



The eTwinner

March 2022
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Dear eTwinners,

Back in January we celebrated the national eTwinning awards. Several educators were awarded for being able to use this pedagogy in their everyday lessons, engaging their students into active participation in their own learning. Well done! This does not mean that only awarded educators are being successful. So many more are doing wonders in their schools bringing to their students elements of relevancy in learning, intercultural awareness and the destruction of stereotypes and discrimination, friendships are born among diverse nations, cultures, and religions for both educators and their students. Above all eTwinning is bringing to the classroom a sense of fun and enjoyment which is so important for learning.

Today this has become especially important as globally we are living through challenging times. eTwinning can be that breath of fresh air to remind us how

beautiful it is to have friendships, live peacefully together and appreciate the time we have together. This issue is bringing forth how educators from all the levels of education are accomplishing their learning outcomes in diverse and creative learning environments all supported and encouraged by eTwinning.

Very soon eTwinning will join other educational platforms in Europe to form one common gateway for education. This will be the single integrated European School Education Platform. In this new platform you will discover and explore all the educational content and services under one roof.

More details and information will be shared soon so keep an eye on all our social media channels.

In the meantime, enjoy this issue and keep eTwinning!

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Imaginary Creatures in Shadows

Ms Melanie Fenech Ishmael
Handaq Middle School

This scholastic year class 7H embarked on an interesting eTwinning project together with six partner schools: two from Turkey, one from Italy and three from Greece. The project, entitled Imaginary Creatures in Shadows, has a number of steps resulting in the writing of a playscript and using shadow puppetry to act it out. The aim of this project is to develop imagination and creativity through the use of digital tools whilst improving speaking and writing skills in English.

The students first discussed the importance of Netiquette, creating posters using Powerpoint and Canva to stress its importance when communicating online. Then, using the Avatar-builder app, Pixton, students created avatars with speech bubbles to introduce themselves. A video made with Animoto also introduced the school. The next step was to introduce our country to our foreign partners. This was done through Padlet. Each student uploaded a photo and a paragraph with information to promote different towns and villages.



Gozo, known amongst locals as Għawdex, is the younger sister island of Malta. It has a lot of historical locations, namely Ġgantija and the Megalithic temples which are among the world's oldest free standing structures. The island has 46 churches including the one in Xewkija whose dome is the third largest unsupported dome in Europe.

Lots of tourists visit this island to enjoy its sunny beaches, architecture and culture. It is also very popular as a top diving destination.

Anonymous 3mo
Hal Qormi - Leonie Abdilla



Qormi has a population over 17,000 people. Qormi is the fifth largest city in Malta. Qormi has two parishes, Saint George and Saint Sebastian. It contains two valleys: Wied il-Kbir and Wied is-Sewda. Qormi is in the middle of Malta. The name Qormi is most likely derived from the surname Qumri, which is documented in Sicily as of 1095. The first written reference

was little. Now how about talking about what Haz-Zebbug is known for: it is known for the feast dedicated to the patron St Philip of Agira which is celebrated on the 3rd Sunday of June. If you ever visit Haz-Zebbug I recommend that you to visit these places that I mentioned. Thank you for your time, Bye!

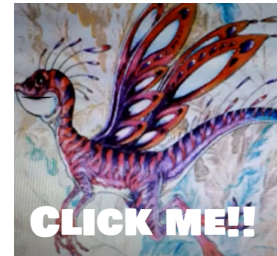
Anonymous 3mo
Zurrieq by Edgar



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Mosta by Aiton Ciappara



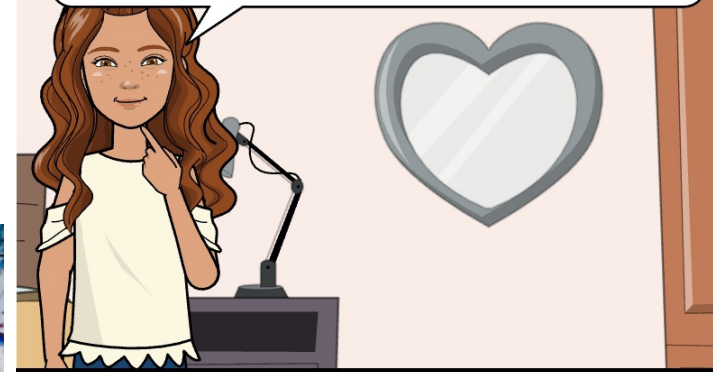
Students then focused on creating an imaginary creature which will later be the main character in their playscript. After writing a paragraph about this creature, they uploaded a drawing of it on Chatterpix and recorded their own voice to bring this character to life.



We collaborated with the other schools in producing a calendar featuring different creatures created by students as well as an online quiz using Genial.ly.

The next step will be writing a script involving the character and acting it out using shadow puppets.

Hello! My name is Kendra Abela, I am 11 years old. I love doing art and gymnastics (although I'm not that good at art). My favourite animals are owls and dogs. One day I would love to travel to England, Maldives and Hawaii. If you haven't guessed, I love the beach. My favourite thing to do when I go there in summer is finding pretty seashells. I have only one sibling. We fight but we love each other.



My name is Matteo. I live in Siggiewi. I am 10 years old but I will soon turn 11. I am in my first year at Handaq middle school. I like playing on the computer with my friends. I don't really like reading but I do prefer English books over Maltese books. My favourite food is spaghetti with red sauce.



Malta National eTwinning Awards 2021

held on 28th January 2022

The Malta National Support Office would like to thank all the eTwinning educators for their work, dedication and professionalism in the eTwinning projects submitted for review, whilst congratulating the winners for this year as follows:

- **Best Media Literacy & Disinformation Project:** Mr Mario Xerri - Stop-Think-Click;
- **Best Collaborative Project:** Everyday Superheroes - Ms Svetlana Fenech, Ms Glorianne Borg, Ms Roberta Azzopardi, Ms Claire Vella, Ms Sarah Mallia, Ms Beverly Baldacchino, Ms Mandy Stagno, Ms Lynne Aquilina
- **Best Fun Project:** My Pet and Your Pet- Ms Giorganne Scerri
- **Best National Project:** Research, Write, Publish! – Ms Dorita Maniscalco, Ms Lina Debattista, Mr Robert Attard, Mr Geoffrey Galea.
- **Best National Project (Runner Up):** Solidarieta' – Mr Louis Agius, Ms Donna Bajada
- **Best European Early Years Project:** Easter Box – Ms Doreen Barr
- **Best European Primary Schools Project:** I am in, too – Anna Maria Gauci
- **Best European Primary Schools Project (Runner Up):** ALL THE WORLD, OUR WORLD – Ms Marisa Azzopardi Duca
- **Best European Secondary Schools Project:** Think, Act, Inspire! – Ms Melanie Cini
- **Best European Post-Secondary Project & Best Newcomer of the Year:** Ms Abigail Camilleri

More details about the ceremony can be found this link: https://digitalliteracy.skola.edu.mt/embed-digital-literacy-awards-ceremony-2021/?fbclid=IwAR1NA2Mn_506Q5hYQvXxN3WjMoHoJwC1s

GLOBAL TOUR BUS

Ms Abigail Camilleri



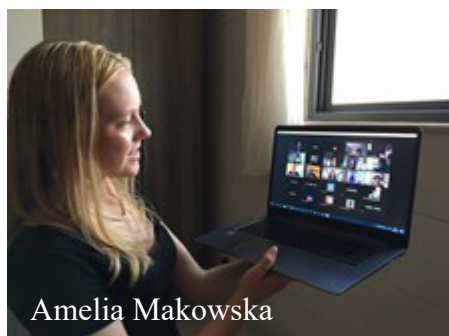
This project was an amazing educational experience outside the classroom setting for both students and teacher. eTwinning is an educational platform which provides educators world-wide a golden opportunity to interact, create projects, share ideas and attend seminars for their own personal and professional development. Global Tour Bus was our first experience, and it surely would not be the last. It was such a rewarding experience working with more than 70 educators from all over the globe. I am still incredulous that even though we were a big number we managed



to collaborate, to meet online and to fashion such an unforgettable event for our students. This project had the aim of promoting cultural awareness and instilling in our students the values of tolerance, respect and diversity.

Digital literacy has become a crucial tool in our teaching profession. I learned to use different Web 2.0 tools which helped in cultivating a more active and participatory environment amongst students and would ensure that my future lessons would be more interactive and fun. Students became protagonists of their own learning, and such tools enhanced their potential. This project gave students and educators alike an opportunity to work in collaboration with others and harvest the benefits of working as a team. Teamwork allowed for more ef-

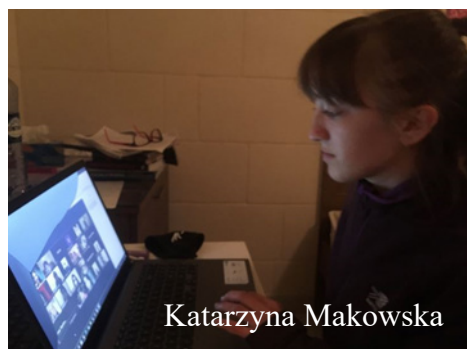
efficient communication and effective social skills, higher-level thinking, constructivist learning, and assuming leadership roles with responsibility. It improved self-confidence and increased respect for contrasting opinions and ideas. This project not only gave us the opportunity to immerse virtually in a myriad of cultures but boosted individual growth too. Thus, I invite colleagues to join eTwinning because it will surely impel our professional growth.



Almost a year ago I took part in a captivating eTwinning project involving 38 countries including Malta, which I had the privilege to represent with my schoolmates. The eTwinning project lasted only six months, but the new experiences, skills, and great memories will last a lifetime. I learned how to use Web 2.0 tools and technology. In addition, I had the edifying opportunity of interacting virtually with people from other countries. It was my favourite part because it introduced me to the culture of other countries and improved my communication skills. Also, during this project, I deepened my knowledge of Malta and

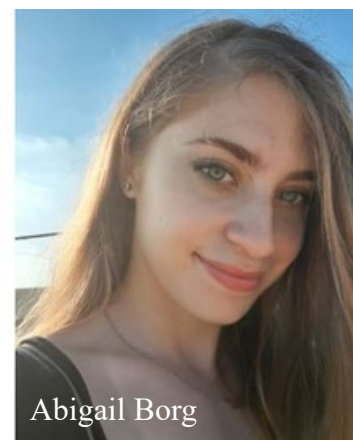
Gozo by preparing presentations and videos about our country.

The eTwinning project is an amazing adventure where students can meet many outgoing, smart young people, make new friendships, and widen their horizons about various countries. I am very happy that I could take part in this project, and I also heartily recommend it to anyone.



I really enjoyed doing this project. It was a unique experience. We had a healthy blend of activities such as zoom meetings with students from various institutes and colleges abroad, a video about Maltese food, presentations portraying Malta and the Maltese, quizzes and a digital placate. We also had a chance to try our voice by singing popular songs in foreign languages. I sang two lines of a Ukrainian song and another two of a Turkish song. During online meetings we were thrillingly engaged in puzzles and Kahoot games. Online meetings and using the Zoom program were new for me. I am glad that thanks to this project I learnt more about Maltese culture which I was pleased to share with students from other

countries. Our teacher-leader prompted us with our tasks, a constant encouragement which I truly appreciated. Another added advantage of doing the eTwinning project was that I could use it for my Systems of Knowledge Project.



The eTwinning program was an outstanding educational experience which established many new bonds and friendships amongst young people from the 38 participating countries. What makes this program so revolutionary is the fact that education is conducted through a highly innovative channel; it is done by means of fun games and activities held outside of the classroom setting. It also boosts relationship building with other people by effective teamwork; a very important value, so vital in everyday life but which unfortunately is often neglected in academic circles.

Students from respective countries were assigned to research their culture thoroughly and construct interesting and eye-catching PowerPoints, posters and

related activities. Themes of such activities consisted of a captivating variety; traditional dishes, attire and games were among the most prominent on the list. These were then uploaded on the eTwinning portal so that other students could access them. To ease communication while also getting to know each other better, video calls were held amongst groups of participants. This program helped me not only in grasping many values, also to feel more connected to my culture with more open understanding and respect. Besides, I was also quite glad to learn about other cultures from the native point of view, rather than from the usual sources of digital platforms or printed media. As a befitting farewell event upon the conclusion of the project, a video call hosted all the participants, during which some shared their views on the overall project. For me, it was a remarkable experience and so a personal repository of worthwhile knowledge and great memories.

Looking back at my time spent on the eTwinning Project I remember many a fond memory which significantly enhanced my knowledge of different cultures. Likewise, the extracurricular scope of the initiative impelled my studies



as it made it possible for me to express a promising measure of creativity within the many activities. I am glad to have participated also because the eTwinning Project made it possible for like-minded students taking part in the project to talk to each other, thus providing an incentive for new friendships and for healthy discussions and debates to occur.

Despite the pandemic – which derailed normal proceedings – the group of educators from all over Europe and beyond really outdid themselves to create a semblance of normalcy and to carry on with the project in an altered format that worked brilliantly, ultimately enhancing my satisfaction at having been part of such an initiative.



Renata Kaluzna

This was a great project. As a mother I am glad that the Gozo Sixth Form is taking up such international initiatives. Applause 🙌🙌🙌 for students, teachers and the school 😊 Work on the project was developing for my daughters and gave them the opportunity to cooperate and interact with other students from all over the world.

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ETWINNERS

As from 1st May 2022, The eTwinning portal will migrate to another website, along with other educational services provided by the European Commission. Due to this migration, materials posted in Twinspaces opened before 2019, will not be carried forward to the new portal. Other areas, such as the professional development portfolio will be effected as well.

In this regard we suggest that you:

- Download and save any material that you have created from your past eTwinning projects before 2019.
- Download your portfolio. Follow these [instructions](#).

We suggest that you back up all the material on your personal devices, in advance of the above mentioned date.

My European Schoolmates

Ms Elaine Gauci
Dingli Primary School



This project involves students to learn about Europe and exchange information. There are about 10 participants in this project from Spain, Italy, France, Portugal, Romania, Greece and Poland. We are working on a particular topic every month.

We started the activities in September by introducing ourselves and the students, allocating our school on the map, celebrating the European Day of languages

and creating a logo for the project.

In October, we learnt about our national anthem and our flag. We had the opportunity to listen to our partners' national anthems, the children were fascinated by so many different languages. Another topic we tackled, was famous monuments, some of which students recognised when visiting Malta or when going abroad, such as the Eiffel Tower in Paris. We explored the wonders of Malta such as the fortresses, city gates and temples. Together we built a 3D Ġgantija temples model. Some parents also expressed their interest in taking their children to visit some of these temples.

December's activity was the most thrilling activity for my students. Together we went over our Christmas Traditions and created some lovely shiny cards for our friends. Moreover, we exchanged sweets, Qagħaq tal-Għasel, with our friends from Portugal, which they liked.

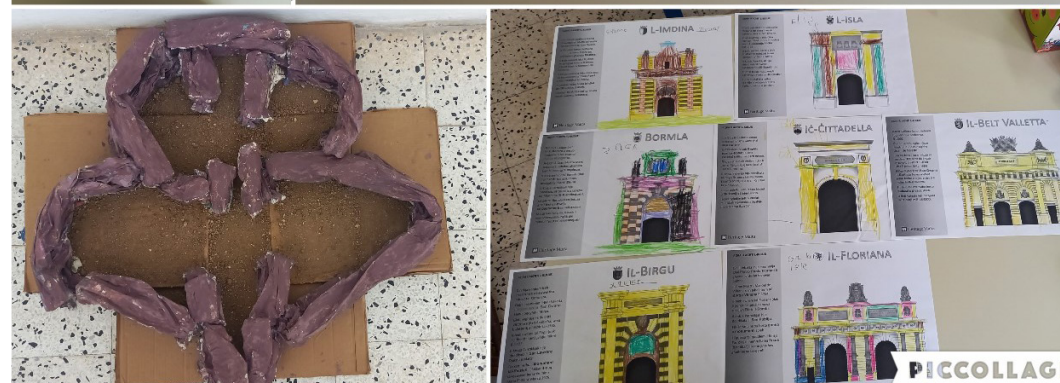
Furthermore, together, we discovered the legend of Princess Europe which led us to create a collaborative ebook in comic format using the Web 2.0 tool

<https://www.storyboardthat.com/>. We also explored virtually the capital cities and created a big book to integrate it with the book week celebration.

After this activity, we proceeded to a video conference with our Romanian friends. Together we played games on what we have learnt about Europe and remembered how important it is to stay safe on the internet.

On 23rd March 2022; World Meteorology Day, we are going to report the condition of our weather. We are going to do this using our own native language and then create a video bringing all the weather reports together.

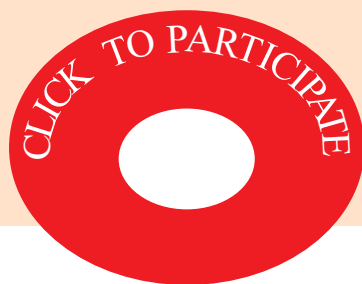
We shall then, close up the project by showcasing it in our schools whilst celebrating Europe Day and eTwinning Day on 9th May 2022.



COMPETITION CORNER

For this competition we're taking you to the Maltese National eTwinning page <https://www.etwinningmalta.net/>. Feel free to browse before you answer the questions to familiarise yourself with the website. We're going to ask you 3 simple straightforward questions. Those of you who answer the questions correctly will be randomly chosen and win a token from eTwinning.

To be eligible you must be registered on the eTwinning platform at www.etwinning.net



Well done **Ms Elaine Xuereb** from MRC Middle School Naxxar who won the competition linked to the last edition of this newsletter.
Keep the good work.

Tokens were given to the students of 8.1 and to Ms Elaine Xuereb, who are currently involved in an eTwinning project with a school in Slovenia. The students have been exchanging information, pictures and videos about the two countries and are now working on preparing and exchanging a digital postcard and an online magazine.