

Newsletter



Erasmus+



I, You, We, Mediterranean Citizens



IES
SANTOS ISASA



SREDNJA
SKOLA



EREA DE H.
PROVENCE



LAPPEIO 1ST
GYMNASIO



IST. COMPR.
ARCHIA

Issue 1

*News from the Mediterranean
Transnational meeting in Marseille (France)*

Wednesday, 4th November – Late afternoon / Evening

Arrival in Marseille

Enthusiastic, excited, thrilled. That is how we all felt when going down the steps of the plane that took us to Marseille. We were finally going to meet our partners in this hopefully amazing adventure across the Mediterranean Sea. Our newborn project, “I, You, We, Mediterranean Citizens” will allow us to know more about our common heritage and foster a better understanding among teachers and students in our five countries. The kick-off meeting was about to start. We knew of the importance that the transnational meeting was going to have for the satisfactory outcome of the project. With great expectations we were warmly met at the airport by our coordinating partners, Ms Létizia Allegrini and Ms Chantal Penalva. Little by little, all the national teams would arrive at Marseille and be taken to Bevons, where the EREA de Haute-Provence is situated. Some of us took longer to arrive and some were able to enjoy a fantastic Lebanese dinner, but after a few hours we were finally in Bevons. As it was a bit late and everybody was tired after so much travelling and excitement, there wasn't much time but for a quick introduction. However, a pleasant flow of good vibes ran all around us immediately. Events were going to prove me right.

EREA de Haute-Provence is located in a magnificent setting surrounded by mountains. When we woke up the next day to a brilliant morning we were amazed at the breathtaking views we had from our rooms. Still, a lot of work was awaiting us and we were ready to start after a communal breakfast.





The Headmaster, Mr Catinaud welcomed us and wished us a fruitful work session. Then, Ms Létizia Allegrini went through the agenda of the day, which included, among other things, planning the visits to Spain and France in 2016, deciding upon the blog of the project, setting up the procedure for the Newsletter, organising the visit to the MuCEM the following day and making a brief assessment of the first activities that each school had carried out with their pupils since September. With respect to this, we all showed our satisfaction that the pupils were really committed to the project. We were also aware of the importance of being punctual when uploading all the material created by the students and of meeting deadlines. Otherwise we would run the risk of getting behind. We also agreed to favour the oral production of our students, which would contribute to the improvement of their level in the foreign language.



One of our main interests has to do with spreading and diffusing the objectives of the project as well as the tasks which our students are carrying out. We want to have an impact on our schools, families and the educational communities but also we would like to reach further and we aim to leave our imprint locally. All our activities are easily tracked down by our students on eTwinning, but since this platform is mainly addressed to schools we need a more visible way to show our outcome. Thus, we decided to start a blog and a Newsletter, where we could upload and record our progress. Our Facebook group will also allow us to communicate immediately and let everyone involved know about the latest news. Our French coordinator was in charge of starting the blog and the Spanish team volunteered to produce the the first issue of the Newsletter.



As part of this strategy to spread our project, we were interviewed by the local newspaper *Haute Provence Info* (see below)

Thursday, 5th November – Early afternoon

A walk around EREA

The EREA de Haute Provence is a school which recruits students across the region Provence Alpes Côte d’Azur. It is organized around three areas: General Education, Vocational education and Boarding School. All means are implemented to enable students to overcome their difficulties and to prepare them for their professional and personal future. The school provides 4 professional qualifications: masonry, carpentry, metalwork and house painting. We were shown around the school and some of the teachers explained to us their work with the students.



Six specialized teachers teach general education subjects: French, History, Geography, Maths, Science, Technology, Art, English and Sport.



The Library



Some of the workshops where the students can get a qualification in metalwork, masonry, carpentry or house painting. We were able to learn what the students do thanks to the teachers' explanations.

Thursday, 5th November – Afternoon Work at EREA

One of the activities that our students had had to do before the meeting in Marseille was the design of a logo. A good logo symbolizes an organisation. We need a logo for our documents and advertising material. It will also serve as an emblem by which our project can easily be recognised. We asked our students to design a logo bearing in mind what the name and content of our project are as well as the participant countries. They have produced remarkable examples and after a very close vote, the Croatian design was chosen. It uses a stylish format with contrasting colours that attracts attention immediately and conveys the essence of the project.



Mr Rafael Martinez, the Spanish coordinator, and Ms Natalija Moskatelo, the Croatian coordinator, holding the winning mascot and logo. Next, Ms Létiza Allegrini, with the symbols of the project.



Logos tend to be more formal and mascots are more appealing to our students. Logos and mascots work together so that people can better remember what our project is about. We also asked our students to design a mascot which could represent what the five participant countries had in common. And there is nothing more obvious than the Mediterranean Sea. Since most of the times mascots are animals, we had a wide display of animals to choose from as our mascot: however beautiful octopuses, seagulls, snails and butterflies are, they were all beaten by the Spanish candidate, a charming sea star, which is called Medy.

Thursday, 5th November – Late afternoon / Evening

Sisteron

After a hard day's work, we all deserved a free evening. Sisteron was our destination. It is situated on the banks of the river Durance. The town boasts a magnificent citadel, dating back to the late Middle Ages, with breathtaking views from the top. Five towers remain of the 14th century city walls. The town centre is very picturesque and is dotted with quaint little shops and buildings. We went for a nice walk along the river and through the old quarters of the town. We were able to enjoy a lovely time of camaraderie.



In front of the church Notre-Dame des Pommiers, formerly a Cathedral.

One of the incentives of our project is the possibility to work with institutions outside of the education milieu. That gives the project an added value which makes it stand out. We are very fortunate to work with the MuCEM (Museum of the European and Mediterranean Civilizations), in Marseille. Therefore, on Friday morning we headed to the ancient city of Massalia, founded by Greek sailors in 600 BC. Marseille, the second largest city in France by population, remains an emblem of the diverse influences originated through the contacts with other cultures across the Mediterranean Sea for many centuries.

At the entrance of the Museum we were welcomed by the person in charge of its Educational Department. We were also introduced to Mr. Olivier Bedu, an artist who is going to work with our pupils. Then we were led to a meeting room where we were shown the importance of the building of the Museum for the revaluation and enhancement of the site where it is located.



Through its strategic location at the heart of Marseille, the MuCEM is a major development, not only for the Mediterranean, but also for the city of Marseille.

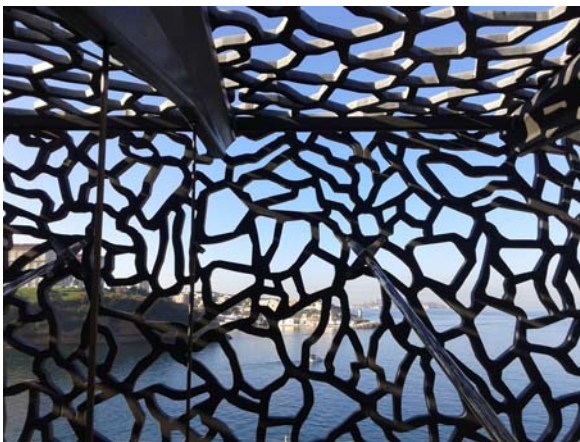
The transformation of the waterfront undertaken by the public planning body EuroMéditerranée, in close collaboration with local authorities and the European Union, has two objectives: to convert this area into a new business hub and to revitalise the city centre and port, while creating connections between them. A new neighbourhood has been created between the seafront and the heart of the city. This transformation accelerated since 2008 when Marseille was appointed as the European Capital of Culture 2013.

Excerpt from the MuCEM website, <http://www.mucem.org/en/mucem/museum-europe-and-mediterranean/mucem-marseille>

Then the Museum staff went on to explain the main features of the building, its construction materials and symbolic meaning. The museum has three different sites, being the two most important ones the building on the former J4 pier with its state-of-the-art materials, a place devoted to the discovery of the different Mediterranean civilizations, and via a suspended footbridge over the sea the public passes to the Fort Saint Jean, a historic monument that dates back to the 12th century.



The outer surface of the building is said to reuse the concept of Islamic tracery in traditional houses, where you can see what is going on outside but you can't be seen from outside. On top of that, light is allowed in.



After such an interesting and insightful description of the museum, each country presented their town and school. We provided a selection of photographs of the most interesting places in our town and some of the most relevant parts of our school, such as classrooms, laboratories, offices, corridors and playgrounds. Mr Olivier Bedu, the artist-architect, was interested in learning about the location of our institutions.



Then, time for lunch at Fort Saint Jean. And back to work with a renovated strength.



The five countries' coordinators. From left to right:
Létizia Allegrini (France) – Santina Scarso (Italy) – Rafael Martínez (Spain)
Natalija Moskatelo (Croatia) – Maria Ziouzia (Greece)

In the afternoon Mr Olivier Bedu explained his work as an artist and architect. He is one of the artists with whom the MuCEM has been working for a number of years. He has worked with the Cabanon Vertical, a multidisciplinary group that makes installations in public spaces. He showed us several examples of his work in different media and places. With simple elements and slight modifications of scale, perspective or point of view, he manages to imbue conventional spaces with new and surprising meanings, and create new ways of relating to urban areas.



Later he proceeded to explain what he intended to do with the students involved in the project. He wants to know where our teenagers usually meet and how they relate to these places. His ultimate goal is to make them reflect on how urban development and urban furniture as well as ancient monuments determines and influences their way of living and enjoying their towns or cities, particularly in places with a great cultural and architectural heritage. In order to carry out this initiative, Mr Olivier Bedu is going to spend some days in each place and study in situ with the students the relevance of the area where they meet and interact with other teenagers. Then, he will analyse some interesting feature of each place, whether a historical bridge or a simple bench or anything. Once the five elements have been chose, he will alter their scale and will create a “new” piece of urban furniture that will be exhibited at the MuCEM in June.



Mr Olivier Bedu analyses his work



All the participants pose with artist Oliver Bedu at the spot where the work created with the collaboration of the students is going to be installed and exhibited

Saturday, 7th November – Morning /Afternoon Marseille - Work at Fort St. Jean

During the second work session with Olivier Bedu, this time at Fort Saint Jean, he explained in detail what his procedure with the students was going to be. Then he asked each school to prepare an itinerary of about 3 km around the town, stopping at the places where our students usually meet and hang out. He will follow this route with the students by bicycle and talk to them about the significance of these places.

Later we went to see in situ one of the works Oliver Bedu has created in the city of Marseille.



The project is based on the idea of crossing: we play with the concept of a bank river by creating a sandbar as to facilitate the trip from the school to the canteen located on each side of the square. It channels the flow in order to promote other uses: to stop, to sit, to wait or to play on the islet.

After lunch we had some free time until dinner time. We then wandered through the streets of old Marseille, enjoying the lively atmosphere of the city, its soap shops and cosy cafés, the breathtaking views of the port from the Fort Saint Jean, feeling the warm breeze of the Mediterranean on our faces. We even had time to go back to the MuCEM and see the temporary exhibitions currently at the museum.



After dinner, it was time to say farewell. The following morning some of us had to take an early plane and we were not going to have time to say goodbye. We all felt satisfied with the work we had done together and we had recharged our batteries for the work and challenges that lay ahead of us. It had been a very profitable meeting and we had strengthened ties with our partners. Now, we will have to wait until April to see each other again, this time in Spain.



Teachers Natalija Moskatelo, Bozana Damjanic Majdak and Viktorija Colic Serdar from Secondary school Hvar – Jelsa participated in a transnational meeting in France.

We were happy to be part of such an amazing team. It was a pleasure to meet all our partners and to discuss our further meetings. During the transnational meeting the official logo and the mascot for the project were chosen. We were very proud of our students because the logo they had drawn was chosen for the official project logo. Congratulations to our students!

The visit to MUCEM in Marseille was also very important to us and we were fascinated by the impact of its construction on the whole city area. The meeting with the artist Olivier Bedu was an essential part because he explained the type of activities he wants to organise with our students. We are looking forward to working on project activities and to visit and host all our partners.

CROATIA

During our preparatory visit in EREA Bevons, which lies in a picturesque and scenic mountainous region on the foot of the Alpes, we had a chance to introduce ourselves to our project partners, as well as to find out more about the partner schools and regions they come from. In addition, we could present and elect our logo and mascot as well as the results of activities done in our schools during the first two months of the project and arrange necessary details about the future work.

We were shown to all the facilities of the school and gave an interview to a local newspaper. The visit to the nearby town of Sisteron was very pleasant and informative as to the cultural heritage of the region!

What impressed us more though was our 2day stay in Marseille and especially our workshop in the MUCEM museum. Meeting with the artist Olivier Bedu and establishing a joint project with him seems a thrilling and promising plan.

Needless to say, the walk around the city and the various cuisines we tasted was an unforgettable experience and a way to comprehend the French way of life.

On behalf of the representatives of Lappio Middle School in Naoussa, I would like to express thanks to Letizia, her colleagues, schoolchildren and everyone who were involved in organizing our stay in France for the hospitality, warm welcoming, kindness, helpfulness and understanding. We highly appreciate your effort made during our stay. We experienced a wonderful time in your friendly and beautiful country.



GREECE

From the 4th to the 8th November Mrs Santina Scarso, Mrs Stefania Diana and the Headmistress Valeria Nicosia, representing the Italian School “ XI Istituto Comprensivo Archia “ , participated to the transnational Preparatory meeting in Bevons in the Institut HEREA de Haute Provence near Marseille. The French school hosted the transnational meeting, as it is the coordinating school , and even the other countries , Greece, Croatia and Spain participated.

It was a very pleasant travel above all because Italian and Greek teams met in Rome and they travelled together to Bevons. At our arrival, the HEREA Headmaster and some people of his staff brought us to school where we spent the evening together in a friendship and quite way. Later on Spanish and Croatian teams arrived. The staff was now complete!!

The meeting was carried out in a collaborative way because each team showed both technical and human competences and that’ s why friendship and respect will surely characterize next meetings. It will be a positive starting point for student’ mobility.

During the meeting each country contributed to choose LOGO and MASCOT, and the dates concerning next mobilities were chosen and the doubts concerning the planning were cleared up.

But the most interesting moment of the week was characterized by the collaboration with the MUCEM . The museum will collaborate to the construction of the “ Future Town”, helped by the artist Olivier Bedu, who will visit each European school . He will cooperate with students discovering places where to implement an artwork which will be above all a useful space where young people could spent their free time.

The final project will be presented in Marseille in June 2016.

ITALY



The Italian and the Spanish teams

FRANCE

Until this transnational meeting our exchanges came true in a virtual way: e-mails, eTwinning. These few days together allowed to create stronger links between us to allow to succeed our project.

As host country, we were afraid that the organization is not up to it but all the teachers were very comprehensive during small setback.

We did not imagine all to get along well. No incomprehension settled down and the discussions were very professional and constructive. Our exchanges were very rich because our training and our educational habits are very different.



BEVONS

Cinq pays européens autour d'un projet scolaire *Le 27/11/15 Haute Provence Info*

ERASMUS est subventionné par l'Europe et destiné aux écoles primaires jusqu'aux lycées. Pour participer, l'établissement doit présenter un projet d'une cinquantaine de pages le plus détaillé possible et qui doit être éligible. L'établissement Régional d'Enseignement Adapté, EREA de Haute-Provence situé à Bevens avec deux autres professeurs, a présenté un projet et celui-ci ayant été retenu, est en partenariat avec 4 autres établissements : Srednja skola Hvar pour la Croatie, les Santos Isasa pour l'Espagne, Lappeio 1st Gymnasio of Naoussa pour la Grèce et 11° Istituto Comprensivo «Archia» 1900 Siracusa pour l'Italie en Sicile. Létizia Allegrini nous donne quelques explications sur ce projet et son objectif : « Il s'agit de faire rencontrer les écoles d'Europe pour créer des échanges culturels et leur apprendre à aller vers la citoyenneté européenne. C'était pour ces raisons que nous

avons choisi de participer. De plus, l'EREA est peu connu et il est placé à un endroit géographique isolé, tout comme les autres écoles qui sont nos partenaires. C'est l'opportunité pour nous d'ouvrir nos écoles à l'international et de proposer à nos élèves avec quelque chose qui a du sens, une approche qui soit différente du scolaire. Nous souhaitons leur montrer une citoyenneté commune et qu'ils n'ont pas de différence avec les autres. Ça va aussi permettre aux élèves participants de partir au moins une fois à l'étranger.»

Les 15 enseignants (3 par établissement) se rencontrent à Bevens. C'est leur toute première réunion. Le MUCEM finance l'intervention d'un artiste architecte Olivier Bedu. Il va suivre le projet toute l'année qui sera exposé en juin à Marseille, au MUCEM. Le thème est sur les espaces d'échanges et publics. Olivier Bedu va se déplacer à travers toute l'Europe dans



les 5 écoles pour accompagner la création du projet commun. Il rencontrera tous les élèves qui seront véritablement acteurs de leur projet. Une deuxième oeuvre sera créée l'année prochaine, puisque le projet se fait en deux ans.

Les professeurs croates ont participé à ce projet pour « améliorer l'enseignement dans nos écoles et avoir une expérience internationale de coopération. C'est aussi le moyen de découvrir d'autres méthodes d'enseignement et de permettre aux élèves de découvrir

des cultures différentes. » Pour les espagnols, il s'agit de « transmettre aux élèves l'importance de connaître des langues étrangères, d'autres cultures, d'autres enfants et l'importance d'appartenir à l'Union Européenne. » Les italiens veulent transmettre « l'histoire qui nous lie, les cultures différentes, les relations avec des personnes de nationalités différentes, et apprendre des langues étrangères. »

Ils espèrent pouvoir conserver les contacts après le projet. Les professeurs grecs avaient déjà eu une expérience similaire. « Nous l'avions aimé. Ça permet aussi aux élèves de voyager à l'étranger et voir d'autres écoles peut leur donner du sens. Ils n'ont pas tous l'opportunité de voyager en famille. » Les 5 écoles ont en commun un isolement géographique et ces rencontres vont contribuer à l'échange et à rompre cet isolement.

Françoise LATOUR