SPECIAL EDITION

Erasmus+ at the Pitagora

The European Programme for Education and Youth has interested our school for various years. The Erasmus + is a project funded by the EU, based on cultural exchange and lasting three years. After a first project, named "Erasmus Gardening", in these last three years, a new project has been led by our Polish colleagues, students and teachers, under the name of "Interpersonal Communication" involving, in addition to Italy and Poland, also France, Turkey, Slovakia and the Netherlands. The project started in 2018 and finished in December 2021. The theme was the interpersonal communication and the changes that technology has produced in this field during the past years. In our school, the project was led by Mrs. Maria Rosaria Pasquali and Mrs. Rosanna Procope, and concluded by Mrs. Gioia Nasti, due to a change in reference teachers.

The first three metings took place in Poland, Turkey and France.



Unfortunately, the Covid pandemics stopped the students' mobility and we couldn't particicpate in the meeting held in Slovakia, while the last two meetings, organized by the Netherlands and by Italy, were performed online. Many products have been realised during these meetings: presentations, videos, games, posters, articles, all referring to advances in communication technology. During the mobility meetings, foreign students lived in the families chosen by the host school. This has made all participants not only to develop new life skills, but also to favour the merging and the comparison among various cultures, the exchange of different opinions, the ability in socialising and, last but not least, the improvement of linguistic competences.

From an interpersonal point of view, this cultural exchange allowed the creation and the consolidation of friendship relations which, in spite of distance, can even have a longlife duration.



our students' impressions

Gianmarco Calabrese

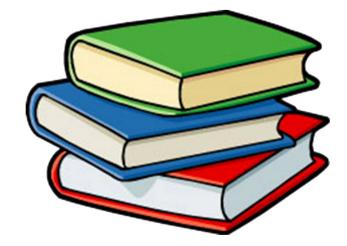
"My experience in Poland was incredible. I had a great desire to get in touch with different cultures. The family I lived with while being in Krakow was very nice and made me feel at ease. The relation with them was excellent and I really felt as at home. Except for the food, probably, which is a little bit different. This experience was fantastic. Being able to get in touch with people coming from four different countries was amazing."





Ilaria Poderico

"Getting in touch with cultures different from mine was very interesting. I was enriched by this experience, above all because the project let me live a new and completely different reality. The family I lived with was extremely affective. I felt completely at ase in spite of my shyness, treating me as if I were their daughter. I'm still very attached to them. We had the habit to sit at the table for dinner and tell one anothr how our day had been. They wre good at speaking English and this helped our communication. Even if at the beginning I felt a little bit alone because my family lived far from the centre of Krakow and it was difficult to meet my schoolmates, only a few days were necessary to become friends. This experience enriched me much as I had the possibility to live an experience that I couldn't have done on my own."



Ivan Lanuto

"I went to Turkey and I got in touch with a very different culture if compared with mine. In spite of tthis, it was a geat time. I had a completely different lifestyle; it was strange but interesting to see people to follow a religion very different from mine, to taste different spicy foods, to live with a family that, in spite of our differences, acepted me in their best way. They were exceptional; the boy was very careful towards me, he behaved like a brother. I felt at ease so much that, apart from th first day, when I was a bit awkward by the situation, I not even missed home that week. I understood that we can travel all around, far from home, we can always met special people."



Debora Cavaliere

I went to Istanbul and there I could discovera reality so different from mine and however so similar to my way of living. It's a different culture but we have some points in common. For example, tlls of the church often mix with the muezzin's prayer. The family I lived with was really affective. Before arriving there, I was afraid of finding no warm atmosphere, but Gödze's mother made me feel immediately at home. We established a strong bond since the beginning and we got in touch in complete sincerity, with no filters. For example, at the airport we hugged each other like two longlife friends. In addition, this experience far from home made me know myself better and discover my hidden aspects. I have wonderful memories of that period. Getting in touch with Turkish people demolished any kind of prejudice about them, because I met special people."



Mariagrazia Alborino

"My experience in Turkey was great, as I could meet a culture so different from mine for various aspects. However, there are some point which are verry similar, like, for example, the way people receive guests and the habit of offering coffee or tea when they are together. When I arrived, I was a little awkward but the family I lived with could integrate me very well and the relation with them is still very strong. We are still in contact and we often phone ne another to tell our daily experiences. I will always remember those nights spent chatting with Asll eating some snacks or the days walking through the streets of Istanbul.

What do our Dutch guests think of us?

Some of our students hosted their Dutch mates during their visit in Naples. Linde and Koen accepted to be interviewed to tell us their impressions.

Q.: What did you expect from this experience in Italy?

LINDE: I expected to meet many new people and I was a little afraid, but I'm glad I was well received and I'm enjoying my stay very much. I got the habit to sit and watch the landscapefrom the window as it is very different from the one I'm used to and this fascinates me so much.

KOEN: I agree with Linde. I met so many kind people... This travel is essentially based on the meeting of two cultures. It's so strange to think, for example, that wee have such different cultures, even living in the same continent...



Q.: What kind of differences did you find here in comparison with your country?



LINDE: The most problematic thing was traffic. I'm glad I didn't have to drive myself, even if now I'm getting used to it.

KOEN: I found it difficultto get used to the time for dinner. We usually have dinner at 6.00 p.m., while here people have dinner between 8.00 and 9.00 p.m. It's really late!