

# FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Newsletter  
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ȘCOALA „MATEI BASARAB” TÂRGOVIȘTE ROMANIA



## “FOOD FOR THOUGHT”



### Yamanlar

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Özel Karşıyaka Yamanlar İlköğretim Okulu in Izmir, Turkey, is one out of nine schools involved in the Comenius project called “Food for Thought”.

It is a big school, with lots of teachers and young pupils and lots of facilities and new technology.

Pupils are happy to study lots of interesting subjects. They can speak good English. They are very talented in Ebru - that's a traditional painting art that we learnt about when visiting their school. Some pupils were happy to show us their ability in making wonderful paintings that the school teaching staff framed and offered us as gifts.

Now these paintings are on display at Partners' Corner in our school.

What is Ebru after all ? It's one of the most unique and beautiful forms of Turkish art. Ebru, or water marbling, is formed by drawing designs with dye on top of water, and then carefully placing paper on the surface of the water in order to absorb the dye. Each dye bath can only be transferred to paper once - every original piece of Ebru is unique.

The first step in Ebru is getting the perfect dye. Dyes are created from various organic substances. The next step is getting the perfect water bath in which to place the dye. Then the marbler gathers her homemade horsehair brushes for detail work, needles for dropping dye onto the water, and homemade combs for drawing the dye through the water. The water is placed in a tray, only slightly larger than the paper to be used. Now, the creative portion of the work begins. Using only a mental idea of the finished product, the marbler drops dye onto the water surface with the needles, spreads the dye with the handmade combs, and uses the brushes to draw a design.

Flowers, birds, geometric designs, and calligraphy are common choices for the Ebru artists.

Here is one Ebru painting for you to enjoy.



### Events

- ◆ Second project meeting at Özel Karşıyaka Yamanlar İlköğretim Okulu, Izmir, Turkey
- ◆ Dictionary



Education and Culture DG

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Școala cu clasele I-VIII  
"Matei Basarab"

Str. Mr. Spirescu, Nr. 1

130116 Târgoviște

Județ Dâmbovița

Tel. +4.0372716567

Fax + 4.0245.214550

website

mateibasarab.ilive.ro

email

scoalamateibasarab@yahoo.com



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

## Mini - Projects

### Dictionary of Greetings and Weather Terms

Our first end product, the Dictionary, is to be over in May 2009. It includes greetings and weather terms in nine languages (English, Italian, Spanish, Slovenian, Polish, Danish, Welsh and Romanian), illustrations (pupils' drawings and/or digital photos) and audio files for each item.

Our project website, that is in progress now, already displays the Dictionary. Anyway, you will find the "Multilingual grid of greetings and weather" helping you to say "Hello", "Thank you", "Good bye", "What's the weather like today ?" and much more than that in nine languages. Go also to "Weather dictionary" or "Greetings dictionary" and click on a phrase to read the translation; click on a phrase again to listen to the native pronunciation. Have a try! It can be funny as well as useful.

English: Hello !

Italian: Ciao !

Romanian: Bună !

Slovenian: Zdravo.

Polish: Cześć.

Danish: Hej.

Turkish: Merhaba.

Welsh: Hello.

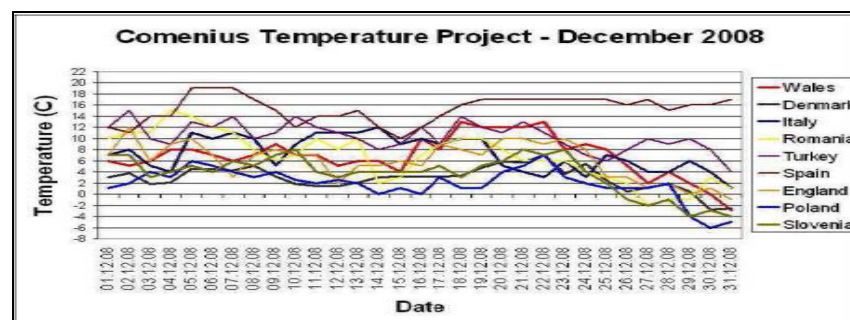
Spanish: Hola.

### Climate

Pupils have some idea about climate all over Europe but is it the real one? Besides, temperature has been changing in Europe so that it seems difficult to have a good guess.

Asking the pupils "Which do you think is the coldest country? Choose from England, Italy, Romania, Slovenia, Poland, Denmark, Turkey, Wales and Poland.", we found that Poland is the coldest (15 out of 44 answers), Denmark (9), Wales (4), Turkey (3), Slovenia (2), England (1), Italy (1), Romania (1), Spain (1) while 7 pupils didn't answer. Asking about the hottest country, the top we found is: Spain (18 out of 44), Turkey (8), Wales (4), Romania (3), Italy (2), Denmark (2), England (2), Poland (1) but 4 pupils had no idea.

Both pupils and teachers can surely know the right answers now because we have been reading the temperature at noon every day since September 2008, exchange info with partners, make graphs and display them at the project corner in each school.



### Website

<http://www.scuolerignanoincisa.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.

## Izmir Meeting

A new project meeting, the second one, took place between 17<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2009 at Özel Karşıyaka Yamanlar İlköğretim Okulu, Izmir, Turkey.

The Turkish school, pupils and teachers, had made lots of preparations and efforts to welcome their 21 European guests coming from 8 partner countries.

Their huge school was all decorated with hearts, posters, flags, leaflets and lots of other materials telling about all partner countries. Lots of pupils wearing white T-shirts with letters on, writing "Welcome to..." the 8 guest groups, welcomed us when entering the school on our first day. They were holding red roses in their hands to offer their guests.

The Welcome Cake was very big and delicious and people from 9 countries joined hands together to cut it.

### YAMANLAR



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Wales



Italy



Spain



England



Denmark



Slovenia



Turkey



Poland



Romania

## 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.

