING MEMORIES, WE JUST KNEW WE WERE HAVING FUN” – POLAND IN ROMANIA

KAROLINA BARTOSZUK, POLAND

On the 29th of May four students of our school – Julia Sałkowska, Barbara Starzec, Wojciech Korbeń and Filip Warulik with two of their teachers Ms Karolina Bartoszuk and Mrs Monika Olejnik flew to the capital of Romania – Bucharest to get to Amara – a place where the mobility of Erasmus+ project took place.

On the first day, they met the groups from Portugal, Greece and Turkey and together with the Romanian teacher they were exploring Bucharest and visited one of the biggest buildings in the world – Parliament. On the same day, they travelled to Amara.

On the second day of the mobility all the groups were warmly welcomed at the Secondary school George Valsan in Amara, there were dances, a magician show and a meeting with the mayor of the city. All the groups showed the presentations of the summer holidays and afterwards they visited the Saint Hierarch Nicolae Church. On Wednesday, there was a trip to Râșnov, where a Dyno Park is located and the children could explore it, which they enjoyed very much. They ate a traditional Romanian diner and afterwards they went to Transylvania to see the Bran Castle – a place where Dracula used to live (or maybe he is still there?). The children didn't see him because it was daytime. On Thursday all the teams went to Slobozia to a local museum for workshop where they made their own cups and bracelets. The same day they visited the Monastery of Holy Archangels Michael and Gabriel which was majestic. The last day brought a lot of fun, because the children were hunting for treasure in the local park. After the hunt, all the groups received certificates and made paper decorations.

The mobility in Romania was an excellent opportunity for our children to discover the culture, traditions, holidays of that country, but also to make new friendships and have a lot of fun.







MOBILITY TO ROMANIA (30/05/2022 TO 4/06/2022)

(by Júlia Borges, Agrupamento de Escolas de Alcochete)

On the first day of work, still in Bucharest, we visited the People's House- Parliament of Romania and the Dimitrie Gusti Village Museum.

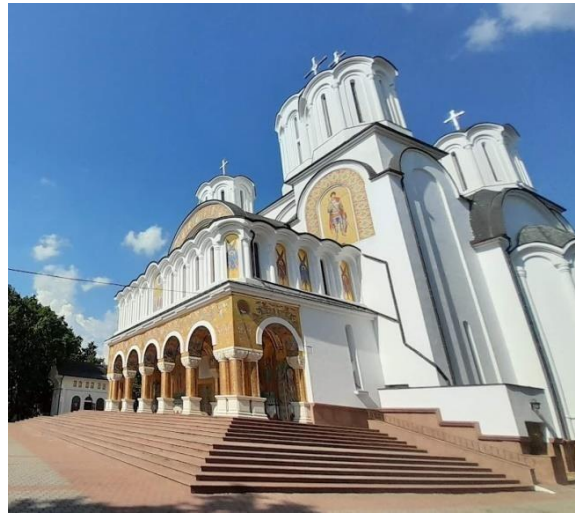
Upon arrival at the host school in Amara - George Valsan Secondary School, there was a reception made by the students to open this mobility. We visited and witnessed the festivities leading up to Children's Day.

At school, there was a brief meeting with the mayor of Amara.

All schools presented their countries and their school, as well as the Presentation of Summer holidays. Then, when we visited the Church Saint Hierarch Nicolae, we met the priest who explained the history of the church and the associated symbology.



Over the next two days, we had a workshop at the National Museum of Agriculture in Romania, visited the Ascension of the Lord Cathedral and The Monastery the Holy Archangels Michael and Gabriel in Slobozia, a Tresor Hunt, Sport Games and Art Craft were mad



C5 SHORT - TERM EXCHANGES OF GROUPS OF PUPILS –MOBILITY IN TURKEY.

Mobility in Turkey

Georgia Makrogiorgou, 1 Dimotiko Sxoleio Triandrias, Thessaloniki, Greece

The mobility in Turkey was organized from the 12 to the 18th of June, 2022. We arrived by bus from Thessaloniki to Çerkezköy, on Sunday. The next day, we visited Gülerçin College. Our impressions were the best. A well-organized school, with warm teachers. Everything went according to schedule: Presentations of the autumn holidays by each partner, lunch at a restaurant with very delicious dishes, meeting with the mayor of Çerkezköy Town Hall, local dances workshop where all delegates performed one of their local dances and taught it to other delegates.

On Tuesday 14 June there was the trip to Edirne. We visited Selimiye Mosque, Sultan II. Bayezid Complex, the Health Museum and Grand Bazaar. Our tour guide was very informative to help us get as much as possible of the spirit of multiculturalism through history.



On Wednesday 15 June students and teachers at school, enjoyed playing basketball and volleyball and in the afternoon we all had the chance to attend and take part in the magnificent end-of the year show of Gülerçin College. All partners also took part at the show with a local dance. On Thursday 16 June there was the trip to İstanbul. The trip included Topkapı Palace, Hagia Sophia and Grand Bazaar. There, we had also a wonderful tour guide who helped us get a feeling of the city and its history.

On Friday we had the Certificate Ceremony in Gülerçin College Conference hall and we were all sad we had to leave. At the same time, we were full of knowledge, interaction, warm feelings.

Thank you teachers, staff, students of Gülerçin College, for the hospitality you offered! We left with the best impressions.





Impressions from the mobility in Turkey

Georgina Daneva, 9th grade student, Bulgaria



This was my first participation in an Erasmus + project mobility. Before leaving Bulgaria I was excited and a little worried about what was to come. But fortunately, everything that happened was interesting, fun and useful.

The college we were in most of the time is really impressive with its spacious classrooms and gyms. I willingly participated in all activities because they gave me new knowledge and emotions. The presentations for the autumn holidays presented by all the countries participating in the meeting helped me to expand my knowledge of their traditions and customs. I liked all the traditional dances presented during the dance workshop, but my attention was drawn mostly to the Polish traditional dance, which although difficult was fun. The farewell ceremonies for their students were a bit boring to me because they mainly spoke Turkish but it was interesting to learn more about their school traditions.

I participated in the sports games that helped me make friends with students from partner schools. The trips to Edirne and Istanbul were tiring but worth it as I saw interesting sights of the host country.

Participating in this meeting was an exciting and rewarding experience that I will remember it for a long time.



Mobility in Turkey

Athanasia F. (11 ys old)
1 Dimotiko Sxoleio Triandrias

Our mobility in Turkey lasted just 7 days, but it seemed to last 2 weeks! I think that this is because we learnt a lot and visited many places. So, I am going to tell you a few things about what we did these days!

First, in Gülerçin College we met kind and welcoming staff and students! Every day we were learning new things and making new experiences with our classmates and new friends.

On Monday we had a guided tour in the school. Then, we visited the mayor of Cerkezköy. He had a very cute cat! After that, we had lunch and came back to school to present our holidays and folk dances!

On Tuesday we had a trip to Edirne. We went sightseeing and to some museums. We were having an enjoyable time when suddenly it started to rain. We hid under a shed of a mosque!

On Wednesday we visited the education director and the district governor. We played volleyball and basketball in the school gym. In the afternoon we performed on stage our folk dances.

On Thursday we had a trip to Istanbul. We went to Hagia Sophia, Topkapi palace and Kapali Carsi.

On Friday we took our certifications and went for our last shopping! We left at 16:00 of Friday and arrived in Thessaloniki at 5:30 of Saturday!

Mobility in Turkey 12-16 June 2022 OZEL CERKEZKÖY GULERCIN EGITIM KURUMLARI LTD.STI

Mobility in Turkey was organized between June 12 and 17, 2022. We boarded cars and left for Hebri Coanda International Airport in Bucharest. This time our team was very large, because the students and the teacher who should have accompanied them in the mobility from Poland, which took place due to pandemics virtually, also participated physically.



The first day of mobility began with a visit to the school spaces, a real school campus with all the facilities integrated in a single building.



After that we were received by the person in charge of education in that region, and by the mayor of Çerkezköy, a very young, charismatic and full of initiative guy. He briefly presented the vision about education and development of the region, that is why the implementation and participation of students in such projects are very important.



After these brief visits and official meetings we actually entered the activities of this mobility where our students and teachers presented the autumn holidays for each participating country, after which we took part in a local dance workshop where all participants learned the other colleagues from the countries. partners of the traditional dances project.



Our students had lunch in traditional Turkish style with selected dishes and the most refreshing Ayran.





On the second day, Tuesday, June 14, the cultural trip to Edirne, the first capital of the Ottoman Empire, took place, where we visited the Selimiye Mosque, Sultan II. Bayezid Complex, Health Museum and Grand Bazaar. We had a guide who made everything he told us a true story for children and teachers, which mattered a lot because we didn't get bored. I also had a visit to the bazaar in Edirne.



On Wednesday, the third day of mobility in Turkey, June 15, the guest and host students and teachers enjoyed playing basketball and volleyball, and in the afternoon we all had a special surprise to be little stars and to participate in the magnificent end-of-year show of Gülerçin College. All partners presented a traditional fans at this show.



On Thursday, June 16 as part of the mobility, the trip took place in the old capital of the Ottoman Empire İstanbul. The trip included Topkapı Palace, Hagia Sophia and the Grand Bazaar. There, we also had a wonderful tourist guide who shared with us the ancient history of the city, of the monuments, we discovered the Sword of the ruler of Moldova Ștefan cel Mare și Sfânt. All this made us feel very good at a lesson in culture, history and civilization.



On Friday, the last day of the mobility, I attended the certificate ceremony in the conference room of Gülerçin College and we were all sad that we had to leave and say goodbye, hoping to see each other again as soon as possible. We leave Turkey, from Gülerçin College with beautiful impressions, with thanks for the warm hospitality with which we were received and with which we were protected for a week. We can only thank all those involved in organizing this mobility.





‘Buying postcards at every memorable place you visit’ – Report from Poland

KAROLINA BARTOSZUK, POLAND

On the 12th of June four students of our school – Jakub Jach, Piotr Gradowski, Wiktor Gałazka and Karol Sasim with two of their teachers Ms Karolina Bartoszuk and Mrs Edyta Mazurek flew to Istanbul to get to Çerkezköy – a place where the mobility of Erasmus+ project took place. On the first day, they met the groups from Greece and Romania and together with the Turkish teacher they were welcomed in Gülerçin Koleji in Turkey. There was an introduction and trip around the school, all the groups showed their presentations of autumn holidays and then altogether they went for a meeting with the mayor of the town. The same day they had a traditional lunch in a local restaurant, and they learnt the traditional dances of other countries. The Polish team presented “Belgijka,” however it was more difficult than other countries’ dances but everyone had a lot of fun. On Tuesday there was a trip to Edirne, where the students could see the bridge located in Karaagac and an old train station. Then, they visited a complex of Sultan II. Bayezid and a Grand Bazaar where they could buy some souvenirs.



On Wednesday, there were sports activities, students of all countries could play different sports with their teachers. Afterwards, there was a meeting with the Minister of Education and Police Governor. Then, they came back to school to see the end of school year ceremony and there was a certificate ceremony for the Erasmus+ participants. The next day, there was a trip to Istanbul, where the participants of the mobility visited the Blue Mosque, Haga Sophia, Tokapi Palace and did shopping at the Grand Bazaar. On Friday, they went one more time to school to receive gifts and say goodbye to the Gülerçin Koleji. The mobility in Turkey was very interesting, our students could discover the culture, traditions and national holidays of the country, and listen to the prayers of the people in mosques.

C6 SHORT - TERM JOINT STAFF TRAINING EVENTS – VIRTUAL MOBILITY IN GREECE.

Virtual mobility in Greece

ANTHOULA PAPAGEORGIOU, 1
DIMOTIKO SXOLEIO TRIANDRIAS

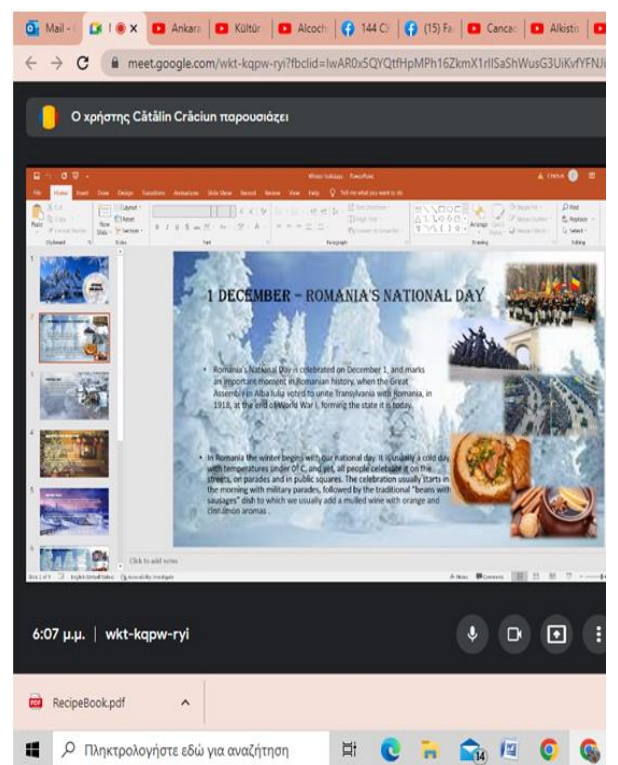
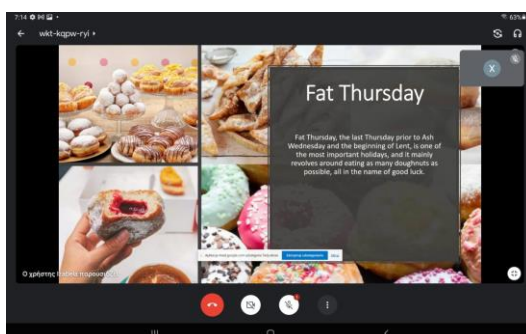
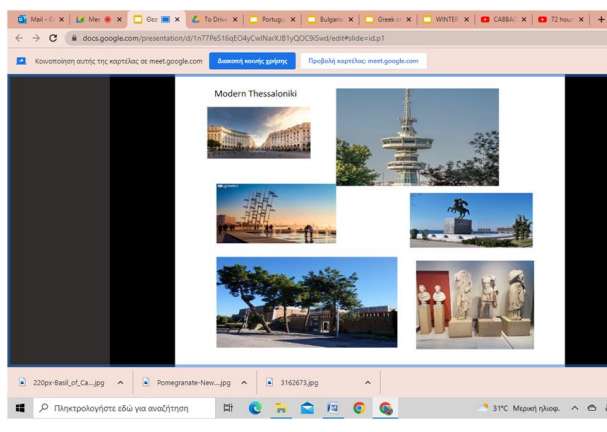
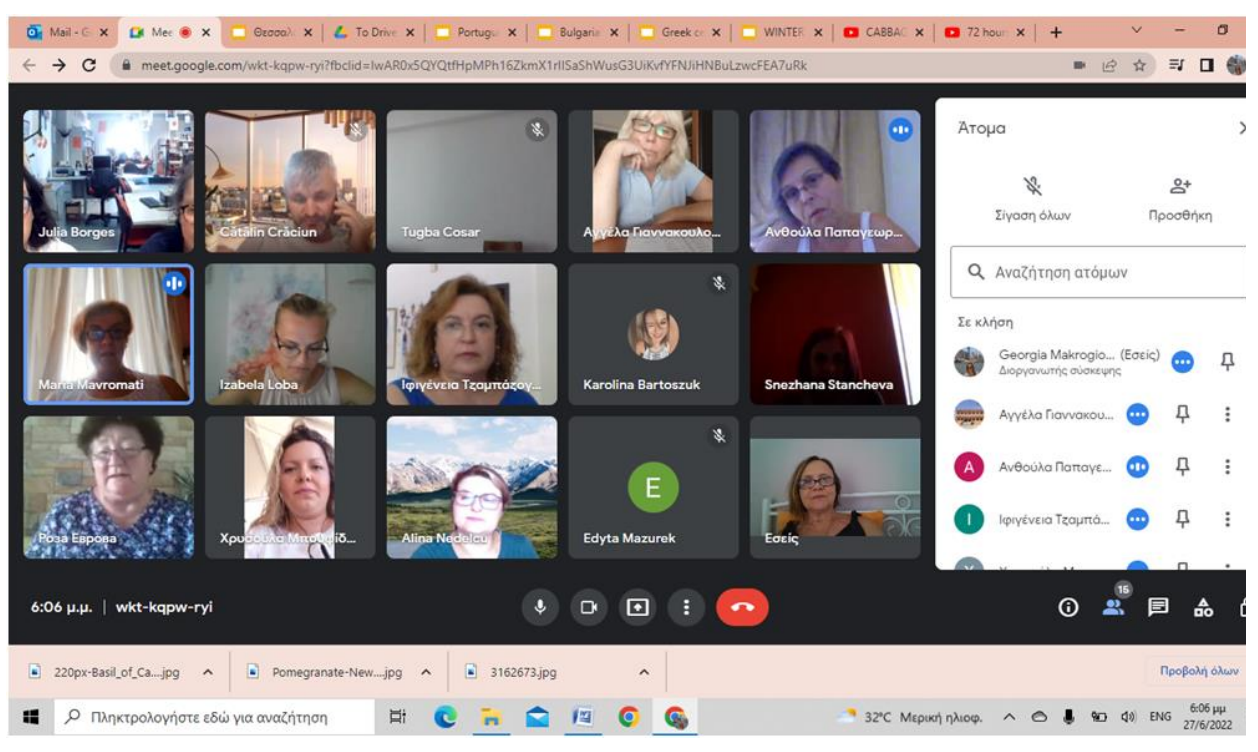
The programme was completed with the virtual mobility to Greece on 27-29 / 06/2022 successfully and properly organized by the host school with the excellent cooperation of all participants.

The first day opened with impressions and feelings about the experience of the project and started with the presentation of the Greek Educational System by the Principal of the host school. Watching a video we travelled through Greece and especially Thessaloniki.

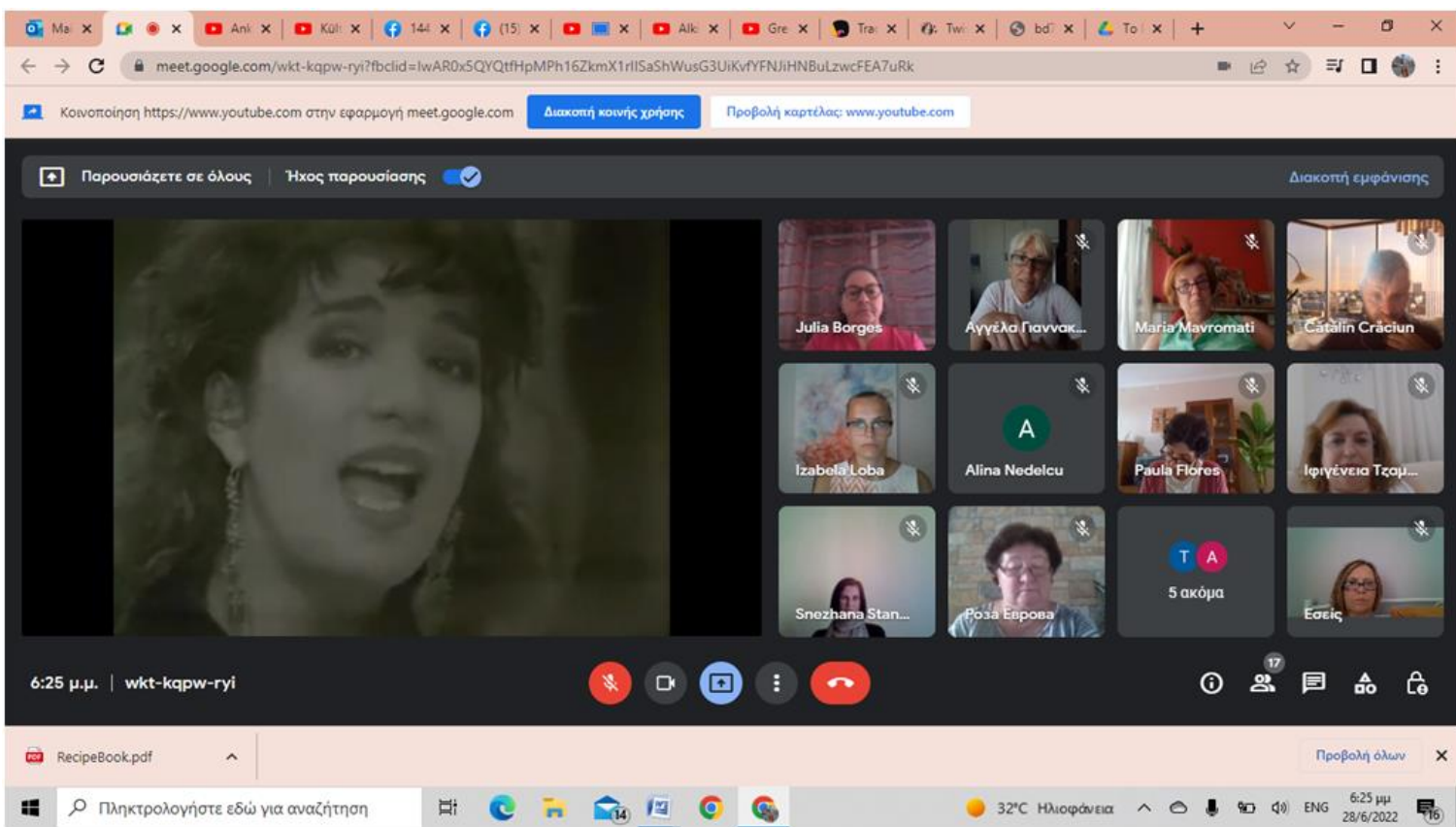
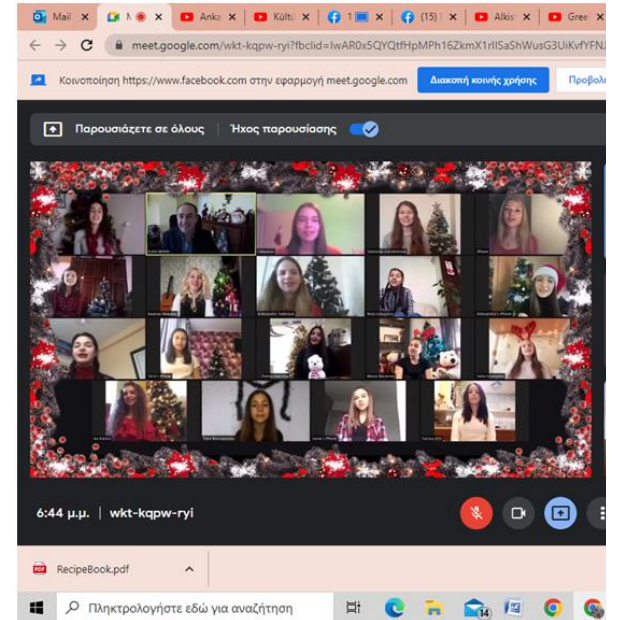
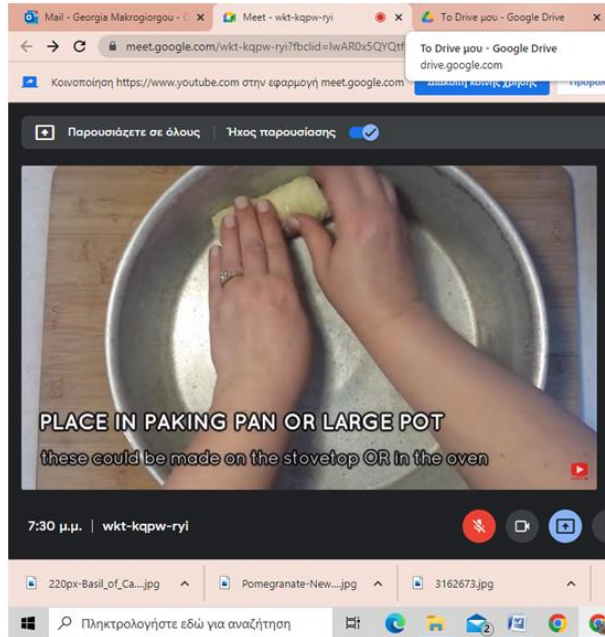
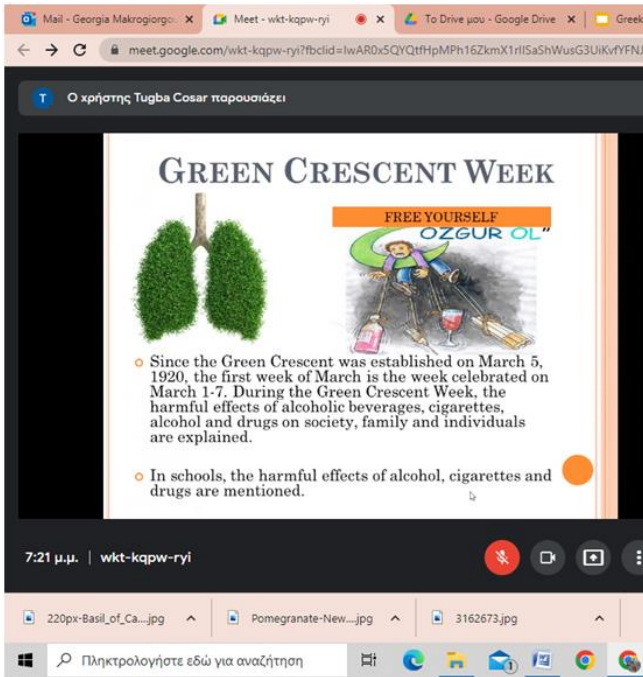
The presentation of the traditional winter holidays in all the partners' countries was of great interest as among Carnival Entrudo in Portugal, St Nicolas who protects sailors in Bulgaria and Greece, the Advent Fast, Fat Thursday in Poland, even the Bulgarian traditional bread on Christmas, the similarities and differences among traditional holidays and how they affect pupils' education were discussed and posted on a padlet. The first day ended with Greek traditional recipes.

The second day was a joyful singing afternoon with one song from each country. Discussion followed on the symbols and colours of the traditional costumes with a lot of similarities and common elements among the countries. The day ended with evaluation of the project products created during the programme, the calendar, the recipe book, the phrase book, the newspaper and the booklet and of the final products as well.

On the third day after discussing ways of dissemination and the final project report, thoughts of future cooperation and communication were expressed. Afterwards the participants had fun with summer handicrafts by making paper fans with feelings about the programme written



on them as well as paper boats writing on the names of Greek islands that each one wished could visit. The last day closed with evaluation of the short-term joint staff training event while feelings, thoughts and memories were posted on padlets.

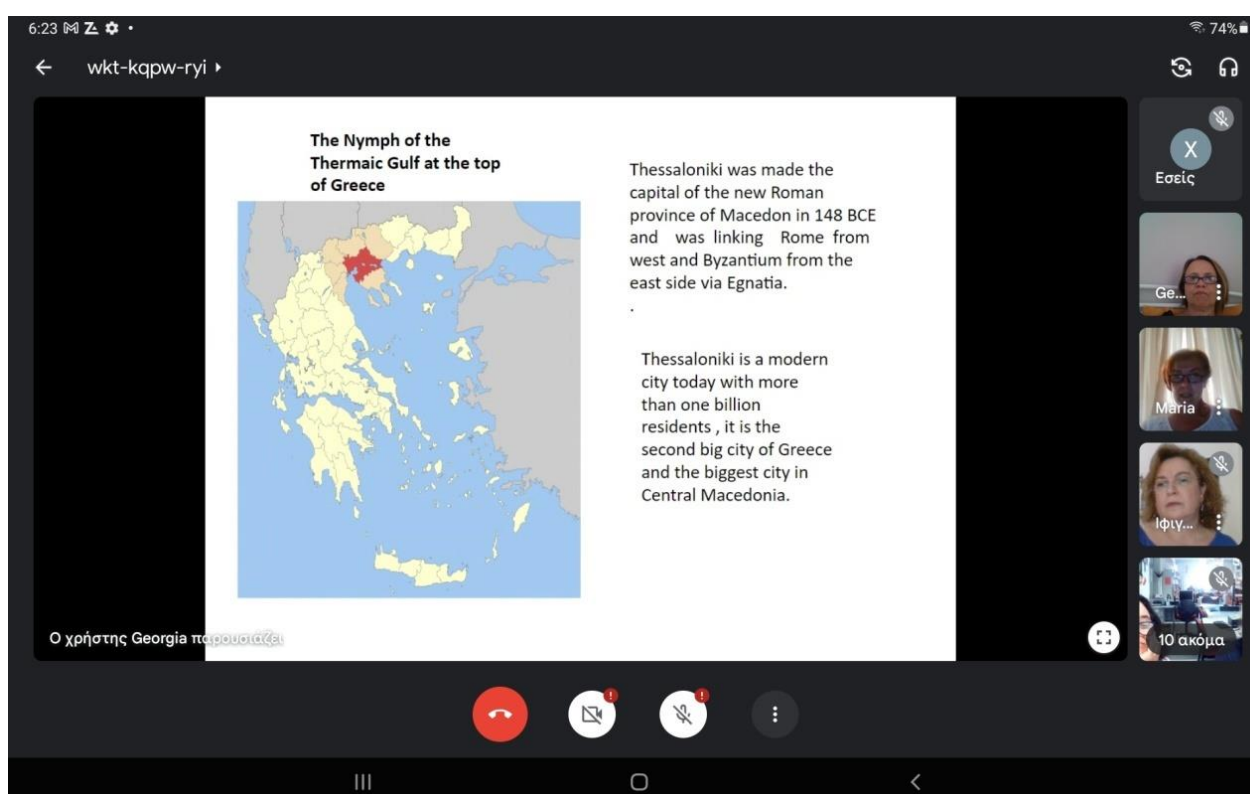
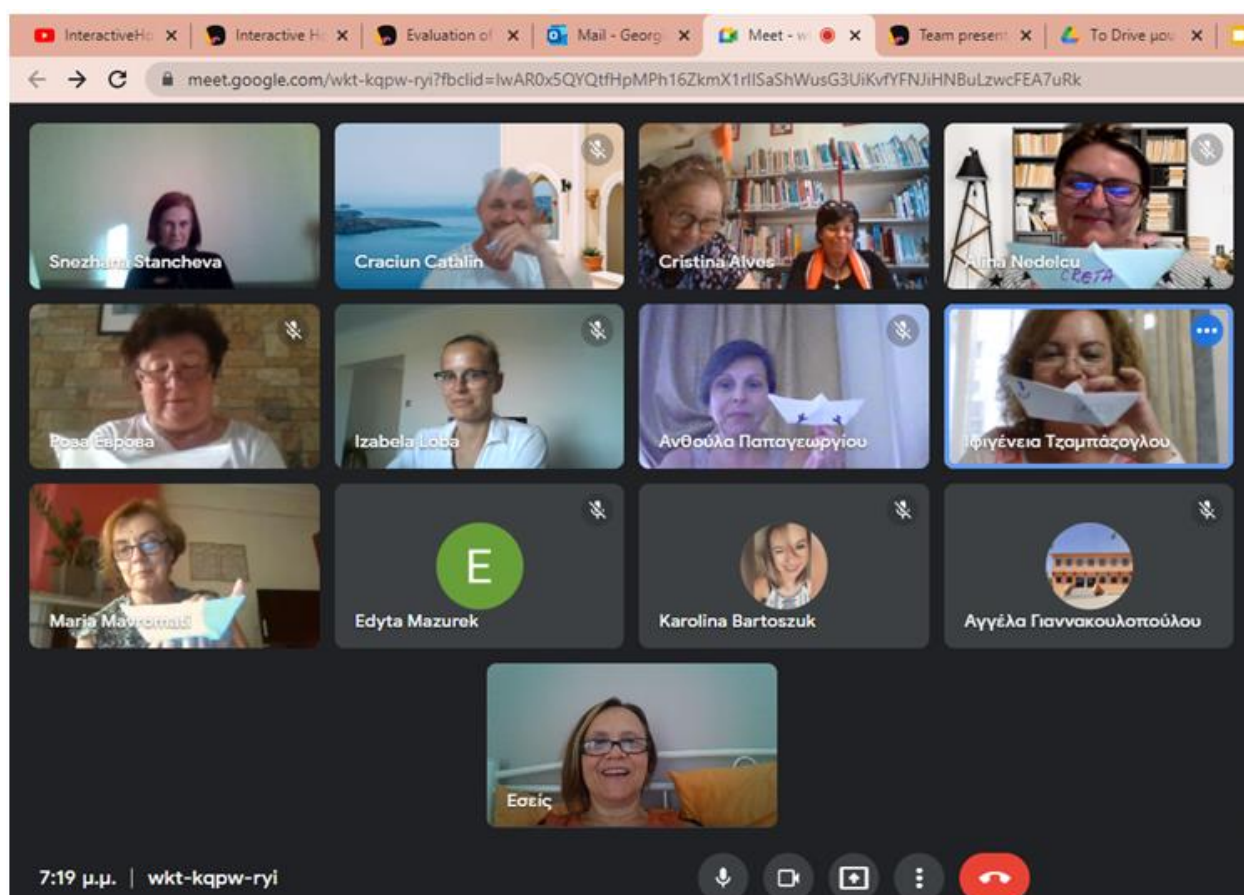


The last virtual mobility in Greece

MARIA MAVROMATI, 1 DIMOTIKO SXOLEIO TRIANDRIAS

The last mobility took place from 27/6/2022 till 29/6/2022 virtually in Thessaloniki. The partners were welcomed with a video and a presentation about the city, the Nymph of Thermaic gulf.

Each of them presented the traditional celebrations and customs of the winter from his country and the costumes that people wear during the celebrations. In addition, videos with winter views, recipes, famous songs, colors and beauties from each place were added in the program. All mentioned the similarities that exist in the traditions of their country. Participants discussed the latest issues that they have to be completed and they expressed their view about their ideas written in the padlets as well. At the end, they made some summer handicrafts, a small ship and a fan to welcome the summer. All the partners mentioned, in the context of evaluation, the importance and the value of the tradition in shaping the child's identity and creating the feeling of belonging and that this Erasmus project is a supportive part of this educational procedure.



VIRTUAL MOBILITY IN GREECE – REPORT FROM BULGARIA



Snezhana Stancheva, 144 Narodni Buditeli School, BULGARIA

It was the last mobility of the project and the second one for teachers only. The meeting was beneficial thanks to the good organization made by our hosts and the active participation of the partners.

We were introduced to the Greek education system by the school principal and took a virtual tour of Greece, Thessaloniki and the host school. No less interesting was the presentation of traditional Greek dishes.

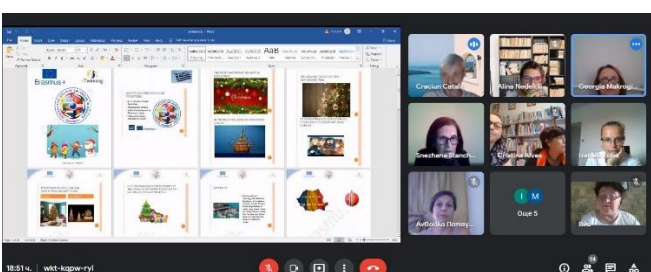
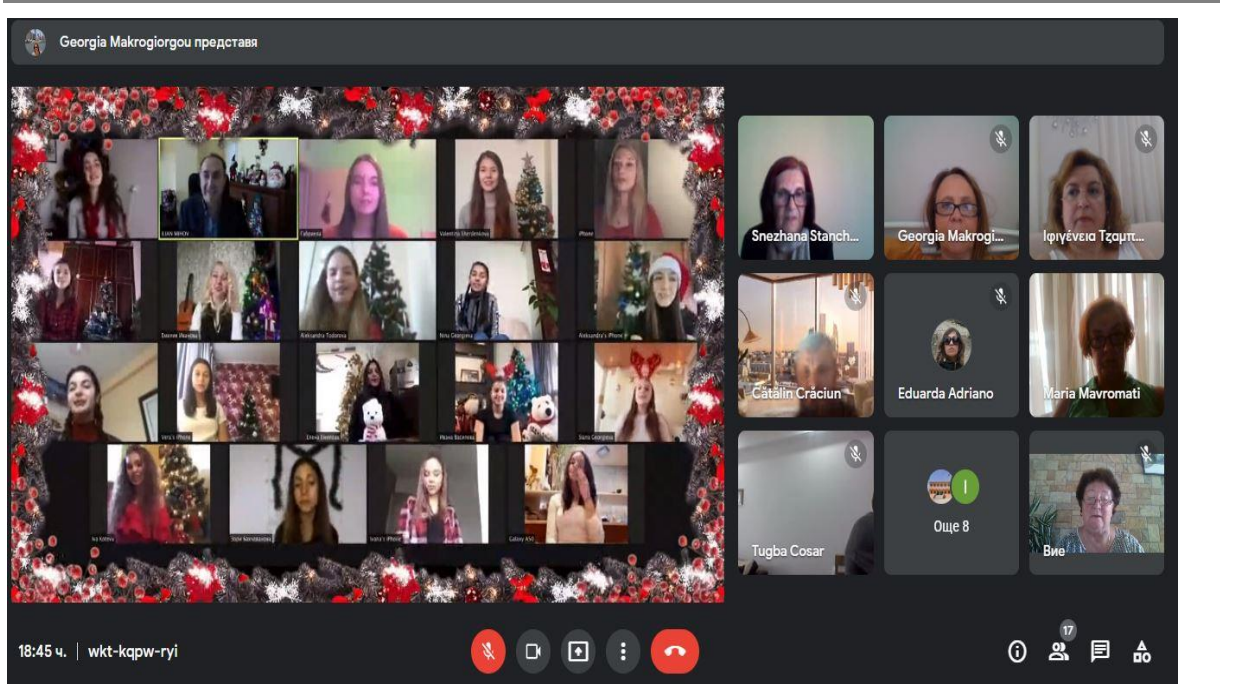
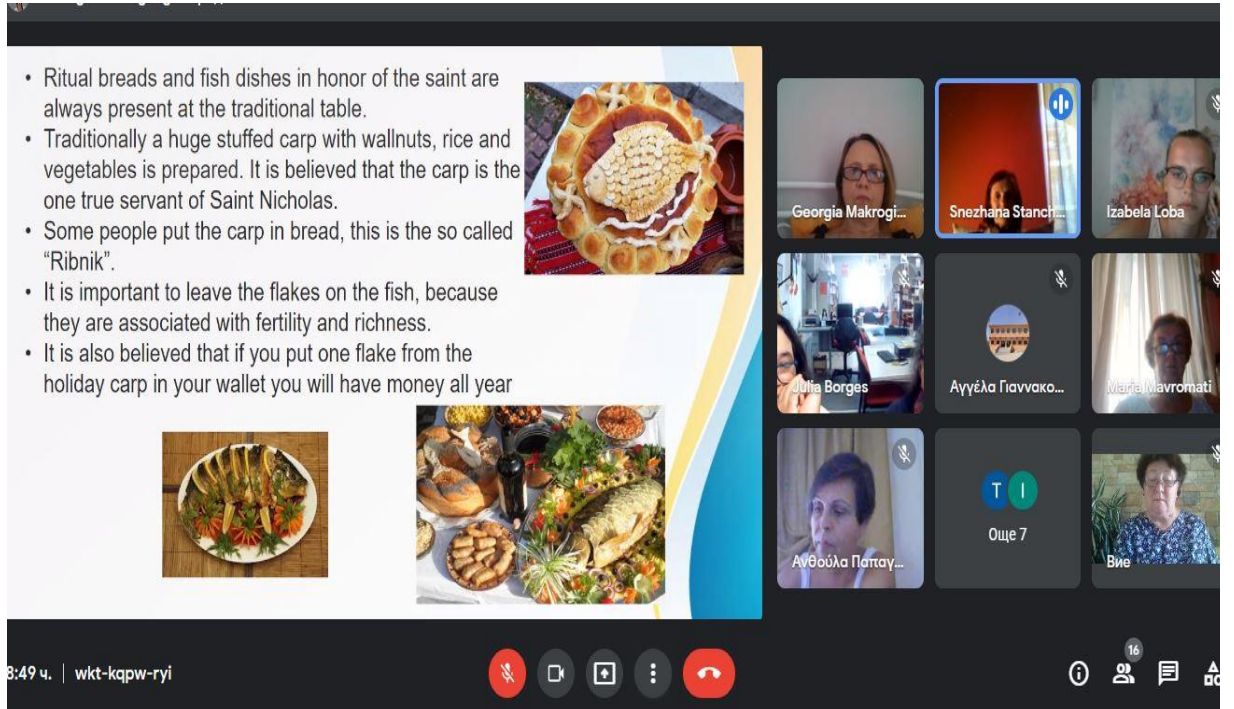
Slide show presentations about the traditional winter holidays in each partners' country were presented and then the similarities and differences in the way they are celebrated were discussed. There was another discussion on how holidays and traditions affect pupils' education. Participating teachers posted their opinions on the topic on a padlet as well.

We presented our traditional costumes and discussed the colors and symbols they contain as well the similarities and the common elements between them.

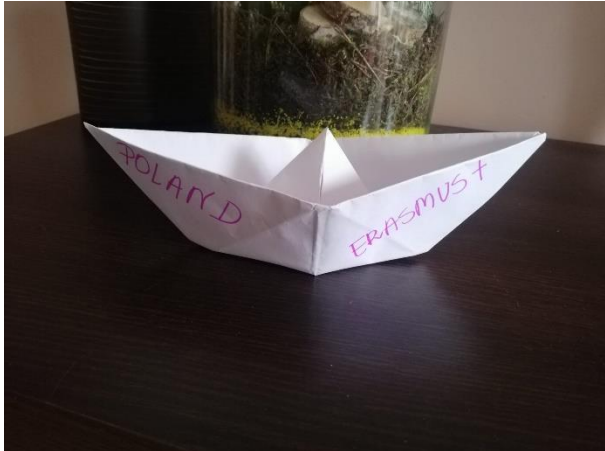
An evaluation of the final project products was made - the Interactive Holiday calendar in Europe, the Phrase book, the Project Recipe book, the Project Newspaper, the booklet. Suggestions for some corrections and additions were also discussed. We also discussed the ways of dissemination of the project activities in each school, the preparation of the final project report and future plans for cooperation and communication.

The participants in the meeting expressed their overall impressions and feelings about the project activities. Later we posted them on a padlet.

The mobility ended with an evaluation of the of the short-term joint staff training event and afterwards we uploaded our impressions on a padlet. The introduction of beloved and popular songs related to certain celebrations from each country as well as the paper fan making workshop made the meeting interesting and fun.



VIRTUAL MOBILITY FOR TEACHERS IN GREECE - POLAND

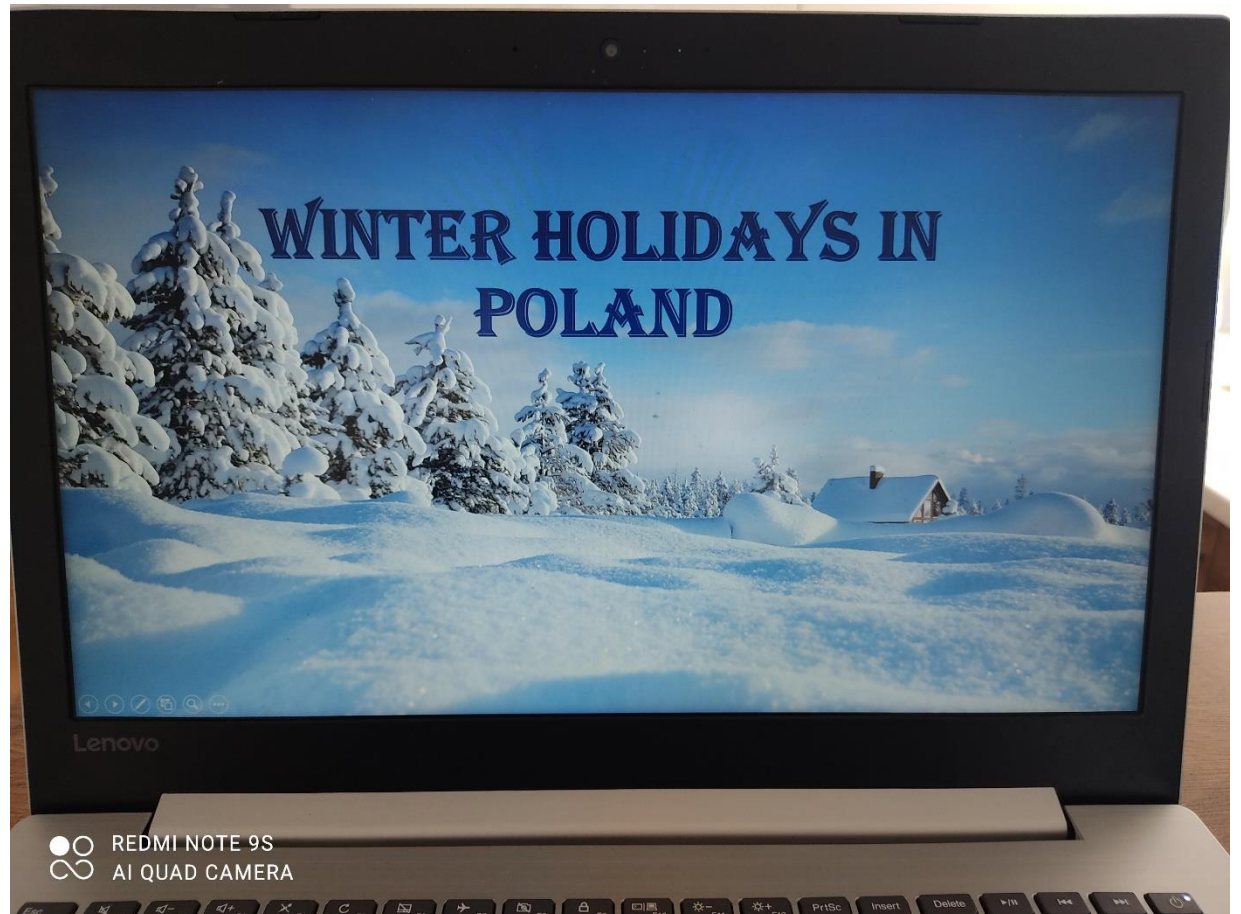


IZABELA KIJO, POLAND

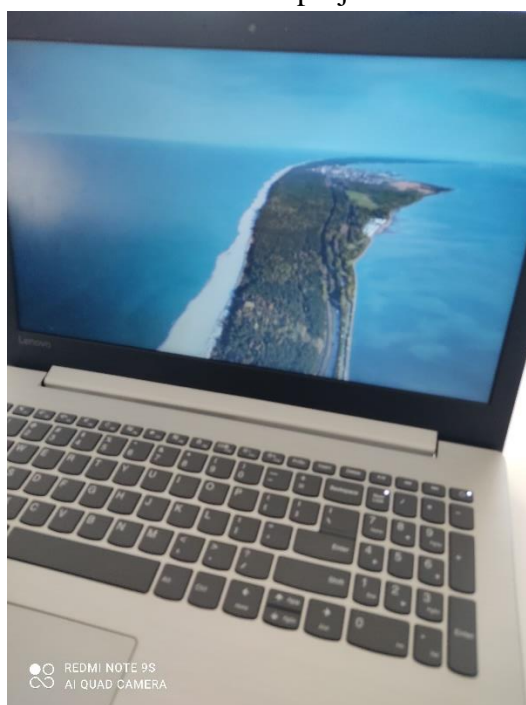
The virtual mobility for teachers took place in Greece, Thessaloniki from 27th of June to 29th of June. Finally, we had an opportunity to know all the teachers involved in the project.

During the mobility we have a lot of time to talk about the whole project, final works and documents we have to complete. Host country - Greece prepared also many curious and interesting presentations and tasks for us.

The first day was rather official. We listened to the presentation about Greek educational system. It was presented by the headmistres of the school. Later, there was a presentation of the host school, the city and the country. We wish we could see it live. The views of the city – Thessaloniki were absolutely outstanding. After that, each country presented a slide show presentation about the traditional winter holidays. At the end, we could talk about the issues connected with the project and plans for the next day.

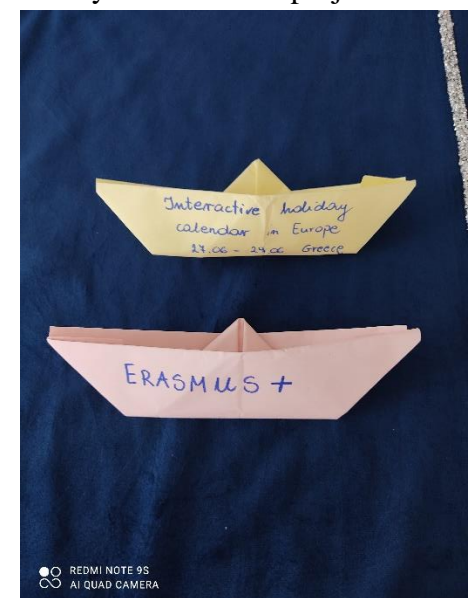


The second day started with the presentations of traditional songs. Polish team decided to show the song „Tu wszędzie jest moja ojczyzna”. It is closely related to our country, feelings and patriotism. Moreover, the presentation included Polish symbols, the most important places in our country and, of course, beautiful views. Then, each country showed the presentation about their traditional costumes, its symbols colours. The second day of the virtual mobility ended with the discussion about final products of the project and „homework”. We had to write an article about traditional holidays and how they affect pupil’s education. We can say that it was the evaluation of the project.



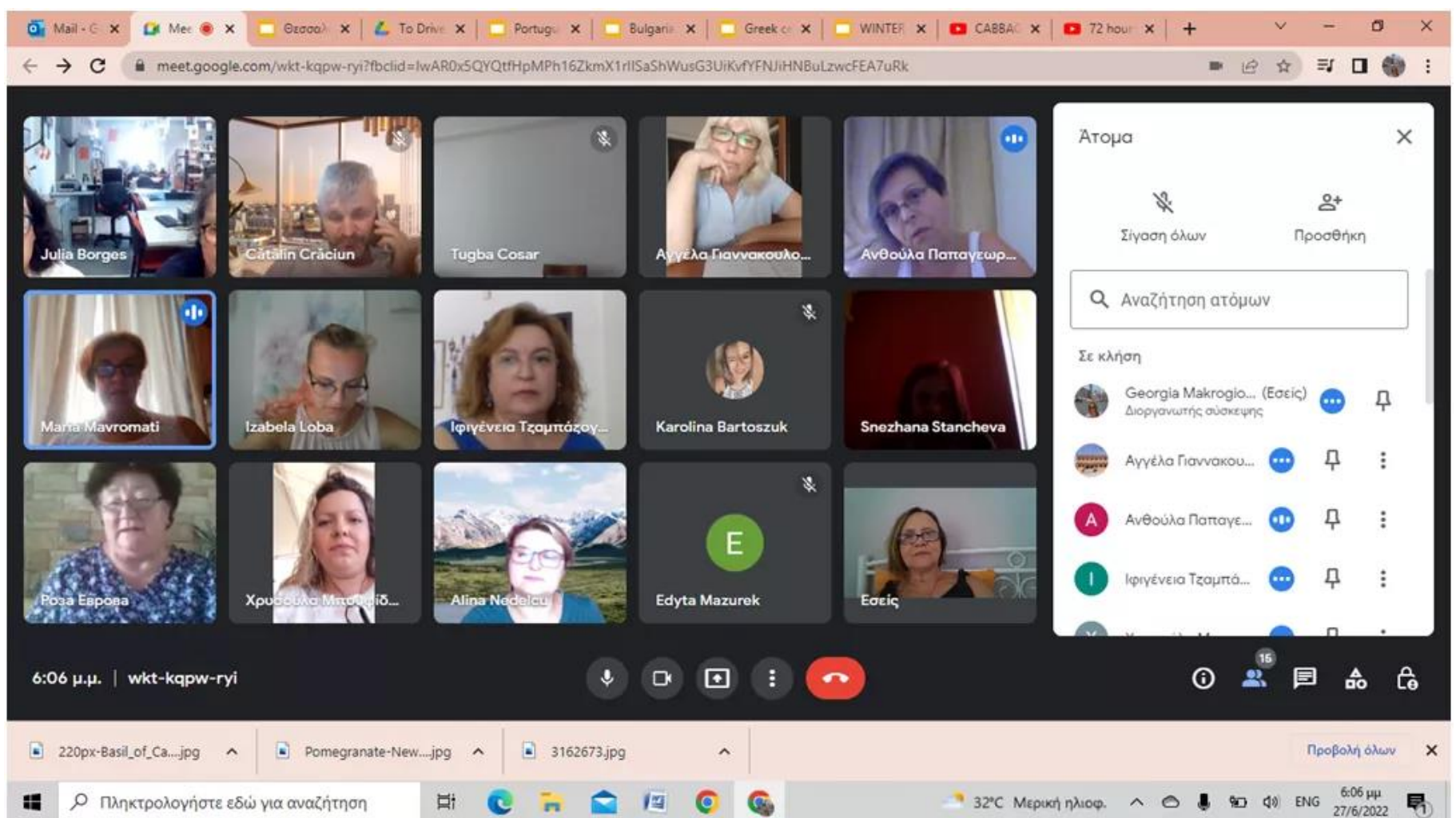
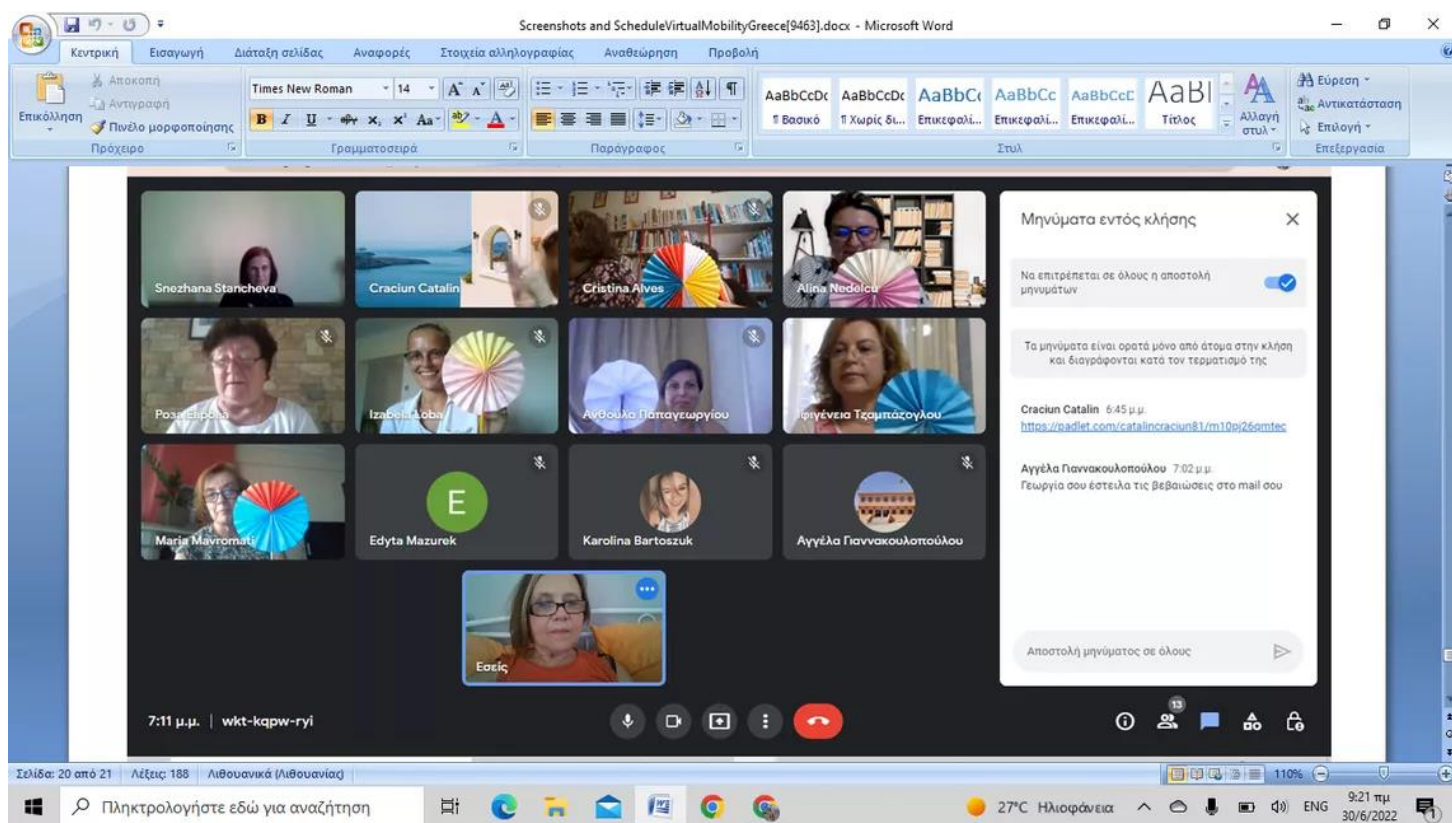
The last day was filled with many discussions and workshops. First, we discussed the ways of dissemination in each school. Then, preparation of final work report and future plans for cooperation and communication. Later, we had a lot of fun during the handcraft workshops. We made things out of paper. The last activity was connected with the evaluation of the short-term joint staff training event. Each participant had to express opinion about the virtual mobility on padlet.

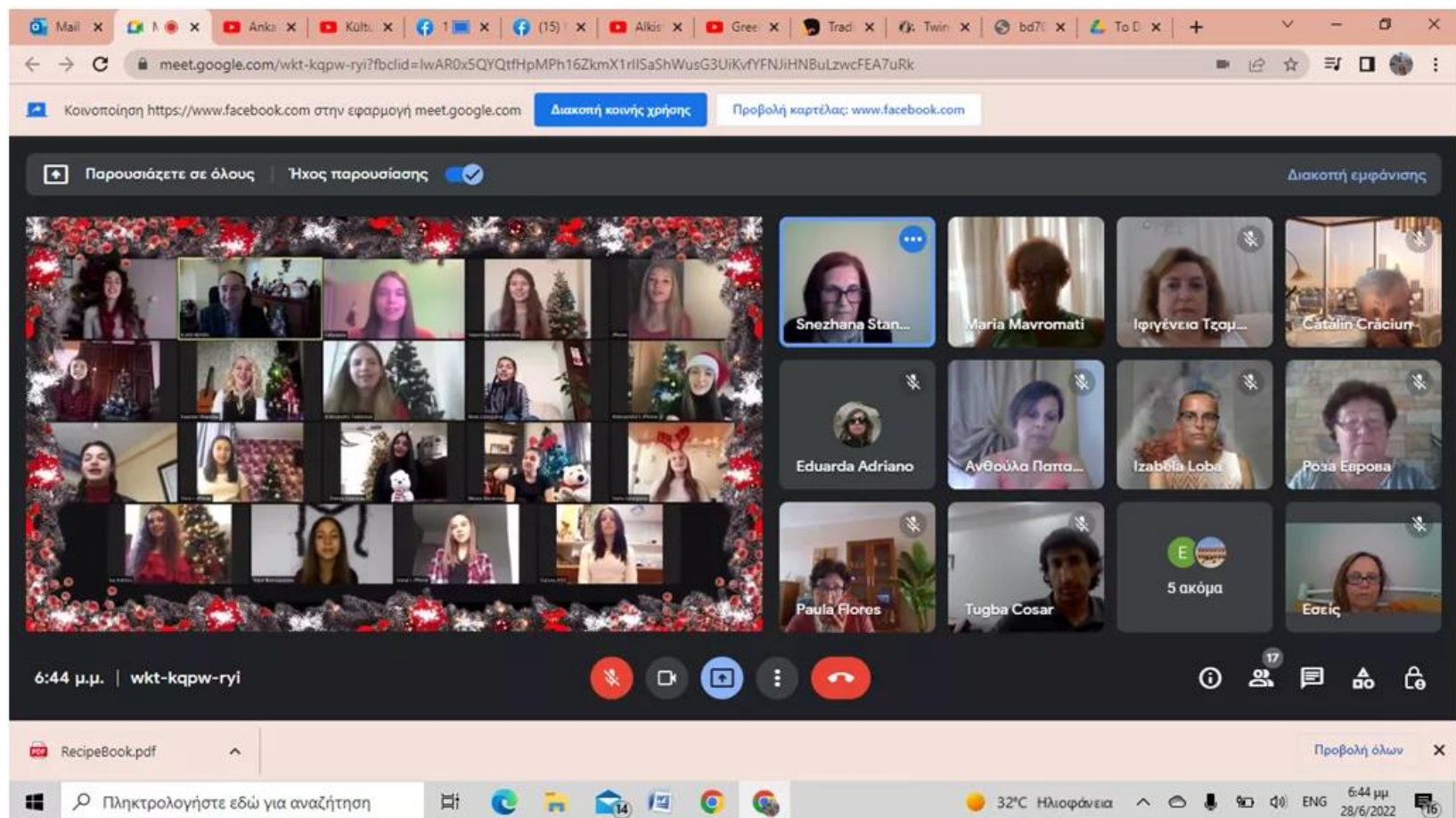
It was really hard to say goodbye. We were well in with all partners. We have spent 3 wonderful years together. We had a lot of beautiful moments but also problems. After all, we have achieved our summit. We will have unforgettable and ravishing memories and, of course, new friends. We will miss you. I hope we will see you in the next projects.



Virtual mobility in Greece 28-30 June 2022 in 1 ΔΙΔΟΤΙΚΟ ΣΧΟΛΕΙΟ TRIANDRIAS -THESSALONIKI

The last mobility in this project took place online and aimed at meeting the teachers in the project. At this mobility were presented the summer holidays, the folk costumes from each country and I did some work with the help of the paper where the teachers were the teachers from the Greek school.





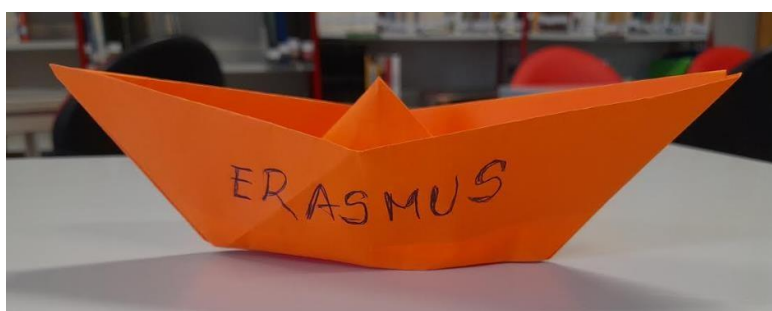
VIRTUAL MOBILITY TO GREECE (27/6/2022 TO 29/6/2022)

(by Júlia Borges, Agrupamento de Escolas de Alcochete)

In this three-day mobility it was very pleasant to see all the partners once again, although sad for being the last one.



The host school presented the city Thessaloniki and the country. Partners presented a short video of their city, a slide show about the traditional Winter holidays and traditional costumes in their countries, had a discussion on the similarities and differences among traditional holidays and how they affect pupils' education (the partners recorded this in a document on etwinning) At the end we made, as our Greek colleagues told us, some Summer crafts: a small paper ship and a fan to cool of the hottest days and welcome Summer. We discussed the ways of dissemination the project in each school, the preparation of final project report, future plans for cooperation and communication and how great it was to work together, despite the constraints caused by Covid-19. We would like to thank all partners for their collaboration and sympathy and that despite being spread across Europe, we would be honoured to welcome them back to our country.



Traditional holidays: How do they affect pupils' education?

Interactive holiday calendar in Europe

MARIA MAVROMATI 1ST PRIMARY SCHOOL OF TRIANDRIA THESSALONIKI GREECE

For the most of us and our children traditional celebrations are connected with our childhood and the expectation of the holidays. The house of our grandparents, the meeting in the village or in the island with relatives and friends that we have long time to see, the participation in the customs create the magic of the holidays. The symbols, the music, the dance, the smells, everything that comes from the past gives to the children the feeling of the continuing and makes stronger the sense of belonging in a family, in a community, in a country. Also they give the knowledge to the pupils, who they are and how to go on with a

ANTHOULA PAPAGEORGIU 1ST PRIMARY SCHOOL OF TRIANDRIA THESSALONIKI, GREECE

Celebrating traditional holidays is a good opportunity for pupils to learn or enrich their knowledge about their history, culture, tradition and customs either participating in celebrations or attending events in school. In this way, having fun, they come to know about their past, where they come from and come in contact with their roots. So young people can understand many things about their country and themselves as well. Knowing and understanding ourselves first, we can understand, accept and respect others. In our days raising children with balance between knowledge and healthy emotions is necessary for healthy social connections.

respect and a responsibility to keep the values of the past. The school system in general must support this view in contrast with the modern lifestyle and the development of the technology.

BOUFIDOU CHRYSOULA 1ST PRIMARY SCHOOL OF TRIANDRIA THESSALONIKI GREECE

In my opinion, traditional holidays affect education in 2 ways. First of all, they are an important part to building a strong bond between people in our community and between the members of a family. They connect us to our history and our civilization. Also, students and teachers have time to rest themselves and organize their activities for the rest of the school year!

EDUARDA ADRIANO AND PAULA FLORES PORTUGAL

The school calendar is organized according to the festivities of Christmas, Carnival and Easter. The school year is divided into three periods. The first period takes place between the second half of September and a week before the Christmas party. The break for the 1st period runs until the 3rd of January, roughly. This break celebrates Christmas and the New Year. The second period runs from early January to mid-March or April, depending on the Christian calendar, when Easter is celebrated. As a rule, there is a break of two weeks. During the 2nd period there is a 3-day break to celebrate Carnival. The third period starts in mid-April and goes until mid-June (2nd, 3rd and secondary cycles), end of June for the primary school. In the months of July, August and the first two weeks of September, students have their summer vacations. The longest! During Christmas and Easter holidays, as a rule, students are in the care of their grandparents or attend recreational and educational activities in their localities. Christmas is the family holiday and at this time there is a time for families get together. At Easter, like Christmas, students attend different sporting and cultural activities. Many families take advantage of this time to go on vacation. In summer vacations, since they are longer, there are several ways to occupy that time, from students traveling with their families, going to the beach, going to their maternal and paternal grandparents' house and stay with their cousins participate in sporting and cultural activities. In school, especially in primary school, teachers use the festivities to teach some subjects and all around the school buildings are always decorated with calendar festivities made by the students. As years goes by the students stay more time in school and the brake time to holidays are shorter. The school calendar is organized according to the festivities of Christmas, Carnival and Easter. The school year is divided into three periods. The first period takes place between the second half of September and a week before the Christmas party. The break for the 1st period runs until the 3rd of January, roughly. This break celebrates Christmas and the New Year. The second period runs from early January to mid-March or April, depending on the Christian calendar, when Easter is celebrated. As a rule, there is a break of two weeks. During the 2nd period there is a 3-day break to celebrate Carnival. The third period starts in mid-April and goes until mid-June (2nd, 3rd and secondary cycles), end of June for the primary school. In the months of July, August and the first two weeks of September, students have their summer vacations. The longest! During Christmas and Easter holidays, as a rule, students are in the care of their grandparents or attend recreational and educational activities in their localities.



**IFIGENEIA TZAMPAZOGLU 1ST
PRIMARY SCHOOL OF TRIANDRIA
THESSALONIKI, GRECE**

Holiday celebrations and traditions are often the most exciting part of the school year for pupils and teachers, because they give them a break from academic education routine. But they can also be a fun and different way to open new doors to pupils to communicate and talk about their own and different cultures. They help them to learn important lessons about peace, kindness, gratefulness, forgiveness, and selflessness and give them opportunities to develop significant skills as creativity, communication, collaboration, critical thinking, known as 4C's of 21st century skills. . Most importantly, teaching children about traditional holidays, guides them into lifelong learning and into thoughtfully and reflectively celebrating their own holidays within our diverse society.

**GEORGIA MAKROGIORGOU, 1
DIMOTIKO SXOLEIO TRIANDRIAS,
THESSALONIKI, GREECE**

Traditional holidays carry the values, the customs, the morals in people's life. They also carry knowledge, wisdom and experiences from the past embroidered in the common memory of every culture. It is very important for young people to get as much knowledge as possible of their tradition in order to understand themselves, to form their own identity in the society they live in and further, in our multicultural world. This is actually pure knowledge, built through experience, participation, interaction, as it is repeated every year, carrying unique feelings and images forming our whole existence. The challenge is to keep a balance, so that one does not overestimate their own culture over other cultures. The feeling of superiority includes the danger of nationalistic theories which can lead to wars, to our self-destruction. In this framework, the role of education is very important, to extend and put the tradition on a global basis, to cultivate feelings and stands of brotherhood and mutual respect. Teachers can extend the knowledge acquired by the family and help pupils acquire a broad aspect of their own culture underlined with knowledge and respect for other cultures, reinforcing the idea that we are all citizens of the world, embracing our common traditions

**SNEZHANA STANCHEVA, 144 NARODNI BUDITELI SCHOOL,
SOFIA, BULGARIA**

Traditional holidays and customs are an essential part of our culture. They give us a sense of belonging, they are an eternal source of universal values, they make us unique as a nation and create a sense of pride in each of us. Studying and celebrating traditional holidays is important because it educates students in the spirit of the Christian virtues they carry. It enhances their general culture, helps them learn behavioral patterns for life and community. It supports the formation of personal, national, cultural and spiritual identity. The beautiful costumes, music, dances, rituals that accompany traditional holidays educate and develop children's aesthetic feelings. They also stimulates their thinking, imagination and initiative and grow feelings of love and affection for the family, the native home and the Motherland. The culture of a nation is judged not only by what it has inherited, but also by how it preserves its customs and traditions and knows how to transform them into modern life. The festive heritage preserved over the centuries finds its place and role in today's dynamic world through family and school. Holidays have a strong educational intensity because they educate children in a positive emotional attitude towards various phenomena in nature, everyday life and relationships between people. And knowing and learning about other cultures and traditions teaches them tolerance and respect.

Christmas is the family holiday and at this time there is a time for families get together. At Easter, like Christmas, students attend different sporting and cultural activities. Many families take advantage of this time to go on vacation. In summer vacations, since they are longer, there are several ways to occupy that time, from students traveling with their families, going to the beach, going to their maternal and paternal grandparents' house and stay with their cousins participate in sporting and cultural activities. In school, especially in primary school, teachers use the festivities to teach some subjects and all around the school buildings are always decorated with calendar festivities made by the students. As years goes by the students stay more time in school and the brake time to holidays are shorter.

**IZABELA KIJO, KAROLINA
BARTOSZUK, EDYTA MAZUREK
SZKOŁA PODSTAWOWA IM.KS. JANA
TWARDOWSKIEGO W MAKOWIE Z
FILIĄ W ŚWIĘTEM. POLAND**

It's not a surprise that we all learn through our life. We gain knowledge and experience. Tradition is an inseparable element of Polish culture. It is our wealth, national cultural heritage, a mine of knowledge about the past. Thanks to it, we know our identity. Tradition is a crucial thing in child's life that's why celebrating holidays has a huge impact on it and, of course, it affects pupils' education. Tradition provides a sense of continuity and identity. Children love many elements of tradition - singing Christmas carols, decorating the Christmas tree, Christmas presents. Tradition creates our history and consciousness. It brings families together and strengthens our bond with our loved ones. Our approach to holidays and traditions shows what kind of people we are. Holidays give children joy, which is an inexhaustible source of spiritual energy, which is crucial for mental and physical health. What's more celebrating holidays has a specific pedagogical value. It can also be very educational and culturally valuable for students. Especially in diverse communities or schools with ELLs, celebrating your students' cultures and observed holidays can help everyone feel respected and included. Holidays can be a fun and exciting way to open doors to talking about different cultures and languages. They can also help teach important lessons about kindness, gratefulness, and selflessness. Tradition has a decisive influence on the formation of the correct educational process and the child's personality. The family environment is the main center for the development of the emotional sphere of personality and moral attitudes of children.

**JULIA BORGES, AGRUPAMENTO DE ESCOLAS DE ALCOCHETE,
ALCOCHETE, PORTUGAL**



Traditional holidays: How do they affect pupils' education

The school calendar is organized according to the festivities of Christmas, Carnival and Easter. The school year is divided into three terms.

The first term takes place between the second half of September and a week before Christmas. The break in the 1st term usually goes until the 3rd January. During this break the Portuguese celebrate Christmas and the New Year.

The second term goes from early January to mid-March or April, depending on the Christian calendar and when Easter is celebrated. There is usually a break of two weeks.

During the 2nd term there is a 3-day break to celebrate Carnival.



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The third term starts in mid-April and goes until mid-June (middle and secondary school), end of June for the primary school.

In the months of July, August and the first two weeks of September, students have their summer vacations.

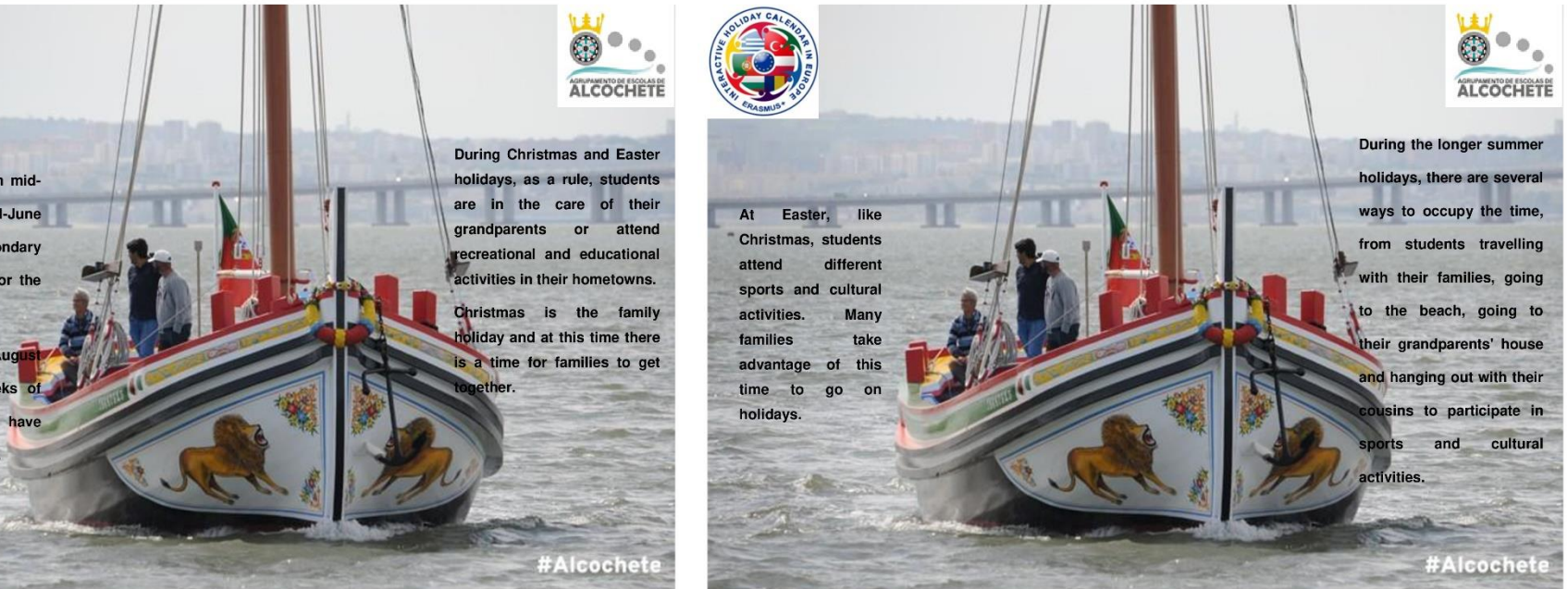
During Christmas and Easter holidays, as a rule, students are in the care of their grandparents or attend recreational and educational activities in their hometowns.

Christmas is the family holiday and at this time there is a time for families to get together.



At Easter, like Christmas, students attend different sports and cultural activities. Many families take advantage of this time to go on holidays.

During the longer summer holidays, there are several ways to occupy the time, from students travelling with their families, going to the beach, going to their grandparents' house and hanging out with their cousins to participate in sports and cultural activities.



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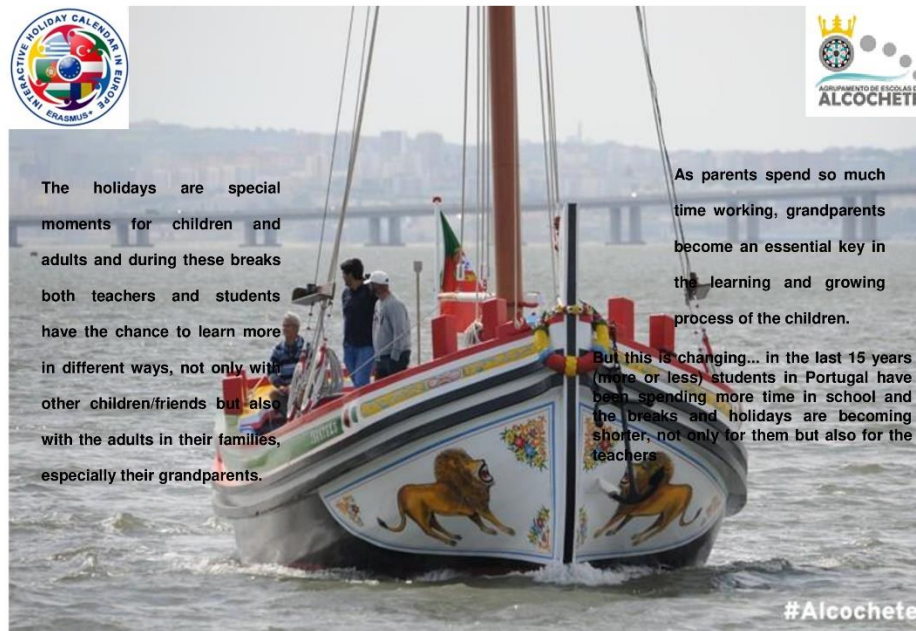
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The holidays are special moments for children and adults and during these breaks both teachers and students have the chance to learn more in different ways, not only with other children/friends but also with the adults in their families, especially their grandparents.

As parents spend so much time working, grandparents become an essential key in the learning and growing process of the children.

But this is changing... In the last 15 years (more or less) students in Portugal have been spending more time in school and the breaks and holidays are becoming shorter, not only for them but also for the teachers.



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“ Knowledge is the hidden beauty in every individual, so feel proud of sharing your knowledge to others”



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