

# The eTwinner

December 2024



Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union

Issue No. 24



(356) 2598 1568



etwinning@ilearn.edu.mt

[www.etwinningmalta.net](http://www.etwinningmalta.net)

[digitalliteracy.skola.edu.mt](http://digitalliteracy.skola.edu.mt)

*Dearest eTwinners,*

It is with pleasure to notice that eTwinning in Malta is booming with activity and interest. This innovative methodology is touching every corner of education – from the youngest in child care to post-secondary education and now also in institutions which are preparing future teachers to embrace eTwinning in their curricula as can be seen in this issue.

The directorate for Digital Literacy & Transversal Skills is currently in the final stages of launching the official Digital Education Strategy which alongside educational frameworks has eTwinning at its core. Listen to the podcast mentioned in this issue to learn more.

The wonderful examples are

shared here by eTwinners who have used eTwinning as a teaching tool to achieve their learning outcomes in a more engaging and motivating approach. This was also evident during the eTwinning National Awards wherein a record number of educators were awarded. It was truly an honour to have with us the Permanent Secretary Mr Matthew Vella apart from other high officials from the ministry.

Over 80 educators have just been acknowledged for creating good quality projects and awarded by the European Commission with the European Quality Label (EQL). The projects awarded the EQL can now apply for the eTwinning Prize up to the 6th January 2025.

**Dr Rose-anne Camilleri**  
*National eTwinning co-ordinator*

# Initial Teacher Education Institutions (ITEI) came together through eTwinning

On Thursday 27th September 2024, the eTwinning team met up with representatives from the main ITEI in Malta namely: Mr Heathcliff Schembri from MCAST, Dr. James Calleja from the University of Malta and Ms Susanna Azzopardi from the Institute for Education. The meeting took place at the Digital Literacy Centre in Hamrun.

The three educators met officially for the first time together with Dr Rose-anne Camilleri eTwinning Coordinator, Ms Antonella Giles Head of Department both from the directorate for Digital Literacy & Transversal Skills, Ms Charmaine Attard eTwinning Ambassador and Kindergarten educator and Ms Melanie Cini eTwinning Ambassador and Head of Department PSCD.

During the meeting, the team explored and brainstormed innovative ways to incorporate eTwinning into the ITE curriculum, aiming to benefit both future teachers and



young learners. The discussion highlighted eTwinning's potential to enhance digital and multilingual competences, along with critical thinking, creativity, and social skills, ultimately influencing areas like citizenship, entrepreneurship, and personal development.

It was evident that such collaboration and sharing of common challenges to find possible solutions was at the heart of this session.

eTwinning Malta would like to thank all three entities for this breakthrough marking the beginning of promising collaborative work.



## See Earth like an Astronaut

Ms Elaine Gauci  
Guže' Ebejer, Dingli Primary School

Earth is a magnificent planet that requires our collective care. From space, it appears as a vast, blue world, and by viewing it through the eyes of an astronaut, we can better understand the dynamic environment that needs our protection. This perspective was the inspiration behind the project "See Earth Like an Astronaut," which Ms. Elaine and her pupils participated in during the 2023–2024 academic year, in collaboration with partners from Portugal, Greece, and North Macedonia.

The project began with introductions, where teachers and students from the different schools got to know one another. We held several video calls to connect and share experiences. Through this collaborative effort, students explored topics such as rocks, water, gravity, and plants, all while developing valuable STEAM skills. Alongside their scientific learning, students enhanced their emotional and mental well-being by engaging in critical thinking and teamwork.

This project also promoted creative teaching approaches, transforming the students into young space scientists!



# CELEBRATING ETWINNING IN GOZO

## Visit by NSO to Gozo College

On Friday, 8th November 2024, Dr. Rose-Anne Camilleri, the National eTwinning Coordinator, visited two eTwinning Schools in Gozo College to see their fantastic projects and activities in action.



### Highlights from Gozo College Peter Paul Grech Primary School, Kercem

At the Peter Paul Grech Primary School in Kercem, Dr. Camilleri praised the school for its outstanding work in promoting shared leadership, one of the key values of an eTwinning School. This dedication recently earned the school the eTwinning School Label 2024-2025, a well-deserved recognition of their efforts to bring eTwinning to life in their school community.

### A Look at Gozo College Agius De Soldanis Middle School

At Agius De Soldanis Middle School, Dr. Camilleri met with teachers involved in exciting new eTwinning projects and visited the school's lively eTwinning mid-day club. Students and

teachers shared how they are using the program to connect with other schools across Europe, exchange ideas, and build new skills, especially in digital learning and collaboration.

### A Big Well Done!

Dr. Camilleri congratulated the educators and students for their hard work and enthusiasm, which highlight how eTwinning can make learning more engaging and meaningful. By working together and embracing new ideas, they are creating valuable connections with their peers across Europe.

Well done to everyone involved for making eTwinning such a success in Gozo College!

## Celebrating Our eTwinning European Quality Label Winners 2024!

A big congratulations to all our local educators who have achieved the prestigious eTwinning European Quality Label 2024! This award recognizes their hard work and creativity in leading exceptional projects that connect students and schools across Europe.

We're incredibly proud of the dedication and innovative spirit of our local eTwinners. Their projects highlight the power of collaboration, fostering new ideas, and strengthening ties between educators and learners from different countries.

Want to see the full list of winners? Click [here](#) to discover the names, schools, and outstanding projects that earned this recognition.

Thank you for making us proud and for showcasing the best of what eTwinning has to offer. Keep up the amazing work!

**Congratulations to all!**

# Professional Development eTwinning Seminar for Church School Educators

12th November 2024

This professional development opportunity was made a success through the enthusiastic participation of all attendees. Innovative ideas and collaborative energy were shared, setting the stage for a productive and inspiring day. The exciting eTwinning projects that will be developed are eagerly awaited.



Special acknowledgment is extended to the outstanding presenters whose expertise and guidance were greatly appreciated:

- An inspiring introduction and warm hospitality were provided by Dr. Rose-Anne Camilleri, eTwinning NSO at eTwinning Malta.
- Exceptional examples of good practice were showcased by Ms. Christina Barbara (Sacred Heart College Malta), Ms. Mary Jo Ellul, Ms. Nadine Gatt Taliana, and Ms. Bernadette Hall (St. Joseph Junior School, Sliema).
- Valuable guidance on integrating eTwinning themes into projects was delivered by Ms. Alexia Micallef Gatt, eTwinning Ambassador.

Gratitude is extended to everyone who contributed to making this seminar a memorable and impactful event. Collaboration and innovation will surely continue to thrive!

## Enseigner autrement avec e-Twinning

eTwinning Seminar for  
the Teachers of French in  
Toulouse



Two teachers of French Ms Denise Zammit (St Augustine College) and Ms Heidi Domancich (St Theresa College) together with the HOD of French Ms Prascovia Deidun from the Secretariat for Catholic Education took part in the eTwinning seminar “Enseigner autrement avec e-Twinning” which was held between Friday 15th and Sunday 17th November in Toulouse. The aim of such a seminar was to discover eTwinning and how to launch eTwinning projects as well as to find partners from other countries favourably disposed

for the proposed collaboration.

The French eTwinning organizers, Mr Anthony Riou and Mr Sylvain Perque gave an overview of the benefits of getting involved in such pedagogical projects and outlined the different opportunities that are offered to European students via eTwinning. Specific language projects were shared by Mr Emmanuel Prevost (eTwinning Ambassador) and Ms Hayfa Madjoub so as to encourage new participants embark on new projects.

### Join Our eTwinning Competition!

Dear educators, test your knowledge with our quick competition! Answer **three simple questions** and stand a chance to win eTwinning packs.

Feel free to share with your colleagues.



**I**nsights from  
**Ms Marica Galea,**  
Head of School,  
St. Clare College,  
Sliema Primary School



The mission of St. Clare College Gużè Bonnici Sliema Primary School is to create a welcoming environment where children, families, and staff feel valued and safe. Our leadership team believes eTwinning projects bring numerous benefits for educators and students. These projects foster creativity, cultural sensitivity, and problem-solving skills by encouraging collaboration with diverse international teams. Educators in these projects develop a broader skill set, from technical expertise to managing cross-cultural communication and leadership across virtual teams. Exposure to innovative tools and global perspectives enriches professional growth.

As a school leader, I see eTwinning projects as vital opportunities for growth,

helping educators build global networks and gain fresh ideas. By engaging in international projects, schools foster meaningful, creative, and holistic learning experiences. I strongly encourage schools to consider eTwinning projects to help educators and students reach their full potential.

### **eTwinning initiatives at St. Clare College, Sliema Primary School**

Our school has participated in three impactful eTwinning projects. In the first project, one KGE1 teacher collaborated with local and international eTwinners, engaging students in science experiments and a storytelling activity through drawings. Children were thrilled to share their work and interact with others' projects.

In the second project, the entire KGE1 cohort focused on storytelling, with teachers selecting monthly stories to enhance literacy, numeracy, and creativity. Activities were shared on a Padlet, creating a collaborative virtual library that fostered teamwork among educators.

The third project, "Braintrain," aimed to increase mental health awareness among students aged 8-10 through creative activities with schools from Spain, Italy, North Macedonia, and Turkey. Students used digital tools like Canva, developing thinking skills and sharing content internationally. These projects have empowered students and teachers, enhancing learning and motivation across our school community.





## The Maltese Constructive Experience at the eTwinning Annual Conference

The eTwinning seminar held in Brussels from September 26-28 focused on the critical topic of student wellbeing. Maltese participants, including Dr Amanda Bezzina, from the Institute for Education and Dr Patrick Camilleri from the Department for Leadership, Learning and Innovation at the University of Malta, explored and expressed their opinions in strategies to foster wellbeing in educational environments.

From the interesting keynote speech, the plenary sessions and the workshops, the participants reflected on the role of smartphones, successful eTwinning practices and the experiential mode of

promoting wellbeing. Professor James O'Higgins highlighted the risks associated with smartphone use in schools, emphasizing the importance of digital literacy education over blanket bans. European participants identified key factors for successful eTwinning projects, including school board involvement, student participation, and a multidisciplinary approach. Workshops focused on experiential learning, student voice, and the use of digital tools to enhance classroom practices.

Dr Bezzina and Dr Camilleri described the conference as a transformative experience, highlighting the value of networking with international educators and gaining insights into innovative practices. They emphasized the importance of creating supportive and inspiring learning environments for students and teachers.

Overall, the eTwinning seminar offered valuable insights into fostering student wellbeing and provided practical strategies for educators to implement in their classrooms.

In a recent episode of the **European Schoolnet podcast**, Maltese representatives Neil Attard and Dr. Rose Anne Camilleri shared insights into Malta's forward-thinking **Digital Education Strategy 2024–2030**.

This bold plan aims to embed digital literacy across Malta's education system while preparing students and educators for the challenges of a digital future.

The strategy focuses on bridging the **digital divide** through initiatives like "One Device Per Child," ensuring equitable access to technology for all students. Digital skills are seamlessly integrated across subjects such as English and mathematics, equipping students with practical, real-world competencies. Educators are empowered through continuous professional development, gaining the tools and confidence to utilize digital technologies effectively.



Additionally, the strategy prioritizes **cybersecurity** and introduces AI-driven personalized learning to enhance inclusivity and engagement. Malta's approach exemplifies a robust framework for modern education, setting a benchmark for Europe's digital transformation in schools.

Listen to this insightful podcast for a deeper understanding.

<http://www.eun.org/episode-7-european-schoolnet-podcast>

# eTwinning celebrates hard work and dedication

On the 14th November 2024 at Salini Resort we celebrated the hard work and dedication of our Maltese educators and school leaders through the eTwinning National Awards 2024. Although only a few were awarded during this event it was evident that many more educators are integrating eTwinning in their pedagogy.

During the event we had the pleasure to be honoured by the presence of the permanent secretary Mr. Matthew Vella and other distinguished guests.

Through such projects educators build collaborative relationships with European educators, strengthen digital literacy & transversal skills, foster intercultural awareness and promote inclusivity in all its various aspects.

This year we are proud to say that overall 45 eTwinning projects received the

eTwinning National Quality Label and over 80 educators have also just been awarded



the European Quality Label.

It is thus evident that Maltese educators and schools are recognising this potential of eTwinning in the classroom as an innovative pedagogy to attain their teaching and learning outcomes.

The support/training Maltese schools and educators receive is mostly from eTwinning ambassadors, staff at the directorate for digital literacy & transversal skills and the national support organisation.

Click [here](#) to view more photos.



# PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SESSION

St. Clare College San Miguel Febres Cordero School  
Resource Centre

Dr. Rose-Anne Camilleri, the eTwinning coordinator, and Ms. Michelle Saliba, the eTwinning ambassador, both from the Directorate for Digital Literacy & Transversal Skills (DDLTS), recently conducted a Professional Development session at the St. Clare College San Miguel Febres Cordero school resource centre. The session aimed to introduce a group of Erasmus visitors and the school staff to the eTwinning platform. During the session, the professionals provided an overview of the platform's features and showcased several eTwinning projects. The event served as an excellent opportunity for both staff and visitors to learn how eTwinning fosters international collaboration and enhances educational practices through digital tools. The training session was well-received and provided valuable insights into the potential of eTwinning for future projects.



Keep updated by visiting our channels

