



Mobility Report

Erasmus+ Project Smart Waste Management for Smarter Cluster Schools

KA22- School Exchange Partnerships

Mobility title: REUSE! Clustering Transformers

Event: Short-term exchange of groups of pupils

Place: Ploče, Croatia

Number: 2020-1-ro01-Ka-229-079971_4

Host organization: Primary school "Vladimir Nazor" Ploče

Date: 18th – 22nd October , 2021

18th -22nd OCTOBER 2021

On Sunday, 17th October, the teacher project team greeted the partner schools (Romania 1, Romania 2, Lithuania and Greece). Partners from Turkey did not manage to obtain the permit to travel due to Covid-19 pandemic so it was agreed that they participate in all activities online. Daily schedule was sent with all details of planned activities. At the accommodation facility, the teacher team of the host school prepared a welcome table. After initial introductions, the guests were given weekly programme of activities.

DAY ONE: Monday, 18th October

The hosts prepared a short welcome reception for their guests. The Science group Arancini welcomed the guests with school tea prepared from local medicinal herbs. Herbs, their medicinal properties and the way that the little ones prepared the delicious natural beverage were presented to the participants. The Quartet Cantabile, from the school music department, performed an instrumental piece of the popular Croatian singer Oliver Dragojević „Vjeruj u ljubav (Believe in love)“. The instrumentalists wore crowns (one of the outcomes of project activities) from spring and winter collection fashionably. The headmistress Tihana Pažin gave a welcome speech followed by 10-minute presentations of each partner school. Each of the schools chose the way to present itself resulting in a colourful and versatile atmosphere.

A short documentary film Plastic Disaster was shown at the cinema hall of the Public Open College. Our English teacher, Maja Šakić, conducted an interesting student debate on the issues presented in the film which was followed by a Kahoot quiz on the film topic.

After lunch, we gathered at the school for the workshop Keyboards jewelry and magnets, held by the Art teacher Marija Čupić Senta. The participants made jewelry or magnets out of old keyboards exploring the ways to breathe new life into old objects.

We ended the day with a sightseeing tour of Ploče with our students as guides.

DAY TWO: Tuesday, 19th October

We connected two workshops related to the Croatian mobility topic – REUSE! Clustering Transformans! First, the participants recycled paper as part of the workshop Making paper from paper waste, held by the Science teacher Žana Govorko. They used paper waste to make new paper, step by step. This was followed by the workshop Aesthetics of the Glagolitic Alphabet. The partners were acquainted with the Croatian traditional script which was then used to write green messages on the recycled paper. It resulted in beautiful bookmarks which were taken home as souvenirs.

Afternoon activities began with another workshop of the reuse of discarded objects called Bookart. The teams designed and created new items by using old book waste from the school library, getting the inspiration from the texts. Old books were given a new purpose.

The afternoon was spent in the company of the mayor of Ploče, Mišo Krstičević. The reception was held at the Public Open College. Guests learned some interesting facts about the town and visited the local history collection. They were also presented with symbolic gifts.

We spent a pleasant evening in the nearby tourist place Brist. By simply walking along the sea coast, the guests were able to experience the atmosphere of a typical Dalmatian tourist town with all its charm.

DAY THREE: Wednesday, 20th October

Wednesday was designated as the day for showing our partners the beauties of our local countryside. We spent the morning on a traditional boat safari at the fascinating Baćina Lakes. Our associate from the Ecological Association Leach prepared a short interactive talk on the endangered species in the Baćina Lakes – the leach. Its disappearance has been linked to the improper waste disposal at the landfill site above the lakes. Unfortunately, due to the fact that the associate was in isolation and unable to give the talk, it was done by the coordinator Marina Burđelez. Inspired by the beautiful scenery and the sunshine following us throughout the day, we played two traditional games: tug of war and sack race. Divided into international teams, both teachers and students demonstrated their competitive spirit and intercultural respect.

In the afternoon, we set off to the nearby village Rogotin where our branch school is located. We were met by the members of KUD Rogotin (Cultural and Art Association) wearing their traditional folk costumes and carrying local sweet fruits: tangerines, pomegranates, dried figs. We climbed the hill Trovro where wind organs are placed – the first of the kind in the world. There is a viewpoint at the top with a breathtaking view of Ploče and its surroundings. On the other hand, dangers of the bulk cargo in the Port of Ploče are also visible to a careful observer.

We ended the day in the countryside with a shared meal – Pizza party. The students spent time getting to know each other, conversing freely in English and exchanging experiences.

DAY FOUR: Thursday, 21st October

In the morning hours, our students and teachers presented two examples of good practice in our country. The first one was related to waste management in the hotel from a tourist place we visited on Tuesday. In cooperation with the hotel administration, students collected data on the daily amount of waste during summer tourist season and, with the use of digital tools, statistically demonstrated amounts of individual type of waste and the way they are managed by the hotel. The second example was related to the island of Zlarin – a plastic-free island. Our students created a short video trailer for Take a break from plastic video as a good practice example. This was followed by a discussion with the director of the Tourist board Zlarin and the project manager, Katarina Gregov. Project teams were given a worksheet with questions about the Zlarin project.

Then we headed for the Neretva Delta, a beautiful sandy beach and a gathering point for kites from around the world. Art teacher Marija Čupić Senta designed a workshop and an exhibition called Trash for Art. It is important to mention the fact that we were joined by the team from our local partner school from Opuzen. The activity started with cleaning and collecting trash in controlled conditions. Each team used the collected trash to design and create an installation which was used to send a message to irresponsible individuals. Messages were filmed as statements from the site and imaginative designs were used to send a powerful message from the beautiful delta. After the exhibition, trash was collected and disposed of in a proper manner. Only the traces in the sand remained but even they disappeared with the afternoon wind.

After lunch, we visited the Natural Science Museum in Metković. The students and teachers showed interest for the museum interactive exhibits that present traditional cohabitation of man and nature which is very much affected by the modern lifestyle.

This was followed by an intercultural evening and traditional meals prepared by the hosts. Direct interaction, mixture of cultures and languages and dancing together in a circle proved that the effort was well worth it. Interculturality ensued spontaneously enriching all of us.

DAY FIVE: Friday, 22nd October

We visited the Recycling Yard and the Waste Sorting Point in Ploče with the guidance of Mateja Pirjevac, an expert associate for waste management. We learned why we need a recycling yard, what kind of waste is managed here, what asbestos is, how to properly store hazardous liquid waste. The tour was a true reminder of the necessity to change our attitudes towards waste management. This was an excellent opportunity to exchange experiences.

We concluded our five-day meeting with the workshop Abandoned towns with the professional puppeteer Božena Delaš. The teams used old boxes to make a set and puppets. They wrote short scripts inspired by the knowledge learned during these five days, they chose music, prepared lights and performed a play which was filmed. We tried to identify personal responsibility together and come up with effective solutions to the problem. It was the highlight of creativity and teamwork.

We said our goodbyes with appropriate gifts, sharing positive impressions, photos and certificates.

Ploče, 25.10.2021.

Headmistress: Tihana Pažin

Tihana Pažin

