DIGI.R.E.DI.L Newsletter



Ι Δ Ρ Υ Μ Α ΚΡΑΤΙΚΩΝ ΥΠΟΤΡΟΦΙΩΝ

October 12, 2021



Digital Readiness for European Distance Learning (DIGI.R.E.DI.L)

2020-1-EL01-KA226-SCH-094685

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Project Summary

This is an Erasmus+ KA226 strategic partnership of five schools situated in countries all over Europe: Greece, Portugal, Iceland, Serbia and Belgium. Its title is "Digital Readiness for European Distance Learning" (DIGI.R.E.DI.L) and it will last 24 months. Partner schools all belong to secondary education, most of them to the vocational one. Teachers involved are experienced in the use of ICT and in distance learning long before COVID-19 imposed its restrictions on school life as well. They are also eTwinners and open to innovation. The main objective of the project is to update the digital competences of teachers and students of partner schools. by introducing new software and methods that can be used to make distance learning qualitative and fruitful for the educational procedure. The institutions involved will share their knowledge and experience in the use of ICT in education and develop teaching material together. This teaching material will be tested in virtual, mixed but also some regular classes and will be uploaded on project twinspace and blog so as to be available to any teacher in and out of the schools involved. Basic project info like participants, objectives and activities, mobilities and procedures will be disseminated in the form of newsletters and the results will also be published in the form of an e-book where all partners will contribute.

First LTT meeting



The first *Learning /Teaching/ Training* meeting in the Erasmus project "Digital Readiness for European Distant Learning" was held in Menntaskólinn í Reykjavík, Iceland. Participating countries other than Iceland are Greece(coordinating school), Portugal, Belgium and Serbia.

The main object of the fist LTT meeting was how the host teachers used the platform "Microsoft Teams" in Covid time and introduction on Information system for "INNA" and how it is used to manage all aspects of students' learning, grades, attendance and study history.

Video from the Icelandic mobility

Using MsTeams

by Árný Jónsdóttir



"Teams" was used during Covid-19 online teaching in MR. Online meetings were held on Teams and the students had teaching materials there and access to quizzes also. The students had various assignments on Teams and teachers had the opportunity to try new ways in teaching and presentation. Breakout rooms were used for teamwork where the class was divided into smaller groups and it was also used to

practise their oral skills in language learning.

E-certification

by Sigríður Árnadóttir

The mobile e-certificate is widely used in Iceland to access different public services. Both the teachers and students use it for access to the school information system Inna. Top access the school computer systems there is a two factor authentication for the staff but not for the students. All staff and all students get an email account and a password and the students use this when they need to access the school computer systems. They have access to all the Microsoft Office programs through the school and can download and set up the software package for free on their own computers, tablets or phones. The hardware and software used at the school have built-in safety from certain viruses and cyber attacks. It tracks activities and triggers an alert if it breaks the user's policy.



Project blog

Inna

by Sigurður Páll Guðbjartsson



The information management system Inna is used by all secondary schools in Iceland. It allows for central registration of attendance and grades, so that if a student changes schools their information is automatically available to their new school. Moreover, teachers can assign homework as well as tests and other assignments to groups or individual students. For written assignments it is possible to connect Inna to an external tool such as Turnitin. All grades, whether they are grades for individual assignments or grades for whole modules or courses, are published on Inna.

Students counselling in Covid times

by Guðrún Þorbjörg Björnsdóttir

In Menntaskólinn í Reykjavík we offer our students the opportunity to meet career- and guidance counselors. We have a small department which consists of two career guidance counselors and one nurse RN. We work as a team. Usually during a normal year, the students book an interview and meet us at the office. Online consulting is less with students, but many parents use that resource. We offer students courses in study techniques and various aspects of their studies. During the covid period when the students worked at home, we offered them contact though Teams - phone or e-mail. We called all first-year students and heard how they were doing. All teachers were in excellent contact and sent us reports about how their students were doing. We called those who had not been opening their projects or not delivering it back to the teacher. We both used Teams to call students or phone. We could access our school information system Inna from there and could monitor their schoolwork.



Cultural day

by Jóhanna Eggertsdóttir



The Icelandic team took their guests on the nature tour called "Golden Circle" and also to explore the new lava from the volcano in Geldingardalir.

The name Golden Circle or "Gullni hringurinn" in Icelandic refers to the route from Reykjavík to Thingvellir, Geysir and Gullfoss which are the highlights of the route and back to Reykjavík and make it a

circle. The Gold in the name comes from "Gullfoss" which literally means Golden waterfall.

The first visit was to the Þingvellir National Park, where the North American and Eurasian tectonic plates are pulling apart at a rate of a few centimeters per year. Þingvellir was also the first Viking parliament. Lunch was at Friðheimar, a restaurant in a tomato greenhouse. After a nice tomato soup the next stop was a visit to the spectacular geothermal area of Geysir. The active hot spring of Strokkur sprouts steaming water 30 meters into the air every 8 minutes. The final stop of the day was to one of Iceland's most iconic features at the Gullfoss Waterfall ("Golden Falls") which falls 32-meter deep.

Next day the guests went to see the new lava of the volcano Fagradalsfjall in Geldingardalir. The eruption has stopped but to see and touch new lava is a great experiment.

