



NEWSLETTER

No. 1

Dear All,

You are holding the first newsletter from "For a Better Future For Student of the Next Generation" in your hand. This will be about the experiences students and teachers made at the first meeting in Holland in November 2016 as well as a short report from the work and the Skype meeting in January 2017.

First of all, thank you, Henry, Theo and Mrs van Gogh for an interesting and nice week. I think that we all learnt a lot about waste management and what we can do with it as well as we learnt about your culture. The students were very well taken off as well as the teachers. Once again, thank you for hosting us!

Secondly, the experience that I made in Holland was that we are a wonderful team. We worked hard with structuring the project and we collaborated very well. The students were also very eager to learn and work together. I enjoyed every moment of the meeting and I think we all did!



The work has continued after the meeting. Joanna in Poland has started up the webpage, which you will find the address to at the end of the newsletter. We have validated the meeting in Holland. The research about waste management is, at the moment, carried out in the countries. The questionnaire about Entrepreneurial Learning is a living document and its first steps has been taken.

Moreover, we have had a Skype meeting, which also showed that we are heading the same way and that we, when the project will be finished, will be professionals when it comes to cooperation, collaboration, waste management, entrepreneurship and Entrepreneurial Learning. This project will be a success!

Ingela Jönsson
Project coordinator, Sweden.

Now it is the students' and teachers' turn to tell about their experiences from the meeting in Holland. First, let us see what Henry, Holland, thinks...

A short retrospect

Finally after so many email messages and too much paperwork our project started. All participating schools formed their groups of students and the teachers in all schools were also ready to start. The hosting students from the Oranje Nassau College were ready for their guests and the guests were nervous, where will I stay during the week? Hotel rooms were booked, so let us start working.

There they all came on Monday the 7th of November. It directly felt familiar because we teachers almost knew each other already. Also the students liked it and found their way.

The first day at school, Tuesday, was a really good day with enthusiastic students who were really curious getting to know each other better and also enthusiastic for working on this project. Also we teachers started our first teacher meeting and we really did a lot of work already in just a few hours. Of course there was time for FIKA, otherwise Ingela would not survive this week. And the students: They started working in designing the logo for the project. And at the end Mrs. Isabella Vugs, our alderman for education welcomed us at the town hall. Finishing this day with a lovely dinner all colleagues together.

After a nice trip to Amsterdam on Wednesday, work at school continued for students and teachers. We teachers already found out that we already discussed most things during the Monday. If we are going to work the same way during the whole project we will have more than enough time. Good to see and perceive how efficient we worked together during these days. To be honest I have other experiences!

On Thursday, Mr Loek Sanders from Young Enterprise surprised us with a very interesting presentation about entrepreneurship. We are still thinking to contact him for his help when it comes to the students' activities next school year.

The visit to the recycling plant in Rotterdam that day was interesting but also smelly. But when you talk about waste management, then... !

Time was running this week and we already had our last day at school. Students went to Rotterdam, SCRAP, for making art out of recycled materials. And we project coordinators found some time to work with the mobility tool, which we hopefully understand now?!?! We finished the school activities with a great afternoon. Really interesting to see so many students from 6 different schools sitting on the floor doing the pub quiz. And then at the end the final LOGO contest.

Finally, on Saturday Sinterklaas and Zwarte Piet were the most important persons for many. This is a typical Dutch tradition!! Ingela, Bettan, Joanna, Marta, Aija and Arija found him in the streets of The Hague. And, I had a great time in Amsterdam with Paco, Silvia and Elena. And the students...?? They enjoyed their free day together at several places.

Looking back, I hope this project will continue the way it started! Thank you all for an interesting and inspiring week in Holland!!

*Henry
International Coordinator,
Holland*



... and, what the Dutch students think...

Exchange for a better future

On Monday the 7th of November the exchange started. Late in the afternoon they arrived. In the evening everybody had spare time with their students. Most of the exchange students went to bed early, because they were tired of the travel day.

On Tuesday morning we met with each other, and showed movie clips of our school and surrounding to everybody. After that we made plans in our group for the best logo of the project. Late in the afternoon we went to city hall of Zoetermeer, and watched another movie about Zoetermeer and talked about the local government of Zoetermeer. We also talked about the government of other countries. In the evening we had spare time again.

On Wednesday we went to Amsterdam. After a long bus ride we visited the Van Gogh museum. In the museum we were separated in three groups and we made some drawings of famous Van Gogh paintings. After the Van Gogh museum we had some spare time for lunch, most of the students were in the MacDonalds (Donken). When everybody had eaten well we went to Grachtenmuseum. And we saw how the old Grachten houses were built. And then we walked to the boat and had a floating tour through the canals of Amsterdam. And after this exiting day we drove back to Zoetermeer. And most of the students of the group went to Meike's house and ate pancakes. Meike's father had made 80 pancakes and we almost ate them all.



On Thursday morning we went to a graffiti artist gallery, and painted and sprayed our logos on big chunks of wood. In the afternoon we went to Rotterdam Garbage Recycling Factory to know everything about recycling of garbage. The garbage was burnt and used to make electricity for Rotterdam and surroundings.

On Friday we went to Rotterdam again, and made pieces of art from garbage. In the afternoon we showed our modern pieces of art and our logos to the parents of the students of Holland. The parents and the teachers had to choose which logo was the best and would be the logo of the whole project. After the voting's the logo of group 2 (Marije, Tristan, Arianna, Oskar and Nazaret) had been chosen as logo of the project. In the evening some of the students went to Friso's house and we had a party and a very nice evening.

On Saturday we had spare time and some of the students went to the arrival of Saint Nicolas. In the evening all of us had a party at Marije's house.

On Sunday morning we had to say goodbye to all of the students, alot of girls cried. And then the bus drove away... We had a very nice week, and are excited to see you in other countries.

*Friso, Eugene and Meike
Students, Holland*



Now, some experiences from Latvia...

A Very Inspiring Week

The Project week in Holland was a very inspiring experience. The well-planned and run activities gave an excellent boost for the two years ahead. The most amazing was visiting the Scrap factory in Rotterdam, which proved that waste can really be beautiful and that there are no limits to our students' creativity. Visiting the Waste management factory was also very impressive – Holland can take pride in the advanced technology of processing waste. And last but not least – meeting a representative from the Junior Achievement NL gave another push to work in international projects and helped us clarify our own goals in this one. Thank you to the organizers for the professional and inspiring week.

Arija Farte
Teacher, Madona, Latvia



From 7 to 13 of November three students and two teachers from Latvia took part in The Erasmus student exchange project in Holland. The subject of the project was "For the Better Future of the Students of the Next Generation".

In Holland we had to work with waste management. For us it was something new, but in Holland waste management is a very popular subject to talk about. During the whole week we had to work in groups, make a logo for the project and discover something new about Holland. We learned a lot and most importantly got a glimpse of the country where none of us had ever been before.

Now we often find ourselves in a situation where we have to choose between recycling or not. In Latvia recycling is not so popular. That is the reason why we weren't so informed about it before this project.

Every day we got to school by bicycle, every evening we discussed our day with the other students and prepared for the next day. We visited Amsterdam, Rotterdam and other beautiful cities. We are very grateful for the opportunity given to us, and now we look back and still remember the good things that we did and the great people that we met.

Juta Lapsina.
Student, Madona, Latvia



... from Spain...

My experience in Holland was great! I learnt how people live in different countries, I improved my English and I met so nice people.

Holland is a wonderful place. I saw how life in the north of Europe is (although it is very cold there) and I like it too much. I would be very happy if I could turn back in time and start again that exciting week. My exchange family looked after me very well. My partners were so nice people, I got on with all of them quickly.

I'm looking forward to their arrival, I'm missing them so much. I love you guys! You're all welcome to Spain.

Eva Cervantes
Student, Spain



... from Italy...

My experience as a teacher in the Netherlands has been wonderful!

From the very first day I saw my students (the youngest of the group) really involved in the activities and happy to be there. It was my first time there and I was fascinated by the landscape and the atmosphere.

Working with the group of teacher has been great because everyone gave a big contribution for the projects and it was like working with friends.

I had the chance to visit Amsterdam with a special and kind guide, Henry, and it was amazing!!!

Waiting forward for the next meeting in Italy with Latvians and Polish!!!

Silvia
Teacher, Italy



From 7th to 13th November we participated an exchange project in the Netherlands. We were selected among our classmates and we were really happy because it was our first time abroad.

We really loved our host families because they have been kind to us and we had great fun at school and in the evenings with our foreign friends!!! The best moments have been the visit of the city of Amsterdam and the creative labs!!!

We are waiting for our friends who are coming to Italy next April and we are so happy to see them again!!!

Love,
Arianna, Matteo and Beatrice
Students, Italy



... from Poland...

Three students and three experiences!

This exchange was a fantastic experience for me. In the host family I felt like a member of that family. I could ask about everything. I had all I needed. Everything was well organised, all the work which we did was on time and in accordance with the schedule. Attractions and trips were focussed on wastes and better future which is connected to the project.

To sum up, the exchange was very well prepared, starting from transport to attractions.

Marcin
Student, Poland



I really enjoyed the trip and in particular:

- the trip to Amsterdam
- creating logo and our own art
- I met a lot of cool people
- I improved my English

According to me the first day of the event should be a time for familiarization and the exchange should last for two weeks because after a week people start to get to know each other and open up to new acquaintances.

Kuba
Student, Poland

I got rid of language barriers.

I met many interesting people and some of them are my friends now

I learnt a lot about the culture of the Netherlands

I had a great time

Transport was well organized

Daniel
Student, Poland



and, finally, Sweden...

A journey full of new experiences!

I had the opportunity to go abroad, to Holland, with enthusiastic colleagues and three student from our school. I didn't know what to expect from the journey so my eyes were wide open.

It turned out to be a journey full of new experiences for me, together with other teachers as well as with the students from different countries. I was impressed by the organisation from the host country where we got the opportunity to see and experience the culture of Holland, the industry of Holland and the local parts of Holland.

Our students' self-confidence grew together with other students and with the tasks they performed. They experienced that it is possible to make yourself understood in another language.

It was really heart-warming to see that we are all able to communicate with each other despite different languages and cultures. We can show that together we are able to make a better future over the borders.

Bettan
Teacher, Sweden



We would love to do it again!

We had a very exciting and nice time in Holland. There was a lot of cooperation between the countries, which was great and everyone was so nice. The school was very big, our school is not that big.

The families that we stayed with were wonderful and took very good care of us. The food was like candy. One day was special and that was Saturday. It was good because we got to see so much. We learnt about traditions too. We got to know about Zinterklaas and Zwarte Piet.

The trip and the work gave us memories for life.

We would love to do it again!

Elin, Bella and Oskar



Memories...



... to be continued...