

The eTwinner

June 2024

Issue No. 23



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



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Dear Educators,

Welcome to the latest and last issue for this scholastic year 2024/25. This last term was quite active, especially in terms of eTwinning seminars abroad wherein new eTwinners explored eTwinning with other fellow European educators. Likewise, we had several schools celebrating eTwinning day on the 9th of May, feel free to have a look at our [facebook page](#) and scroll down to see the way students and educators came together on this special day.

As in previous years, the Malta-European seminar was a tremendous success wherein over ten European projects have been registered. All this **has resulted** in so many more lasting friendships and flourishing networking opportunities. Do visit our local website to see the full report.

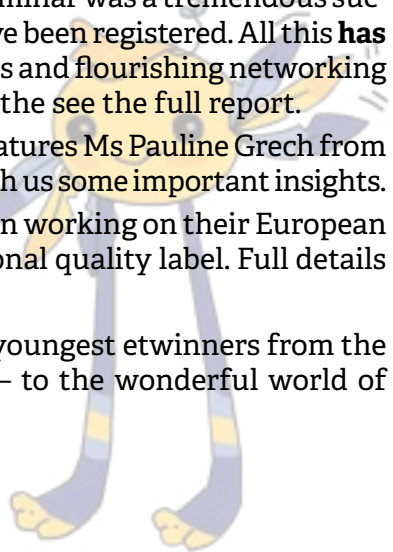
Our regular spotlight on a Head of School features Ms Pauline Grech from the primary school in Sannat who shares with us some important insights.

May we remind all eTwinners who have been working on their European projects, to apply individually for the national quality label. Full details here: www.etwinningmalta.net

Finally, I would like to gladly welcome our youngest etwinners from the child-care centre – **Smart from the Start** – to the wonderful world of eTwinning learning and networking.

Dr Rose-anne Camilleri

National eTwinning co-ordinator



Keep updated by visiting our channels



eTwinning Seminar Salzburg, Austria

Last April, Karen Camilleri (St Martin's College, Swatar), Priscilla Madiona (St Thomas Moore College, Secondary School, Zejtun), and Janica Sammut (St Theresa College, Secondary School, Mriehel) participated in a three-day eTwinning seminar in Salzburg.

This provided a transformative professional development experience, offering invaluable insights and opportunities for collaboration. The main objectives of this seminar were to get in contact with colleagues from other countries, to find partner schools and create and register a new eTwinning project.

One of the most significant benefits was the opportunity to collaborate with like-minded educators from different countries. Through interactive workshops and discussions, we gained valuable insights into innovative teaching practices and discovered new digital tools to enhance student learning.



During this project-building seminar, we enjoyed networking with other teachers, all with the same aim of creating fun and meaningful experiences for our students. We are now more confident in eTwinning, and all looking forward to working with international partners on these new projects with our students next scholastic year.

Bring children's drawings to life!

Animate characters to move using

ANIMATED DRAWINGS

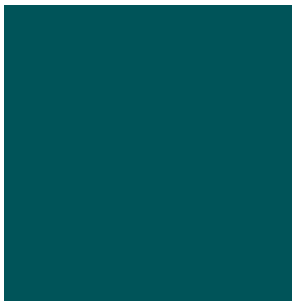
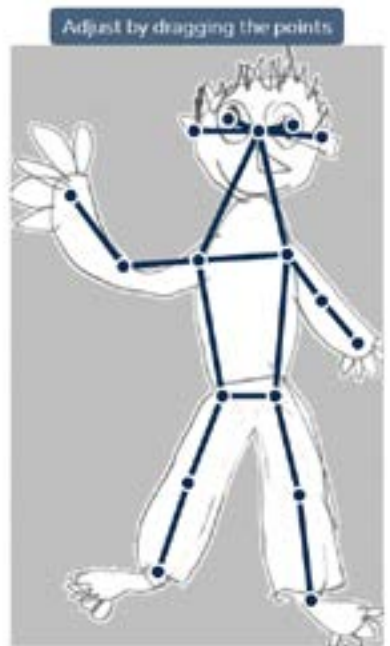
<https://sketch.metademolab.com>

Tania Formosa and Michelle Saliba, eTwinning Ambassadors

Use the power of AI to create your stories by using animated characters. Students will enjoy seeing their drawings come to life!

Follow the easy steps shown below to create your animated drawing META AI Research tool 'Animated Drawings'.

1. Create a drawing.
2. Upload your drawing.
3. Fill optional consent form.
4. Tweak your drawing.
5. Animate your drawing.
6. View full screen and download.



SCHOOLS IN DISADVANTAGED AREAS

Turning challenges into opportunities
with eTwinning

Ms Alison Balzan, Ms Charlene Dimech, Ms Amanda Bezzina

A Delegation from St. Benedict College, Helen Keller Resource Centre, Qrendi attend a seminar in Torino, Italy: Schools in disadvantaged areas: **Turning challenges into opportunities with eTwinning.**

Recently, we had the privilege of attending an eTwinning seminar in Turin, focusing on schools in disadvantaged areas. This event deepened our understanding of eTwinning, unveiling how it works, its advantages, and its practical applications.

By connecting with educators from diverse backgrounds, we engaged in meaningful discussions about common challenges and



made valuable connections with educators from various countries. Exploring potential projects for our schools, we envisioned enriching experiences for our students.

This seminar not only enhanced our teaching method perspective and technology awareness concerning learning but also instilled in us the ability to turn challenges into opportunities. We are excited to apply this knowledge with other educators to benefit our students.

eTwinning offers many opportunities in different ways for students to collaborate with other peers both locally and globally fostering the creation of diverse projects. Even in challenging circumstances, students can leverage these opportunities to showcase and refine their skills and talents.



ARE YOU REGISTERED ON THE EUROPEAN SCHOOL EDUCATION PLATFORM?

Through this multilingual platform which is free of charge, you can:

- **Stay informed** with new content published every week.
- **Find resources** such as reports from recent research, teaching materials created in European projects and training courses, and the European Toolkit for Schools.
- **Get familiar with funding** through the Erasmus+ opportunities, consisting of three practical tools to help schools prepare their Erasmus+ applications.
- **Develop yourself** with the professional development opportunities such as free online courses, webinars, and teaching materials in collaboration with the EU Academy.

eTwinning Malta European seminar 2024

eTwinning & Well-Being in Schools

Dr Roseanna Camilleri

It was truly a pleasure to host the eTwinning Malta European seminar 2024: **eTwinning & Well-Being in Schools** at Paradise Bay Resort 23-24-25 May 2024.

Educators from 11 different European countries included: **Bulgaria, Iceland, Slovakia, Sweden, Latvia, Austria, Cyprus, Estonia, Poland, Finland, Malta & Gozo** participated, networked and interacted in a 3-day event.

The seminar was launched by the eTwinning Malta Coordinator Dr. Roseanne Camilleri, Director for Digital Literacy & Transversal Skills Mr. Neil Attard and a representative from the European Union Programmes Agency – Mr Clifford Debattista. Dr Amanda Bezzina from the Institute for Education presented a very inspiring keynote entitled: **Holistic wellbeing that matters: Reflections on possibilities and challenges.** The ice-breaking activity

using the app Action Bound, planned by Laura Schembri and Graziella Brincat, had participants roaming around the hotel and interacting with each other to finish off all the tasks presented.

On day 2 workshops included:

- **Using AI tools to enhance eTwinning projects and well-being:** Michelle Saliba, Tania Formosa, Dorianne Farrugia
- **Harmony Through Heritage? Promoting Wellbeing via Europeana in eTwinning Initiative:** Heathcliff Schembri
- **eTwinning Tools:** Maria A. Magro, Frances Borg, Laura Schembri, Alexia Baldacchino, Mario Xerri

On day 3 professional development workshops, sharing of ideas and pedagogical practices culminated in the creation of innovative projects and above all the forging of new lasting friendships.



ITE eTwinning Seminar

Copenhagen, Denmark, 3 – 5 April 2024

Maltese Representatives:

Neil P. Attard – Director Digital Literacy and Transversal Skills, Rose-anne Camilleri – eTwinning Coordinator, EO Digital Literacy and Transversal Skills, Antonella Giles eTwinning NSO and HoD -Digital Literacy and Transversal Skills, Susanna Azzopardi, Lecturer at the Institute for Education, Heathcliff Schembri - Senior Lecturer at the Institute of Community Services in MCAST.

The ITE eTwinning Seminar, hosted in the vibrant city of Copenhagen, brought together educators, experts, and enthusiasts to delve into critical topics shaping modern education. These are the key takeaways from this packed seminar:

Digital Literacy and Innovative Teaching: The seminar featured an array of workshops and presentations, emphasizing digital literacy integration into education systems. Participants explored innovative teaching methodologies and addressed the evolving landscape of digital skills. The collaborative sessions fostered meaningful dialogue and inspired fresh perspectives.

Danish Educational History: Özkan Güleriyüz's insightful

session on Danish educational history set a reflective tone for the seminar. Understanding Denmark's educational ethos and evolution prompted participants to consider historical contexts in their own regions.

Networking and Collaboration: Networking activities were a vital part of the seminar. Educators connected across Europe, sharing experiences and laying the groundwork for future collaborations. The warmth and openness of participants made these interactions particularly fruitful.

Cultural Competence: Timothy Veale's presentation on cultural competences resonated with attendees. Integrating cultural sensitivity in teaching was emphasized,

along with practical examples. Participants were challenged to think about the 'credit cards and calendars' of schools.

Well-Being in Education: Søren Østergaard highlighted the importance of mental health and emotional well-being in education. Children's shift from play-based to phone-based learning was discussed, inviting reflection.

International Fair: The seminar showcased Malta's educational heritage and explored innovations from other countries. This exemplified the spirit of eTwinning, promoting a shared European educational

journey.

Project Planning and Collaboration: Reflecting on learning outcomes and project planning allowed participants to consolidate insights. Conversations with potential project partners further enriched the experience.

In conclusion, the ITE eTwinning Seminar transcended professional development—it became a cultural and educational exchange, reinforcing the significance of international collaboration for students and communities.





Ms Pauline Grech

**Head of
Gozo College Ġużè Aquilina
Primary & Special Unit Sannat
eTwinning School**

Our eTwinning Team asked Ms Pauline Grech, Head of School of, Gozo College Ġużè Aquilina Primary & Special Unit Sannat to give us a profile of her school and how eTwinning has contributed to the success of her school community.

Sannat Primary and Special Unit is the only school in Malta where a primary mainstream section and a unit for students with severe disabilities, operate under one roof and under one administration. This arrangement led to our motto which is 'Learning Together'.

Our mission statement in fact states:

At Sannat Primary & Special Unit we learn together: Student from student, student from teacher, teacher from student, teacher from teacher, teacher from teacher, the school from the community, the community from the school.



eTwinning has helped us a lot to live up to our mission statement. Being an eTwinning school means that we are active measure of a big community consisting of schools from European countries both in the EU and also from countries outside the EU.

At first teachers saw the tasks related to eTwinning as an 'add on' to their already full plate. Using the mantra "Work smarter not harder" we started to use eTwinning to cover topics related to our curriculum especially STEAM topics. Since eTwinning is hands-on and project-based we are seeing our student's motivation increase and consequently learning and understanding. It is a pity that a lot of schools are not participating in eTwinning.

The quality of teaching in a school is never an accident, it is always the result of intelligent effort. eTwinning has been a game changer where 'intelligent effort' is concerned in our school.



WELCOME TO THE YOUNGEST ETWINNERS IN MALTA

The ITE We are so excited to welcome the youngest eTwinners in Malta!

On Monday the 10th of June 2024, the eTwinning Malta NSO was invited to visit the Child Care Centre in Zabbar - SMART FROM THE START. The children were involved in activities connected with their eTwinning projects.

As Ms Doreen Barr the Childcare director explains: eTwinning has given us amazing opportunities to share best practices and innovative projects. We are proud to be the first child-care centre in Malta to win a national award and receive European recognition

through eTwinning. This year, our project, «A Breath of Fresh Air for Our Green Planet,» has us greeting our partner countries in their native languages.

The young eTwinners along with their carers have also celebrated the 9th of May eTwinning Day in their own special way.

Well done to SMART FROM THE START!

<https://tinyurl.com/2apfe875>



eTwinning Ambassadors as Advocates for a Whole-school Approach to Well-being Seminar

Between the 18th and 20th of April 2024, Alexia Baldacchino and Mario Xerri, eTwinning Ambassadors joined other European eTwinning ambassadors for this seminar held in Athens, Greece.

Considering the fact that holistic wellbeing is at the core of collaborative learning environments, the main purpose of the seminar was to empower eTwinning Ambassadors as advocates for this shift. It equipped them with strategies to influence and actively support and promote holistic wellbeing within the eTwinning community.

The first keynote speaker Dr Electra Barda explored the concept of a whole-school approach to well-being. Such an approach recognises all aspects of the school community, mobilizes the



various resources of the entire school community including engagement of staff, parents and professionals.

The second keynote speaker Stavroula Bargiota shared insights on how to support educators' vulnerability and mental health.

Different workshops were held amongst one about social and emotional learning for mental health and well-being and another about resilience building.