

SPEAK UP NEWS

SPEAK UP EVEN IF YOUR VOICE SHAKES • SPEAK UP DEBATING SOCIETY



Speak up, even if your voice shakes logo



Students from all four participating schools

Project logo contest

A. CALÒ

At the start of each of the two eTwinning projects the project logo contest was organized. All students could participated with their logo suggestions.

Then all students had the chance to vote for the logo suggestion they liked most. The suggestion with most votes was to become an official logo of the eTwinning project.

For project »Speak up, even if your voice shakes« there were 20 logo suggestions. Official logo (above) won with 19 votes.

For project »Speak up Debating Society« there were 14 suggestions. Official logo (below) won with 21 votes.



Speak up Debating Society logo

»Speak up« project started

A. CALÒ

The projects Erasmus+ KA2 »Speak up, even if your voice shakes« and »Speak up Debating Society« were addressed to the students and teachers of the following participating schools: »Zespół Szkół Ogólnokształcących n 6« from Bydgoszcz, Poland, »Istituto di Istruzione Superiore don Lorenzo Milani« from Gragnano, Italy, »Hebbelschule Kiel« from Kiel, Germany and »Gimnazija Bežigrad« from Ljubljana, Slovenia.

The project, carried out from 1st September 2017 to 31st August 2019, included four international meetings; in turn, each partner school hosted the project participants once.

The project officially started on 7th November at 11.30 at the Council Chamber of Gragnano City Hall. Coordinator teachers of the schools involved were also present.

The objectives of the project were to upgrade students' soft skill competences enhancing their abilities related to introducing themselves, improving their social and team work building skills in order to develop critical thinking, effective communication and creativity.

The students thus became responsible world citizens able to understand people from foreign cultures, respect differences and developed an adequate sense of empathy. But most of all this project helped participating schools strengthen their European dimension.

IN THIS ISSUE

SPEAK UP EVEN IF YOUR VOICE SHAKES

SPEAK UP DEBATING SOCIETY

SPEAK UP THOUGHTS AND OUTCOMES

MOBILITY

Speak up, even if your voice shakes

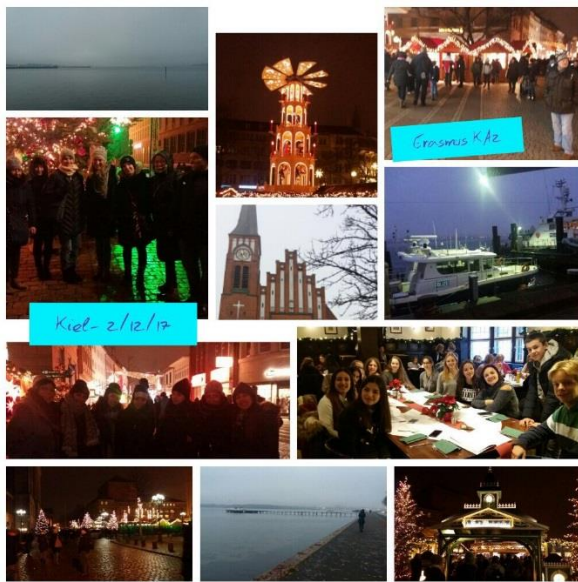
First mobility in Kiel, Germany

J. LISEWSKA
1st – 9th December 2017

The first short-term exchange of pupils took place in the first week of December. Twenty Hebbelschule Kiel students and their families hosted eight Polish, six Slovene and six Italian students.

The main objective of the mobility was to strengthen the participants' social, civic and intercultural competences and to increase their knowledge of the immigration crisis in Europe.

The students participated in an intercultural workshop with Ms Carol Sheehan, a trainer from Kiel University. The main highlights of the event were meetings with two Syrian refugees, currently Kiel university students slowly integrating into the local community.



Exploring the secrets of Kiel

The final products of the exchange were five minute presentations made with tools presented during the ICT workshop.

During a dissemination event open to all the host families, students and teachers »Speak up« international groups presented their reflections on the refugee crisis.

Admittedly, our stay in Kiel was not all work. We will remember the warmth and cordiality of our hosts, new friends, a freezing walk along the Kiellinie promenade, a visit to charming Lübeck and the festive spirit of Christmas markets.



Visit to charming Lübeck



The participants of the first mobility in Kiel, Germany on their trip to Lübeck

FEEDBACK

I will remember this exchange by

STUDENTS

»The part of the exchange that I have enjoyed the most was the interview with the refugee because before that moment I hadn't have any ideas how much courage it takes to make a decision: running away from your homeland, leaving family and friends and meeting new people and a new culture.«

-- Michelina from Italy

»I think the most important part of the exchange was learning to communicate with people from different countries and with that developing not only our knowledge of English but as well as teamwork and communication skills in general.«

-- Manca from Slovenia

»I enjoyed the most our trip to Lübeck and Sunday, our free day, because we could meet all the students from all four countries and that was very good. We also saw amazing things in Lübeck, for example the traditional marzipan shop.«

-- Hubert from Poland

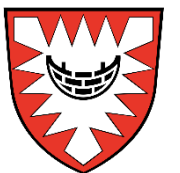
»For me the whole trip was splendid. I especially enjoyed the communication process and have gained a lot of knowledge from it. I improved upon my skills in both English and German. I would visit more places if I were to rewind the experience. I really enjoyed staying with the hosting family. They exposed me to their culture and traditions as well as different foods and many interesting places.«

-- Fedor from Slovenia

PLACES

Presenting Kiel

Kiel is the capital and most populated city in the northern German state of Schleswig-Holstein. The city is known for a variety of international sailing events, including the annual Kiel Week, which is the biggest sailing event in the world. Kiel is a major high-tech shipbuilding center. Kiel Harbour is an important port of call for cruise ships touring the Baltic Sea.



Kiel's recorded history began in the 13th century, but the city was originally a Danish village, in the 8th century. Until 1864 it was administered by Denmark in personal union. In 1866 the city was annexed by Prussia and in 1871 it became part of Germany.

MOBILITY

Speak up, even if your voice shakes

Second mobility in Gragnano, Italy

A. CALÒ & L. CACCIOPPOLI
16th – 24th March 2018

On Friday 16th March everything was ready at the High School don Lorenzo Milani in Gragnano to welcome the three delegations of the partner schools involved in the Erasmus+ project »Speak up, even if your voice shakes« for the second mobility which has had a remarkable theme: »The European Year of Cultural Heritage.«

From 16th to 24th March, six teachers and eighteen students (two teachers and six students from each country) coming from Bydgoszcz, Kiel and from Ljubljana were guided by our students to discover our cultural heritage: tangible, intangible and natural. Our students played the role of tourist guides during the visit to Pompeii ruins, Villas Stabiae and Sorrento.



Visiting Villas Stabiae

The regional folk dances and the traditional dishes, which the foreign students have also learnt to prepare, have made them appreciate our intangible cultural heritage, too.

Moreover, during their stay, all the students, Italian and foreigners, were involved in two workshops on Public Speaking and Debate. In the workshops they had to work together with the foreign partners, collaborate in teams, make some choices and create a final product.

During the farewell evening party, on Friday 24th, in the presence of the coordinator teachers, the headmaster of our school, the host families, the representatives of the local authorities, the students presented their work to the public and performed folk dances from each country. An international buffet was organized by the students themselves in order to share and celebrate their European Citizenship.



Trip along the beautiful coast to Amalfi

The students have certainly improved their communicative competences, their social and team working skills. Working together as responsible European citizens has helped them to get aware that differences among peoples are a source of cultural enrichment and not distancing. That is the main final objective of the project: introduce our students to a positive intercultural relationship.



The participants of the second mobility in Gragnano, Italy after farewell party

FEEDBACK

I will remember this exchange by

STUDENTS

»Looking back, for me the most important part of the time in Gragnano was... wait – I can't even choose only one moment! That week not only did I get to know Italy with its unique culture, but I also spent time with outstanding people – they spoke in different languages, they had a different way of living their everyday life. We did a lot of things during our mobility, some of them we will never be able to forget, but naturally some things were a bit more important than others.

Although I was a little bit afraid of this exchange, as soon as I met my hosts, I forgot about all the fears and doubts I had had. My host family didn't speak English. We were mostly communicating through hand gestures. What's interesting – the Italians use many gestures with many meanings. We had so much fun while trying to explain something.«

-- Ola from Poland

»For me the most important part of the exchange was the cultural exchange between the students of different countries, to get to know the other cultures and especially the lifestyle of our hosting country Italy.«

-- Theresa from Germany

»I learned a lot of new things on this exchange. One of them was getting to know Italian culture better and exploring interesting destinations of Campania. And this was the most important part of the exchange for me. And of course a really important part of it was also public speaking with Ms Monika Izbaner, because she was helping us get over our stage fright with some funny, unusual but on the other hand very useful tips.«

-- Eva from Slovenia

PLACES

Presenting Gragnano

C. CUOMO & M. P. CAPEZZA

Gragnano, a hill town located between a mountain crest and the Amalfi Coast. It is a municipality in the Metropolitan City of Naples, located about 30 kilometres from Naples.



Gragnano is at a short distance from Castellammare di Stabia, Pompeii, Sorrento, Ravello and Amalfi. Its name comes from the ancient Gens Grania, a family that owned a large part of the territory. It is known for its production of pasta exported all over the world.

MOBILITY

Speak up Debating Society

Third mobility in Ljubljana, Slovenia

J. LISEWSKA
9th – 17th December 2018

Sunday December 9th marked the beginning of the third international exchange of the pupils and teachers involved in »Speak up Debating Society«. The main focus of our meeting in Ljubljana were debates and diplomacy.

The students participated in a series of lectures and workshops devoted to Oxford-style debate. Our speakers were Dr Monika Izbaner and Mr Miha Andrič, head coach of Bežigrad high school debate club, who gave a lecture on building arguments. The culminating event of the exchange was a model Oxford debate in mixed international groups.



During lecture and model Oxford debate

A definite highlight of our stay in Ljubljana were meetings with members of diplomatic corps of all the partner countries, a visit to an Italian Cultural Institute, German Embassy and a meeting Polish Ambassador and his wife at Gimnazija Bežigrad. Students and teachers also listened to a round-table discussion on diplomacy and its role in the 21st century.

The entire project group also enjoyed a number of sightseeing activities: a treasure hunt game in Ljubljana, a visit to Planica nordic ski center, Lake Bled, Gingerbread Museum in Radovljica, Postojna Cave and Piran.



Workshop in the Gingerbread Museum

For the Polish group, an unforgettable experience was the Western Slavic Christmas Event hosted by the University of Ljubljana Faculty of Arts.



At the Western Slavic Christmas event

We would like to say a big thank you to the teachers and students of Gimnazija Bežigrad for their warm welcome and invite the whole project team to Bydgoszcz this spring.



The participants of the third mobility visiting Nordic ski center in Planica, Slovenia

FEEDBACK

I will remember this exchange by

STUDENTS

»In this week in Slovenia we did many activities regarding the debate but there were also pleasure moments such as the day at Planica or the one at the Postojna Cave or the afternoon spent in the street of Ljubljana.

I enjoyed how time was divided between debating workshops and Cultural Heritage activities.

Personally in my opinion Miha Andric's workshop was the best. He actually showed me how to create arguments for the debate and it was still really interesting to listen.«

-- Selin from Germany

PLACES

Presenting Ljubljana

In Ljubljana the old meets the new; and it seems that history has spent all of the settlement's five millennia preparing it to become the nation's capital. It has managed to retain traces from all periods of its rich history; from the legacy of Roman Emona; through to the Renaissance, Baroque and Art Nouveau periods characterized in the house fronts and ornate doorways of the city center, the romantic bridges adorning the Ljubljanica river, the lopsided rooftops and a park reaching deep into the city center.



Here eastern and western cultures met; and the Italian concept of art combined with the sculptural aesthetics of Central European cathedrals.

As four Slovene regions meet in Ljubljana, the city's numerous restaurants and inns offer a wide range of local delicacies, not to mention superb wines. In the past it was the wine-trading center of the region and grapevines were planted on the slopes leading up to the present-day castle by the inhabitants of the Roman settlement of Emona.

Today scientists are drawn to the city because of its high-calibre institutes and university, as are artists due to its world-famous graphic biennial, art academy and countless art galleries.

In short: Ljubljana is a city that people often return to, be it because of work or because of pleasant memories of previous visits. It is similar to a number of other pleasant European cities - yet it is different - just ask the locals - they love it.

MOBILITY

Speak up Debating Society

Fourth mobility in Bydgoszcz, Poland

J. LISEWSKA
8th – 16th March 2019

From 8th to 16th March 2019 ZSO No. 6 hosted the students and teachers of our partner schools from Germany, Italy and Slovenia. It was the final, fourth youth exchange organized as part of the Erasmus+ »Speak up, even if your voice shakes« project. The culminating event marking the end of our one hundred people strong project team's two-year work was »Musketeers of Words« Polish High School Oxford Debate Championships in English.

Our preparations for the competition started in January 2019 and they involved work on the »Speak Up Debating Society« Twinspace and extra classes at all schools.



Guest speaker Mr Miha Andrič

Our guest speaker in Bydgoszcz was Mr Miha Andrič, an international debate coach and adjudicator from Slovenia, who gave a lecture on debates and savoir-vivre. He also conducted a series of workshops on argumentation and debate case building. Ms Monika Izbaner ran workshops on debate assessment and role fulfillment.

The stay in Bydgoszcz was not all about learning and public speaking though. In their free time the participants enjoyed the numerous attractions of our city.



The participants of the fourth mobility discovering Bydgoszcz, Poland.



Debate practice with Ms Monika Izbaner

To promote Polish cultural heritage we also organized two trips, to Gdańsk, Sopot and Toruń. We listened to an organ concert at Oliwa Cathedral, we visited the Nicholas Copernicus House and the Museum of Toruń Gingerbread.



Trip to Toruń

FEEDBACK

I will remember this exchange by

STUDENTS

»I had a good time in Poland. I met new people and learnt a lot about debate and public speaking. I got some new friends from my school too, because before exchange I did not know some of the Slovenian students. Musketeers of words were interesting, although different from Slovenian debate.

I liked my host and her family, even though we have not spent a lot of time with her family, because we usually came home late and were so exhausted that we just went to sleep. However, we went on a trip to Poznan, which is also a beautiful city, and had a nice family day.

I learned new things about Polish culture and I ate traditional Polish food. I also picked up some Polish words and phrases. I really liked the trip to Gdańsk and Sopot, because I love seaside.«

-- Neja from Slovenia

PLACES

Presenting Bydgoszcz

Bydgoszcz is a town located in northern Poland on two rivers the Brda and the Vistula. It's the capital of the Kuyavian-Pomeranian Voivodeship. The mayor of Bydgoszcz is Rafal Bruski, who is a graduate of ZSO No. 6 school.



Originally a fishing settlement, Bydgoszcz became a stronghold for the Vistula trade routes. In 1331 the city was occupied by the Teutonic Knights and incorporated into their monastic state. King Casimir III of Poland granted Bydgoszcz city rights in 1346. In the 15th-16th centuries Bydgoszcz was a significant site for wheat trading.

Bydgoszcz is a major cultural center in the country, especially for music. Traditions of the municipal theater dates back to the 17th century, when the Jesuit college built a theater. The first music school was established in Bydgoszcz in 1904, it had close links to the very well-known European piano factory of Bruno Sommerfeld. Bydgoszcz is also an important place for contemporary European culture; one of the most important European centers of jazz music, the Brain club was founded in Bydgoszcz.

DIPLOMACY

I want to be a diplomat when I grow up

Š. FRANTAR & G. ANŽELJ



German students and Slovene host students with German ambassador Mr Klaus Riedel in front of German Embassy in Ljubljana.



Polish students and their hosts with Polish ambassador in Ljubljana, Mr Paweł Czerwiński and his wife.



The Italian students and their hosts, welcomed by Mr Stefano Cerrato at Istituto Italiano di Cultura in Ljubljana, met the Italian Ambassador, Mr Paolo Trichilo.



COMPETITION

Musketeers of Words*Polish High School Oxford Debate Championships in English*

dr M. IZBANER

That was a unique edition of Musketeers of Words - Polish High School Oxford Debate Championships in English. Erasmus+ and »Speak up« were represented by four national and one international team. An excellent preparation of all the teams have been taking the tournament onto a higher level each year and contributing to this successful educational project on various levels.

Many people were involved in organizing and conducting the Championships: honorable jury, judges, delightful bellgirls and secretaries. We are grateful for their hard work and valuable feedback after each debate. But for the sponsors and our partners the whole event would not be possible therefore we would also like to thank all of them and in particular Lang LTC, Oxford University Press, University of Kazimierz Wielki in Bydgoszcz and Erasmus+.

Individual Awards of participants of Erasmus+ and »Speak up«

Patryk Jankowski – the best speaker of the tournament,
Antonio Giulio De Simone – for the progress he made in debating over the 2 days,
Katharina Kirchner – for delicate but at the same time witty rebuttal.
 Congrats to all the debating teams and their coaches!

*Results of Musketeers of Words 2019*

1st award *Gimnazija Bežigrad, Slovenia*
 2nd award *High School No I from Gdańsk, Poland*
 3rd award *High School No III from Gdańsk, Poland*
 4th award *High School don Lorenzo Milani, Italy*

AWARDS

Speak up outcomes

A. CALÒ & J. LISEWSKA

We created, managed and carried out a high quality project. This is not just our impression. We got conformation between August and September 2019 when all four schools received eTwinning National Quality Labels for the project »Speak up, even if your voice shakes«.

But we did not end it there. During October 2019 all four schools also received eTwinning European Quality Label for the project »Speak up, even if your voice shakes«.

