

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Newsletter
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ȘCOALA „MATEI BASARAB” TÂRGOVIȘTE ROMANIA

“FOOD FOR THOUGHT”

Scuola primaria di Rignano sull'Arno & Scuola primaria di Incisa in Val d'Arno

- 12th to 18th Nov.2009 -



Italy is a very special country for us because there are lots of Romanians living and working there. Italy became their home. That's why you can meet Romanian children sharing the same school or classroom with the other children, most of them Italians but also children coming from very different countries. We were happy to see that all of them are integrated in the school activities and that they were glad to talk with us. We had special meetings with the Romanian children learning in the two Italian schools situated in the beautiful valley of the Arno river, in Tuscany region, Rignano sull'Arno and Incisa in Val d'Arno.



We offered books, textbooks, CDs, DVDs in Romanian language, collected from our school pupils to help them keep up with their mother tongue and today's Romania. We could see satisfaction and happiness on their faces.

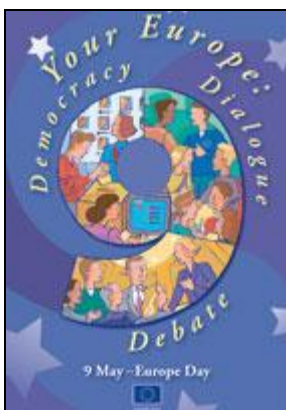
All the pupils we talked to were very interested in learning about the similarities and differences between our two countries and especially languages. They asked lots of questions about our history and language and wanted to know lots of Romanian words.

As for our Italian colleagues, they were very hospitable and really nice, offering us opportunities to learn about their education system, customs and traditions, history and culture. They made us feel like home. We also felt proud of our common Latin origin.





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9th May is Europe Day
 9 is also the number of
 participant schools and
 countries in the project
 "Food for Thought" !

Mini - Projects

1. Grow your dinner

It's been hard work. Our starts were not at all easy. We cleared a piece of land next to our school, dug it and prepared for planting the runner beans we received from our coordinator, the Welsh school, and also some local vegetables. First we planted the bean seeds in plastic items and leave them on the window pane in the day light.

GROW YOUR DINNER

COMENIUS MINI PROJECT

We took care of them for weeks: watered them, took photos of them, measured them and wrote down notes. When they became tiny plants, we planted them on our new allotment. We also planted local vegetables such as egg plants, peppers, carrots, cucumbers, tomatoes, potatoes, cauliflower. We went on looking after all of them till autumn when we picked them and prepared different dishes with them that we ate at school.



2. Celebrating food

"Celebrating food" is another mini-project of our big project. It aims to make a calendar containing all festivals and their traditional food. All 9 partner schools write notes about their festivals, take photos of the dishes and write their recipes to be shared. Here is an example of Romanian recipe:

Sweet bread (Cozonac) - Ingredients: regular sweet bread dough. Filling: 300 g ground walnuts, 1 cup milk, 3/4 cup sugar, 1/4 cup rum, vanilla.

Directions: Melt the sugar in the warm milk with vanilla in a pot on the range. When the sugar is melted, add the walnuts and keep stirring. After a few minutes of boiling, and after the filling has thickened, remove from heat and add rum. When the filling is cold, roll a sheet of dough about one finger thick, uniformly spread the walnut filling on top and roll like a jelly roll. Grease a bread pan, place the roll inside, let rise for a while and then set in the oven to bake at medium heat.



Website

<http://www.scuolignanoincisa.it/foodforthought.htm>

Visit our project website and you will see part of our work posted there. This is a good opportunity to learn about our countries, localities, schools as well as about the advancement of our co-operation.

Fram Meeting

Our sixth project meeting took us to Slovenia, from 18th to 22nd November 2009, at Osnovna Šola in Fram village.

Fram, part of the municipality of Rače - Fram, is situated between Ptuj and the 2nd largest Slovenian city of Maribor. At the same time it is not far from the Austrian border.

We were warmly welcomed by the children and staff of Osnovna School who performed folk and theme dances, folk songs and plays. They showed how talented and hard working they are and how happy to have us as guests.

We had a tour of their clean modern school, attended classes, visited Ptuj and Maribor and were the guests of Rače Hall where we met the Mayor and admired the Castle hosting the Municipality Hall.

Our staying in Slovenia was a very generous opportunity to meet Slovenian pupils and teachers and had long talks with them, eat traditional food and taste their wine that they are very proud of. We even picked up grapes in a vineyard and helped making wine. We had various creative workshops in handicrafts.



Our meeting with the cute children and lovely staff at Osnovna Šola Fram. Slovenia



The motto of the European Union

United in Diversity

Unita nella diversità

Unida en la diversidad

Forenet i mangfoldighed

Združena v raznolikosti

Zjednoczona w różnorodności

Çeşitlilikte Birlik

Unită în diversitate

This motto is so real.

Nine different schools from nine different countries, nine cultures, nine educational systems, lots of pupils and lots of teachers are working together sharing their differences and their similarities.

Pupils and teachers are happy to meet European colleagues, co-operate and try to improve education standards within Europe.



Wales



Italy



Spain



England



Denmark



Slovenia



Turkey



Poland



Romania



