

The eTwinner

December 2023

Issue No. 21



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union



(356) 2598 1568



etwinning@ilearn.edu.mt

www.etwinningmalta.net

digitalliteracy.skola.edu.mt

The first scholastic term is almost over and already eTwinners have been super active from the start. We have had a number of eTwinning seminars abroad namely in Helsinki, Bucharest, Madrid, Palermo and Belgrade. All have resulted in the further collaboration with European eTwinners and the creation of new projects. More and more educators have registered their profile on the European School Education Platform along with a variety of school levels from both state and non-state.



The highlights undoubtedly were the awards we celebrated. We celebrated the eTwinning School Label Awards 2023-2024 for a record number of 20 primary and secondary schools as well as the annual eTwinning National Awards 2023. For the latter over 40 educators were awarded for their high quality, outstanding projects. Needless to say, and this I emphasised during the ceremony, that due to budget restraints, these were only a selected few as there are many more brilliant projects.

Keep updated by visiting our channels



The highlight of this event was not only the award-giving but also the sharing of experiences by both school leaders and educators. Both had the opportunity to demonstrate how eTwinning supported their teaching.

Lessons were turned into fun activities motivating students to actively participate in their own learning and reach their learning outcomes with much more lasting results. The event served to bring school leaders and educators together inspiring others to make eTwinning a regular pedagogical tool to engage students while effectively achieving their learning outcomes.



Check out our website and social media for more details and photos of these events.

Dr. Rose-anne Camilleri
National eTwinning co-ordinator

eTwinning Project ***Mill-Pinna Tiegħi': Celebrating Maltese Culture and Solidarity.***

The launch of the book “Mill-Pinna Tiegħi,” by Year 6 students from De La Salle College and Our Lady Immaculate School, held at San Anton Palace, is the culmination of this eTwinning project.

At its heart, this project aimed to deepen students’ appreciation of the Maltese language and culture, by engaging students in immersive experiences, including visits to historical landmarks. Through eTwinning, students were able to collaborate, share ideas, and learn from each other in a virtual community and they also collaborated in mixed gender groups during a digital treasure hunt activity.

The students’ engagement, motivation and

enthusiasm were enhanced throughout the whole book creation process since they knew their writing would be read, viewed and heard by an authentic audience as they also recorded themselves reading the story, accessible via a QR code. Guided by dedicated teachers, this project showcases the learners’ creativity, teamwork, and digital literacy skills cultivated through eTwinning. Furthermore, the charitable aspect of the project underscores the values of empathy and solidarity, instilling in students a sense of responsibility towards their community.

Further information can be found this [link](#) where Ms Nathalie Calleja speaks about the project on national television.



***Wishing you all
a Happy Christmas
and a Happy New
Year***

Exploring eTwinning: *A journey from inspiration to collaboration*

Elisa Cutajar - St. Benedict College
Secondary School

Mariella Abela Camilleri
St Margaret College Secondary
School Verdala

Rosie Spiteri - Gozo College Ninu
Cremona Secondary School



Teachers from various European countries gathered to delve deep into the realms of project materialisation and the underlying philosophy of eTwinning. This seminar became a pivotal moment for educators offering a unique opportunity to connect, learn and collaborate. Innovation, safety, and collaboration were the focus, and this provided insights into the intricate world of eTwinning. The seminar kicked off with impassioned speakers unveiling their projects. As the seminar progressed participants delved into more interactive workshops. One session focusing on innovative IT and AI projects, another one explored internet safety and the last one was dedicated to the practical aspects of project realisation.

With further clarity, attendees embarked on the journey of shaping their eTwinning projects guided by the seminar's focus on quality projects. Partnerships formed between Maltese delegation and other teachers from other parts of Europe including France, Sweden, Germany, and Portugal.

In essence the seminar was a beacon illuminating the path from inspiration to collaboration in the world of eTwinning, fostering a vibrant global community enhancing education beyond borders.

PADLET

Online Digital Tool

[Padlet](#) is an online post it wall. It takes the idea of the notice board and makes it digital, so it's enhanced. This creates a space for teachers and students to share.

Ideas how padlet can be used:

1. **Brainstorming** on a topic, statement, project or idea.
2. **Live question bank** - Let your students ask questions during the lesson.
3. **Gather work** - Use Padlet to gather student work, all in one place. Use it for articles and research on a topic.
4. **Exit ticket**. Let your students answer some important exit ticket questions like: write down three things you learned today, what part of the lesson did you find most difficult?
5. **Book discussions** - When the complete class has to read the same book, it's fun to create a discussion about the characters, things people do in the book, hid-
- den meanings, plot twists, etc. You can even let them invent a sequel to the book.
6. **Prior knowledge** - Try to figure out what students already know about the topic you're about to teach.
7. **Suggestion box** in the library - Students can make some suggestions of books they want to read. The library will look into the books and purchase them if it are some good suggestions.
8. **Crafty ideas** - Share a wall with your teacher colleagues and let them post crafty ideas for father's day, mother's day, valentine's day etc.
9. **Theses** - Give students multiple theses. They need to respond with FOR or AGAINST and the corresponding argument. This is a fun lesson starter for a debate between your students with good arguments.

Celebrating the Malta eTwinning Awards

The eTwinning National Awards 2023 took place on the 24th November 2023 at the Salini Resort, St. Paul's Bay. This event is organised by eTwinning Malta within the Directorate for Digital Literacy & Transversal Skills (DDLTS). During this ceremony we celebrated the success of educators in integrating eTwinning in the classroom as a transformative and innovative pedagogy.



Present to honour and award the educators and schools were: Mr. Neil Attard Director DDLTS and Dr. Rose-anne Camilleri eTwinning Coordinator and Education Officer DDLTS.

Before awarding the projects educators were invited to share their experiences and best practice within the projects. This was very inspiring to the other educators present – all presentations and videos will be shared on our eTwinning website: www.etwinningmalta.net

The Awarded Project for 2023 were:

Greentopia - our sustainable home – Nadette Camilleri Pavia

Kindness Boomerang - Lara Camilleri, Jolene Borg Camilleri, Daniela Vella, Shirley Sawyer, Beverley Licari.

Let's Play Our Part, Be Water Smart! - Ruth Tanti Mangion, Miriam Camilleri, Samantha Aquilina, Miriam Mercieca

Water Conservation and Marine litter – Mary Grace Busuttil, Carmela Formosa

Integration of Outdoor Learning with Digital Literacy – Heads of School: Elizabeth Galea- Dingli Primary School; Robert Saliba – Mtarfa Primary School; Pauline Lombardo – Zabbar Primary A.

Chatterboxes – Marylyn Mifsud, Sharon Abdilla, Charmaine Attard

Teddy's Adventure - Aaron Spiteri; Sharon Bonello; Roanna Aquilina Seracino, Rosanne Caruana Buttigieg, Loren Mercieca, Klara Zerafa

Mill-Pinna Tieghi - Sarah Mallia, Rita Azzopardi, Francesca Farrugia, Amanda Borg.

Two Mighty Young - Susannah Formosa, Charmaine Attard, Charmaine Galea, Joanne Micallef.



Flying High Together – Head of School Dorita Maniscalco - Rabat Primary School.

Bee the Change – Marion Cutajar – Head of School – St Joan Antide.

Harbourers of the sea – Melanie Cini

Mawra man-nanniet - Carmela Cardona, Isabelle Attard, Marija Rita Vella, Dorianne Mifsud, Annabelle Attard, Deborah Portelli, Maria Borg.

Award of Appreciation - Secretariat for Catholic Education: Natalie Calleja Lombardo, Roberta Trapani Maggi.



eTwinning School Label Award Celebration 2023



The eTwinning School Label Awards Celebration 2023 was held on Friday, 29th September 2023 at St. Thomas More College, Primary School, Marsaxlokk. During the event several schools shared ways in which this innovative resource and teaching method is applied. Anne Gilleran, the senior pedagogical advisor in eTwinning from European Schoolnet prepared a short message for the awarded schools. Ms Gilleran was the mastermind behind the eTwinning School Label concept and after give a quick

overview of its inception she congratulated all the awarded schools for their commitment and dedication. View here the full message:

<https://vimeo.com/manage/videos/870919560>

The Awarded schools

Maria Regina College Middle School Naxxar

St Ignatius College, Siggiewi Primary

St Thomas More College, Marsaxlokk Primary

San Gorg Preca College, Hamrun SS Primary

Gozo College Sannat Primary School & Special Unit

St. Nicholas College, Rabat Primary School

San Gorg Preca, Paola Primary School

St Theresa College, Lija/Balzan/Ikin Primary School

St. Clare College, San Gwann Primary School

St. Nicholas College, Dingli Primary School

St. Clare College, Sliema Primary School

Gozo College Middle School

St Joan Antide, Primary school Gudja

Directorate for Digital Literacy & Transversal Skills, Hamrun

San Gorg Preca College, Hamrun GP Primary

St. Clare College, Secondary School, Pembroke

San Gorg Preca College Marsa Primary

San Gorg Preca College, Valletta Primary

San Gorg Preca College Floriana Primary School

St Benedict College Secondary School Kirkop



The eTwinning Webinar Series, is back in January 2024



The Maltese eTwinning National Support Organisation will continue holding the series of webinars for Maltese educators interested in learning about eTwinning and other related online tools. These webinars commenced in November and December and we explored the following:

- What Makes a Good eTwinning Project
- Sharing of Best Practice

During the next webinars, we will be exploring the following:

10.01.2024

The European School Education Platform / New eTwinning Schools

07.02.2024

eSafety and eTwinning

06.03.2024

Online tools in the classroom

17.04.2023

Applying for the National Quality Label

(Target Group: All teaching levels)



eTwinning Webinars

8.11.2023 – What makes a good eTwinning project

6.12.2023 – Sharing of good practice

10.01.2024 – The eTwinning School Label application

07.02.2024 – eSafety and eTwinning

06.03.2024 – Online tools in the classroom

17.04.2023 – Applying for the National Quality Label



Registration and application

The webinars will be held on MS Teams. To participate, interested educators are kindly asked to apply here: <https://lnkd.in/dBwUFUwS> Applicants will then be contacted through an email.

Self-sought hours

Participants attending these webinars are entitled to apply for the Accelerated Progression Scheme since attendance is on a voluntary basis and after school hours. (<https://lnkd.in/dgah9QUC>) Educators participating in the webinars will be invited to attend a Meet Up session at the end and given a certificate of attendance.

For more information visit our Social Media pages: eTwinningMalta and website: www.etwinningmalta.net. For any other queries, please contact the eTwinning National Support Organisation via email: etwinning@ilearn.edu.mt

Lights on St. Thomas More, Primary School, Marsaxlokk

Mr Ralph Camilleri, Head of School kindly gave us some insights about being an eTwinning School.

Can you give us a brief profile of your school?

“Empowering Young Minds for a Bright Future.”

We envision a dynamic and nurturing learning environment that empowers young minds to thrive, grow and succeed.

Through strong partnerships between the school, parents, and wider community, we aspire to foster a lifelong love for learning, while equipping our students, with the knowledge, skills and values they need to become confident, compassionate and responsible global citizens.



What does being an eTwinning School mean to you?

In my opinion, the title eTwinning School is synonymous with quality assurance and the implementation of innovative pedagogies.

If you had to pass on a message to schools who aren't yet eTwinning school, what would you tell them?

The message I would pass on to other non-eTwinning schools is eTwinning is a mindset / a lifestyle which helps the whole school community blossom into a collaborative agent of change.