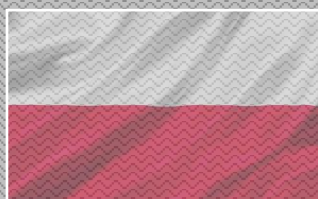
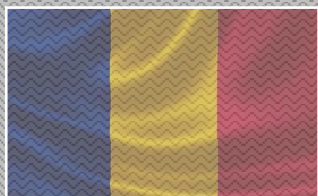




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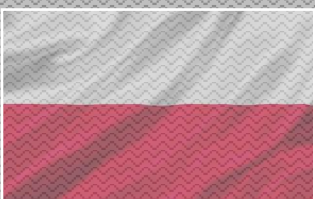
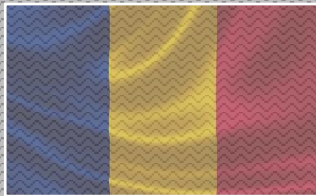
ERASMUS PROJECT MAGAZINE



2021



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NORTH MACEDONIA

SHORT-TERM JOINT STAFF TRAINING EVENT
01.11.2021 - 05.11.2021



**1. SPECIAL PRIMARY SCHOOL
DR ZLATAN SREMEC - SKOPJE**

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After the period of pandemic restrictions we were finally able to meet „face to face“. Our first mobility was hosted by our North Macedonian partner and took place at the beginning of November 2021. All the partners visited Dr Zlatan Sremec Special Primary School.



The Special Elementary School "D-r Zlatan Sremec"-Skopje for children with intellectual disabilities was opened over 50 years ago and is one of the four public schools for students with intellectual disabilities in Macedonia.

Today the school provides education for over a hundred students with intellectual disabilities, students with multiple disabilities and students with autistic spectrum disorders aged 6 to 18 years.

The working team is composed from 37 special educators, 4 teachers



on subject (music education, technical education, ICT and physical education) and professional service that consists of psychologists, speech therapists, special educators and rehabilitators and social workers.



The students learn by adapted curriculum that the Bureau for Development of Education (BDE) requires with the exception of foreign language, physics and chemistry. Besides the



mandatory classes the students are included in extracurricular activities, such as performances, creative workshops, school visits, walks, picnics, etc. The school has at its disposal a room for sensory integration, snoezelen room and an outdoor playground with big school yard. In working with the students educators use a combination of different kinds of methods to meet the childrens' needs and use their educational potential.



Professional development of the entire educational staff and therapists is accomplished through visits and participation in seminars, trainings, conferences, study visits, symposiums in the country and abroad. Teachers in the school make great

effort to promote tolerance and prepare their students to be as independent as possible and be a part of the society.



The first mobility dealt with exchanging experience and discussing teaching methods used in the fields of speech therapy, ballet and art. During the meeting there were used different working methods, such as workshops, presentations, observations, seminars and practical activities with a speech therapist. All the teachers participating in the meeting cooperated and performed the planned activities.

The hosting school prepared the activities and workshops in such a way so that they enhanced the exchange of good practices, experience and opinions concerning the use of theatre, music, dance, ballet, sport, art, literature, pantomime and recycling in the process of educating students with special needs.

During the workshops and activities we had a chance to feel the way disabled people do and experience the problems they face every day. We had to move around school blindfolded, move in a wheelchair to get to a nearby shop, try to communicate not hearing our partner or being unable to utter a single word. We saw the surrounding world with the eyes of an autistic child. This was a unique experience that let us shape a new perspective in perceiving students with special needs and understand them better.





One of the teaching methods adapted by the Macedonian teachers is the Montessori method. It was developed by Dr. Maria Montessori in the early 1900s. It's a specific child-centered method of education that involves child-led activities (referred to as "work"), classrooms with children of varying ages and teachers who encourage independence among their pupils.

Students at the host school are also offered speech therapy. Teachers help students who have difficulty speaking to communicate better and to break down the barriers that result from speech impediments. The goals of speech therapy include improving pronunciation, strengthening the muscles used in speech, and learning to speak correctly.



During the mobility we also had a chance to visit a State Secondary School of Music and Ballet. There, we discussed the methods used to teach dance and music to students with special needs. We also observe students present traditional dances and music.

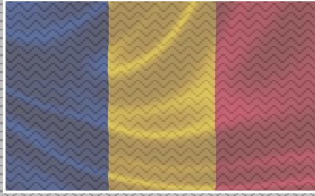


Our first mobility in North Macedonia was not only a chance to get to know all the partners better but it also was a great source of inspiration and new experience which we will share with our colleagues and use it in practice to develop our professional skills.

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TURKEY

SHORT-TERM JOINT STAFF TRAINING EVENT
06.06.2022 - 10.06.2022



Tarsus Emine Boro Ortaokulu, Mersin

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The second mobility was hosted by our Turkish partner in June 2022. The school is located in Tarsus, the district of Mersin, in the south of Turkey. It is situated on the sea shore at temperate



zone and it is the cradle of many other civilizations with its deep rooted history and arable soils. In the school there are 42 teachers and 760 students between the ages of 9 and 15. The student are receiving education from 5th grade to 9th grade.

There are over a hundred refugee students who emigrated from Syria. The immigrant students have been supported by a Turkish teacher to help them deal with the hardships of Turkish language. Most of the students are the children of families working in the fields or small family industries. There are some students whose parents got divorced and because of that reason they have some social needs. Almost 7% of the students need special education. There is a special education class composed of 10 students in the school. Teachers



working there implement some artistic practices such as getting new products from recycled materials, paper marbling, hobby garden activities, decoupage or wood painting.

The main content of the mobility in Turkey was hobby garden works and decorative art works by recycling. Teachers participating in the mobility gained new knowledge and experience using different methods like workshops, practising garden works, on-site observation and seminars.



During the meeting the teachers had a chance to learn about Turkish educational system and its advantages and disadvantages. Special stress was put on working with students with special needs.



All the teachers participating in the mobility learnt about teaching methods used by the hosts and put newly gained knowledge into practice. We have learnt how to perform some decorative works (wood painting; marbling;

Decoupage; preparing works from waste glass, plastic or boxes; mandala works). We have also learnt how to prepare colourful, fragrant soap.



We also visited the host a school for students with deep mental disabilities. We could observe teachers at work and see how they cope with their challenging occupation. We have also tried some handicraft used in a therapeutic work.



Some of the activities were devoted to works on a hobby garden for students. This included tending the plants and making natural fertilizer from fruit, vegetable peels and other plant parts.

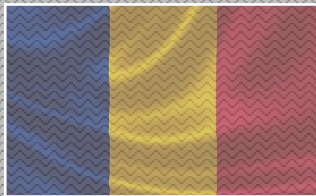


Gained during the mobility knowledge and experience we have shared with all our colleagues in all the partner schools.

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POLAND

SHORT-TERM JOINT STAFF TRAINING EVENT
03.10.2022 - 07.10.2022



Szkola Podstawowa nr 2 z Oddziałami Dwujęzycznymi
w Jasle

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The third mobility was held by the Polish partner. We all met in Jaslo, in October 2022. The hosting school is situated in Podkarpacie region. It is a school with over a hundred-year old tradition. A few years ago, due to educational reform, it was reorganized and now the teachers work with students from the age of 7 to 15. Currently there are around 600 students (27 of them with special needs) and 50 teachers in the school. Great stress is put on high standard of education and there is organized a number of extra-curricular classes devoted to additional revisions, developing students' interests, preparing them for contests on local, regional and national levels and help students with special needs adapt and develop their social skills.



To meet the requirements of today's world the management of the school put great stress on engaging in European projects which are very beneficial for the students and teachers. The school has been engaged in a number of European projects, however, it hasn't been in a project for students with special needs before. Therefore they wanted to share and gain experience in this field and work with international colleagues.



The meeting started with presenting the situation of students with special needs in the host school and Poland generally. We discussed their needs, adapted teaching methods and their efficiency. We also talked about Polish educational systems, its structure and how Polish teachers' work is organized.



The main content of this mobility was art therapy with painting, dance, sport and artistic works.

During this mobility the participants worked on art, folk dances, sport and making artistic works with recyclable materials.

Besides practising artistic skills the meeting aimed at presenting methods of improving students' social skills, group work skills, self confidence, cooperation and environmental awareness.

All the participants not only learnt the theory but also tried newly gained skills in practice.



A very interesting for the participants point of the mobility was meeting a traditional folk dance group, learning traditional dances and trying on traditional costumes.



Sport and its use in work with students with special needs was yet another aspect not only discussed but also tried in practice by all the participants. There has been created a special booklet including all the games and sports activities practised during the meeting. This way all the participants and their colleagues at home will be able to adapt them in their work.



A very valuable source of experience considering the work with students with special needs was the visit in a special school in Jaslo.

Teachers working there specialise in the field of working

with such students and are very eager to share their experience.



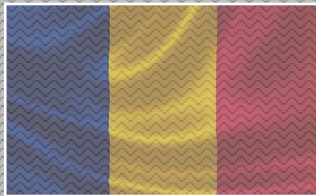
The participants of the mobility in Poland have learnt new teaching methods and gained new skills in the fields of art, dance and sport. They can use them in their work with students with special needs and improve their vocational perfection.



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ART/REATMENT WITH SMILING RECEIPT

2020-1-RO01-KA229-080011

Romania

SHORT-TERM JOINT STAFF TRAINING EVENT
24.04.2023 - 28.04.2023



Scoala Gimnaziala Alexandru Ciucurencu, Tulcea

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The fourth mobility was organised in Romania in Secondary school Alexandru Ciucurencu which is located in the city of Tulcea, near the largest natural reserve in Europe, the Danube Delta. The vision of the school is

built on the idea that our future depends on how we will know how to adopt, to develop the students generic skills, which they need for personal fulfillment, social inclusion, for the development of the personality as a whole which is the foundation for lifelong learning, the essential component of education. Teachers working there believe that the mission of the school is to promote a quality education with openness to the new, respecting human-fundamental values to give the chance for each student to succeed in life, to educate them to become good European citizens. Those four pillars specified by the International Commission of Education have become their slogan : to learn to know, to learn to do, to learn to be, to learn to live together. With this Project they want to develop a network of strategic partnerships with European schools that will pave the way for addend value, to give students and teachers a new perspective of continuous training, to open access to educational resources and exchange of ideas and good practices that bring concrete changes in the pedagogical approach and preparation.

The main content of this mobility was using ceramics making, shadow theatre,





storytelling and art therapy in work with students.

Teachers participating in the mobility gained new knowledge and experience using different methods like workshops, practising making ceramic objects, on-site observation, brain storming and classroom practice.

We started our meeting with getting acquainted with the students and teachers from the hosting school. We enjoyed the welcoming celebration and students' performances.



During the meeting all participants learned how Romanian educational system is organised, got to know its advantages and disadvantages, learned how teachers from the partner school work with

students in regular classes and how they work with students with special needs. All the participants shared their opinions and compared the educational systems in all partner schools.

We also took part in workshops concerning the shadow theatre, the use of storytelling in education, we discussed how to use them in classes and pointed to their benefits.





We have learnt that this kind of activities promote students' creativity and by adapting stories and preparing puppets develop their manual skills, planning skills and skills needed to turn written stories into theatrical performances.

We also participated in music and dance classes with students, learnt a traditional Romanian dance and discussed the influence of this kind of group activities on students' socialization, and developing their skills of expressing feelings through voice and movement.



We not only observed but also had a try and learned a traditional Romanian dance called „Alunelul”.

Another workshop we participated in concerned making ceramic objects out of clay. This activity not only helped us gain new skills but also made us realize that this kind of work helps students relax, decrease their muscular stress, lets them explore different touch sensations and gives them yet another opportunity to express their individuality by shaping clay into different forms.



A very important point of the mobility was visiting a school for students with special needs. Sharing knowledge and experience with teachers working in such schools is always a very interesting and valuable experience.

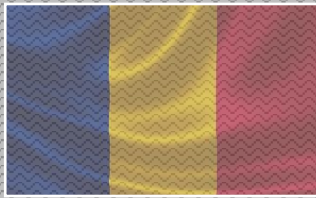


On the last day of the mobility we discussed the planned goals of the meeting and confirmed that they have been reached. We also discussed the ways of disseminating the results of the meeting and planned the last mobility in Greece.





2023



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Greece

SHORT-TERM JOINT STAFF TRAINING EVENT
05.06.2023 - 09.06.2023



2o Dimotiko, Arkalochoriou

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The last mobility was organised by the Greek partner and it took place in June 2023. 2nd Primary School of Arkalochori is situated in a small town in the inner part of Heraklion prefecture, 30 kilometers away from the capital, Heraklion.



There are 231 students in the school and it is the biggest school in the town. The building was structured in 1999 and rebuilt in 2020. There are 12 classrooms and also a science laboratory, computer and day care rooms.



A number of modern facilities are available in the Greek school, such as a library, computer lab, dance and music room, a multipurpose hall and a room with fitness equipment. The school shares the same building with the

Special Needs Primary School and the Special Needs Nursery School. Furthermore, it is fully accessible for students with special needs. The school's vision involves a school of joy, open to parents and the local community. The teachers work for a creative school which will provide students with multi-dimensional education, to fulfill their special talents and capabilities that at the same time will promote cooperation among teachers and students. The teachers and the headmaster dream to build a dynamic school that prepares students to face today's challenges in a rapidly-developing world, realizing the connection between human, natural and social environment, raising awareness on relevant problems. They want their students to become the future active citizens.



The hosting school is co-located with the special elementary school, so All the teachers collaborate successfully and have many common activities and teachings. The students also play together and meet in a

special class which is called "integration part".

The main content of the mobility was drama, music and poetry with art therapies. All the participants gained new knowledge and skills through taking part in a number of workshops, seminars and on-site observation. They also took active part in all the activities.



All the students and teachers of the hosting school welcomed us warmly showing traditional Greek dances and songs. We walked around the school and talked to teachers who presented the situation of students with special needs.

We took part in drama workshops jumping into a magical world of fairy tales and poetry from the island of Crete. It was a very interesting experience which showed us how to involve students in drama activities and arouse their interest and imagination so that they could be more expressive and engaged in learning through drama.





During the mobility we also had a chance to visit Heraklion the 3rd Special Education School which is different from regular schools in that it caters to students with education challenges. It is designed, staffed, and has the resources to provide the right support for children with disabilities. The school offers students targeted support to allow them to meet age-appropriate educational goals. It doesn't have a "one-size-fits-all" approach to education. Instead, it offers customized programming to meet each student's unique combination of needs. This includes not just learning, but also social and emotional needs. Observing the teachers at work was a great source of inspiration and new experience.



The mobility was full of other activities. We participated in workshops called 'Art of the clay' in the traditional village of Thrapsano where we could learn how to produce pots in different sizes and shapes. We had some experience in the field of making pottery from the previous mobilities but this time we saw how pottery is made using techniques cultivated in the region for over three thousand years.



We also visited another village where a school was destroyed during the earthquake and now the metal containers serve as classrooms. We talked to students and teachers working there and learned how they

cope with difficult conditions. It was a very enriching experience showing how to organise classes and provide proper level of education with very limited resources.

During the workshops at the hosting school we were also taught Cretan



traditional dances. It was not an easy task but we did our best. Now we can not only talk about Greek history, music and myths but also teach our students how to dance some traditional Greek

dances.

Our last mobility ended with the evaluation of all the activities and discussion on all the technical aspects of the project concerning its closure.



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Romania

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Greece

20 Dimotiko, Arkalochoriou



Turkey

Mersin - Tarsus Emine Boro Ortaokulu



North Macedonia

Posebno osnovno uciliste "d-r Zlatan Sremec" - Skopje



Poland

Szkola Podstawowa nr 2 z Oddziałami Dwujęzycznymi im. Marii Konopnickiej
w Jasle



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