

REPORT OF CYPRUS, PALURIOTISSA GYMNASIUM 2017

During the two years of Erasmus+ our school, Paluriotissa gymnasium, did a lot for the aim of the program. In our multicultural school where the immigrant students are about 35%, coming from 20 countries, where the low achievers are also many, where many families need economical and social support, it is really important to develop innovation methods in teaching and implement them in the school practice. Every year we have new comers without any knowledge of local realities or Greek Language. So we have to accept and include them in the school community, to enhance their motivations to succeed and to complete their education. Our permanent aim is to develop tolerance, solidarity and collaboration between the whole school population.

The projects that we have presented in frame of the Erasmus + program are only samples of the permanent efforts to achieve the goals we have mentioned. Starting from the current school year we finally managed to create a program of intensive Greek language learning for new comers immigrant students. They have 18 hours a week of Greek lessons in a special classroom and they join their Cypriot classmates in common classes for the other subjects. Also many of teachers give them their support in Math, Chemistry, Biology, voluntarily.

The project that you have seen in Latvia meeting involved students of this intensive Greek learning class. The students were asked to bring their ethnic fairy tales and to translate them in Greek. We had four fairy tales completed and translated, one from Russia, two from Egypt, one from Rumania, and two of them were “staged” with participation of students of Syria, Ukraine, Russia, Jordan, Egypt and Rumania. Students had the opportunity to demonstrate samples of their ethnic culture, to cooperate with their classmates, to enrich their vocabularies, to practice in oral story telling and in the skills of translation. The theatre activity and the use of musical instruments meant having fun, the final songs in Greek brought them all together. This project lasted even after the Latvian presentation and the students are looking forward to do it again. The article about this project, written by one of the participants, this year’s new comer from Russia, was published in the school newspaper.

We would like to remind you the projects that we presented during the Cyprus meeting, such as “Chemistry threw music” which combined internet search on the special subject, creating small poems in rhymes and turning them in songs. The groups of students involved high and low achievers, collaborated perfectly and reached the result together, gaining self-confidence and increasing their interest to the subject of chemistry. The same class of the third grade took part in the other project that you saw in Cyprus, where the innovation method of using improvisation in drama helped student in better comprehension of poetry. The same goal, the one of the better comprehension of poetry, was achieved by the last year project “Translating Halil Ghibran”, where a group of students from different countries (Ukraine, Syria, Georgia,

Rumania) translated the poem in their own languages with the help of their parents and presented it in class (you have seen the video).

In conclusion, we can say that our school has right to be satisfied enough, because we don't have causes of school drops, we are fighting a permanent fight for the higher achievements of our students. Also we have gradually decreased any kind of social exclusion, because such phenomena don't have place in the multicultural school as ours.