

Final report on the Erasmus+ mobility experience

Niort, 07/04/2024 – 14/04/2024

When I proposed my application for mobility under the Erasmus+ KA1 Program for my school, I had in mind to experience an educational opportunity based on the exchange and enhancement of teaching methodologies and experiences gained during my professional career and on collaboration in a multicultural context with the aim of reaching the sharing of objectives, techniques and ideas in a European dimension and internationalization of education.

The partner school for the first mobility of the "Quinto Orazio Flacco" Higher Secondary Education Institute of Castellaneta was the Lycée de la Venice Vert in Niort, New Aquitaine, France.

The project involved the mobility of seven pupils of the fourth and fifth classes of all the addresses characterizing the courses of study of the Institute, accompanied by two teachers.

The students were scheduled to stay with the families of as many French pupils, who proved to be highly hospitable and attentive to any of their needs.

Upon our arrival in Niort on Monday, April 8, we were welcomed at the host school by the Headmaster, Mister Stéphane Allieux, fellow Erasmus+ contact person, Mister Grégoire Dupont, Science teacher, Miss Pauline Picot and Miss Donatella Mistretta, Italian teacher.

After the customary greetings and mutual introduction of all the pupils, we visited most of the school premises and then participated in a laboratory lesson in Biology.

Over the next two days, again accompanied by Mr. Dupont and Miss Picot, we reached the localities of La Rochelle-Ville and La Garette, where the students shared the experiences of treasure hunting and boating in "Le Marais Poitevin" marsh.

We spent Thursday morning strolling through the historic center of Niort, while in the afternoon we took part in an Italian Language class with first-year students.

Friday, April 12, was a day of celebration for the Lycée de la Venice Vert in anticipation of the two-week vacation that was about to begin.

Everyone, including our students and me, donned a Carnival outfit and celebrated with dancing and singing, as is the school's tradition.

On Saturday, a day when there are no classes, we went on a visit to Niort Castle.

With warm greetings from Mr. Dupont, the host students and their families, our experience on French soil ended on Sunday, April 14, with a promise to meet again soon, in Castellaneta.

1. Preparation activities conducted prior to the visit:

- Informational meetings to learn about the project and the host school, the program and timeline, and materials for documenting and evaluating the experience;

2. Theme of the visit with reference to the situation in the host country and the Italian situation

- Improve communication skills; - Make school more inclusive; - Develop entrepreneurial skills;
- Implement digital citizenship

3. European added value of the training activity in relation to the professional growth opportunities available in our country:

- the Erasmus mobility experience allowed to get in touch with a different school culture and organization, to gain field experience of teaching methodologies in similar contexts, to compare and take on alternative and innovative approaches and tools.

4. Fallout that the experience may have on: - organization of the institute to which it belongs: the Erasmus mobility experience constitutes a training opportunity for the entire school community to which it belongs, allowing the dissemination in its own school reality of what has been observed and learned in terms of knowledge, aims, methodologies, digital tools through collegial meetings, teaching simulations for teachers, pupils, parents, publications in the local media, internationalization of curricula. - On the professionalism of the staff of the institution to which they belong: it will allow those interested to increase their professionalism by approaching different and innovative knowledge and methodologies that affect attitudes and skills, but also to integrate shared goals and objectives in the planning of teaching activities and educational paths for their students. - On the curriculum: it will enable the internationalization of curricula through the comparison and/or integration of common, innovative and expendable disciplinary content and knowledge, in step with the changes taking place in the European social and economic reality. - On the use of European languages in the home institution: it will allow cultural and linguistic exchanges with the host country through the common vehicular language of English and even informal approach to the national language of the country involved in the mobility.

5. Participation in the study visit:

- expanded my knowledge of other countries and cultures;
- increased my language skills;
- helped me make lasting contacts with other participants for future cooperation;
- met my needs for continued professional development;
- motivated me to participate in other training activities.

Castellaneta, 24 aprile 2024

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