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Project Name: Smart Waste Management For Smarter Cluster Schools

Project Number: 2020-1-RO01-KA229-079971

Date: 10th – 14th October 2022

Host: Prof. Muharrem Ergin Secondary School

Event: Erasmus+ C5 Short-term exchange of groups of pupils

Mobility Title : Recreate! Green Tech

Mobility Report - 10th – 14th October 2022

The mobility started on the 10th October and finished on 14th October 2022. On Sunday, the 9th, all the teams arrived at their accommodation in Bayrampaşa. They were all given the programme before (online version) and all teams met next morning, at 10:00 at the school conference hall.

Monday, 10th October

The teams were taken to the school by the busses and they were greeted by the coordinator, his colleague and assistant managers of the school. After welcoming speech of both the coordinator's and the headmaster's, the 7th grade students gave a message to the guests by singing a song related to the project content which was about protecting earth.

The teams introduced themselves and each gave a short speech/presentation. After that , the coordinator wanted the team to have brainstorm about technology and environment. All teams tried to find the answer to the question: ***What role can technological advances and digital platforms play in the protection of our environment?*** Then, the teams watched a short video about how technology helps environment. Then the teams wrote their ideas on a web 2.0 tool called Lino.

Then the project coordinator talked about the first workshop that the team will attend. With the help of Collaborative learning, teams used the old materials collected around to create a product by thinking, drawing, producing and imagination. They gave a new life and value. – they created and produced some toys for the kids in kindergarten of the school.

After lunch, the teams took up next activity which was to create some intelligence games. Using the methodology of group work and game-based learning, teams worked together to

create some intelligence games. (Students played those games during the mobility days – as an ice-break activity)

As a last activity which took place whole week, the coordinator talked about Green Tech Challenger. They used a computer application to integrate the knowledge and tasks. Students needed to answer some questions before they chose the task and then they tried to do what the task said, when achieved they got points within the framework of the rules. The tasks were done day by day – students were given enough time to carry out the objectives every day All the instructions were explained in details. They also took pictures and sent them to the coordinator to prove that they carried out the duty. They really enjoyed it. The purpose of the activity was to raise awareness in our town. The students showed something related to our project, talked to people about what they were doing in terms of our project and let them know about our project to disseminate.

Tuesday, 11th October

The next day all the activities and workshops took place in a project area called **DİA** (Döngüsel İşler Atölyesi) - (A production area established by Waste Management Department within the scope of the Horizon 2020 supported Pop Machina project, aiming at upcycling-oriented prototype production. Small and medium scale prototypes can be made using plastic, wood and electronic waste there.)

Before we started our activities, the people in charge in that place showed round and participants learnt the new term ‘Upcycle’.

We watched a short video about Pop machina Project and what they have been doing within the 4-year-project time.

After that, the coordinator explained the first activity and participants tried to find an answer to the question: **How to create new objects by the non-recyclables waste for redecorating school gardens?** Students used different materials and ideas about transforming the non-recyclable waste in new objects, with new utilities in a school or home garden.

The next workshop was about Art. Students used their thinking, drawing, producing and imagination skills to create a unique art objects and they also combined waste and art by using some pictures chosen randomly. Some students created original art objects and some chose the pictures to give a new life to them by using some waste materials.

For the last workshop of day, students made some postcards and bookmarks by writing a message about the idea – nothing is trash but treasure - to help parents understand the importance of recreation and going green. They also gave the cards and bookmarks to the people around them, school staff, employees/staff in the hotel and the people in DİA center. All the students and teachers were determined to be as creative and convincing as possible. Each team contributed in disseminating the important message in terms of good practices and behavior towards the nature and its significance.

At the end of the day, each team was handed a brochure/calendar containing some duties about being a Zero-Waste hero.

Wednesday, 12th October

Today's duty was about Green School. One of the students in Turkish team talked about how people can compost in their houses or the students in the school. The importance of organic waste and composting was presented. Then we watched a short video about natural waste, how to compost, the importance of composting, the difference between natural wastes and non-recyclables, the importance of food cycle in terms of composting. For the first workshop, the teams created some cute and interesting pots by choosing some waste materials to put the soil which was enriched by using some organic waste (brown leaves, egg shells, banana peels, tea leaves) and the seed – to give the sense of friendship.

Participants were given the crucial information about the ingredients and the reasons why those natural wastes were selected. (Like banana peels will decompose to provide organic matter for your compost. Putting banana peel in your compost pile will help add calcium, magnesium, sulfur, phosphates, potassium and sodium. Eggshells are high in calcium. This macronutrient is essential for the growth and development of plants. Calcium from eggshells helps plants build cell walls faster, so they can grow more quickly. All tea leaves are compostable, and even those left over after brewing still have viable nutrients that will benefit your soil. Like coffee grounds, tea leaves are particularly rich in nitrogen, which is needed to grow foliage.) with the help of that information, students and teachers had the chance to teach other friends and family member the importance of natural waste. Each team was handed a brochure containing some information about how they can compost and which wastes can be composted.

For the last workshop of day, participants tried to find an answer for the question: **How to create new objects by the non-recyclables waste for redecorating school classrooms ?** Students used styrofoam/polystyrene to make their countries' flags to leave a memory to the school they were in as an Erasmus group. They used it and colored them and hung.

When the participants had free time, the art teacher of host school showed a traditional Turkish Marbling Art to the guest. All partners and some students had chance to draw pictures on water. While they were doing that, the cleaning lady of the school sang some songs for the teachers and students while music teacher was playing traditional instrument.

After lunch, the teams came school again to see a show/performance. The Janissary band of İstanbul Metropolitan Municipality came to show the performance to the guest as a traditional thing. The participants with the students in the school and parents were allowed to see the performance and they all spectated it. Everybody enjoyed the time they had there. After the performance, traditional food was offered to the participants.

Thursday, 13th October

On Thursday, the participants turned into tourists of İstanbul. Participants took part in cultural visits designed to familiarize them with the Turkish culture, history and tradition. It was a great chance to see and experience real things instead of just reading or searching. For the trip, they had the chance to visit Topkapı Palace, Basilica Cistern, Asian and European parts of İstanbul, small towns around and the Bosphorus.

Friday, 14th October

The activities and the objectives carried out and gained during the mobility days were discussed and evaluated. Next, the teams participated to a Mentimeter test, in which they evaluated whole week. The day ended with a ceremony for awarding diplomas of participation, exchange of souvenirs, giving speeches and impressions regarding the mobility.

Friday, 14th October
İstanbul, Bayrampaşa