



## Learning activity

21st – 27th February 2022

Pachino – ITALY, Sicily



ERASMUS +

E4L  
ENERGY FOR LIFE

2020-1-FR01-KA229-079811







E4L- Energy for life - 2020-1-FR01-KA229-079811

## "WELCOME TO THE LAND OF EFESTO"

WELCOME WEEK PROGRAM

21st – 27th February 2022

### MONDAY 21 FEBRUARY 2022

Arrival of participants at Catania airport. And transfert to Pachino.  
- Accommodation of students with host families.  
The 4 teachers will stay at "Palace Mediterraneo - Bed & Breakfast"

### TUESDAY 22 FEBRUARY 2022

Welcome to school

**h. 9.00 am** – Welcoming activity at school.

**h. 10.00 am** - the Erasmus group will move to the auditory hall for the presentation of the partner schools and for the delivery of gadgets (sackets with logo).

**h. 12.00 am**- Erasmus students, accompanied by teachers: Adelfio and Dipietro S., will go to the Town hall of Pachino to meet the Mayor.

At about 13.00, return to school.

**h. 1.30 pm** - Welcome lunch at the I.I.S. Calleri (with typical menu), with the students and guest teachers, the Erasmus team, the DSGA, the DS, the DSGA, the Mayor, the ass. to the P.I., the President of the Institute Council.

**h. 3.30 pm** - (bus-Blanco) at the square of the Calleri Institute, departure to visit Marzamemi and Portopalo, Morghella salt flats and Isola delle Correnti.

The teachers Caccamo Corrado and Di Benedetto Tiziana will guide the group.

**h. 6.30 / 7.00 pm**- Return to Pachino.

Family dinner.

### WEDNESDAY 23 FEBRUARY 2022

At sschool.

**h 9.00 / 10.30 am**- laboratory on the myth of Hephaestus in the lecture hall - with professors Mrs. Barone Erminia and Adelfio Valeria.

**h.10.30 / 12.00 am**- science laboratory, on the origin of fire and its possible uses - with Mrs Novello and Caccamo. The groups will alternate in the two workshops.

Lecture hall check of learning with a final questionnaire.

**h. 14.00 pm**- Family lunch. (The teachers have lunch at b & b with the team).

**h. 3.30 pm** - meeting at Cosenza street (Blanco bus). Visit to a blacksmith / sculptor in Rosolini, artistic workshop (a snack-break with typical Sicilian sweets). Guide teachers: Nicastro, Cammisuli, Sultana

**h. 7.00 pm** - Return to Pachino.

Family dinner.



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**THURSDAY 24 FEBRUARY 2022**

**h. 7.30 pm-** (bus Blanco-35 p.- guide: Sutura Gianfranco). Departure from Cosenza street, for the guided tour at Etna, the highest active volcano in Europe (this visit may vary due to weather conditions or volcanic activity).

Lunch at the restaurant "I crateri Silvestri" in Nicolosi.

In the afternoon guided tour in Taormina, one of the most famous tourist places in Italy.

Guide teachers: Mrs Nicastro, Scala C.

**h. 7.00 pm** - Return to Pachino .

Family dinner.

**FRIDAY 25 FEBRUARY 2022**

**h. 8.30 am-** (Blanco bus) Departure from Cosenza street, for a guided tour in Syracuse, the Archaeological Park, the Island of Ortigia.

**h. 13.00 pm-** Lunch at the "Geranio" restaurant in - Noto.

In the afternoon, a guided tour in Noto, a world heritage site, an example of how such beauty can be born from a catastrophic event (earthquake of 1693).

Guide teachers Mrs. Nicastro, Di Benedetto.

**h. 7.00 pm** - Return to Pachino.

Family dinner.

**SATURDAY 26 FEBRUARY 2022**

**h. 9.00 / 11.00 am-** in the lecture hall, final evolution with questionnaires (Kahoot with tablet).

Delivery of certificates to all pupils and teachers.

- Family lunch.

- Free afternoon with families.

**h. 20.30 pm-** Farewell dinner (giropizza) at the pizzeria "Antico casale degli ulivi" - Avola. (participation is also open to host families).

Delivery of souvenirs to partner teachers.

**SUNDAY 27 FEBRUARY 2022**

**h.7.00 am** - Departure from Cosenza street to, for the airport of Catania (bus Blanco)



**Countries:**  
France, Italy, Slovakia

### Participants:

8 pupils from Andrej Sládkovič Primary school  
Sliach, Slovakia,  
2 teachers

6 pupils from Collège Boris Vian, Coudekerque-Branche,  
France,  
2 teachers

11 pupils from III Istituto Comprensivo G. Verga,  
Pachino, Italy, Sicilia,  
team of teachers

**Tuesday, 22nd February**



### Welcome programme and school presentations

The mobility week started with a welcome programme in the school yard. The principal of the school, Mrs. Maria Grazia Caruso welcomed all the participants.



Then pupils of the school showed them a traditional Sicilian dance Tarantella, sang an English song and played the musical instruments.



Pupils then took a common picture in front of a school building and the learning activity was officially opened.

### School presentations

After warm welcome, all the students were gathered together in the school auditorium and gave a presentation of their country, town, school.

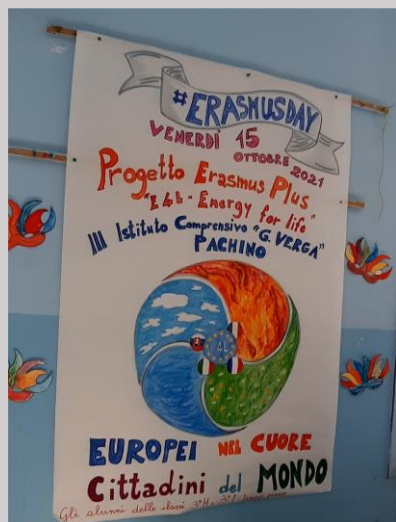
The first team to do the presentation were Italian pupils. They were talking about Sicily, their traditions, school and their activities.



Slovak team presented the country in central Europe, its natural and cultural heritage through some well-known places and personalities and some examples of traditional folklore. Then they talked about the town of Sliach – a spa resort, and Andrej Sládkovič primary school.



The French finished with the presentation of their town of Dunkerque, interesting places, carnival tradition and their college and Erasmus+ project work.





## Visit of a mayor in a city hall

After the break pupils had a short tour around the school. Italian pupils took their pairs to see the lessons. They could see what the lesson of Maths, Italian language, French language or Biology looked like.



The Mayor of Pachino, Mrs. Carmela Petralito invited us to the auditorium and she told us about history of the town and Sicily, about the importance of the island and about some interesting facts. She stressed the importance of Erasmus projects for the city and for pupils of the school as it is the first Erasmus project in a primary school in the city. The coordinator of the project Fabrice Tondeur thanked the mayor for the hospitality and cooperation.



## Lunch in a secondary vocational school

After, it was a lunch time. We went to Istituto d'istruzione Superiore „Paolo Calleri“ – a vocational secondary school for cooks and waiters.



They prepared a delicious traditional Sicilian menu for us. It consisted of 4 dishes: vegetables, different kinds of cheese, pasta and beef meat, with salad, and at the end we had a lovely ice-cream and chocolate salami.



Thank you for that experience.  
Grazie mille! ☺

## Morghella – the largest marsh in Pachino area

After lunch we visited the largest marsh in the area of Pachino. This place is important for the migrating birds on their way to Africa or back home to northern parts of Europe. They stop here to rest.



## The workshop with a geologist

Next stop was to see the southernmost tip of Sicily - Isola Delle Correntie.



There we met the geologist who explained us the origin of the stones and fossils, and other geological aspects of the territory.



Although the weather was not very warm, we enjoyed the beach anyway.





## Guided tour to Marzamemi – a fishing village and port

The name of the place derives from the Arabic *marsà al-ḥamāma*, that is "bay of turtledoves". The tonnara of Marzamemi dates back to the time of the Spanish domination in Sicily in 1600 and for long time it was an important place for tuna fishing and commerce of olive oil. We saw the old buildings which served for fishing factory.



Nowadays, Marzamemi is a touristic place because it has a beautiful beach, in the Spinazza area.



The end of the day was wonderful. We could see a nice rainbow over the sea and a golden sunset. The picturesque square of the village was the last part of excursion.



On the way home we stopped at the fish shop and bought some tins of tuna in olive oil.

## Wednesday, 23rd February

In the morning pupils came to school auditorium where they were divided into 2 international groups. They had 2 interesting workshops. One was dedicated to literature and greek mythology and another was about volcanic activity and eruption.

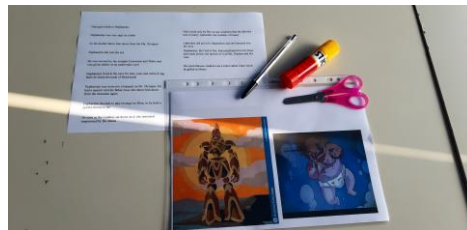
## Workshop Myth of Hephaestus – The God of fire and forges



First, pupils watched a short video about Hephaestus.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RhVkmTrt44U>

Then they divided into pairs and their task was to create a mini book.



They cut the pictures and matched them with the parts of the story. Next they wrote down the text into a book and glued the pictures, too. When the book was ready, they tied it down with a band. The aim of the activity was to learn about connection between Greek mythology and Sicily via literature.



## Workshop Mount Etna – its volcanic activity



Another group had a workshop with a science teacher. He taught pupils about origin of Etna volcano, about its activity and structure. Pupils watched a presentation and learned new English words – parts of a volcano. Then they observed a model of volcano where a teacher showed them the chemical reaction of vinegar and baking soda to illustrate the volcanic eruption.



Then kids could see different stones of volcanic origin and some statues made from that stone. The final task was to answer the questions in a short test





## Workshop The power of the fire

After the literature and scientific workshops in school we went for lunch with our host families. In the afternoon we travelled by bus to a nearby town Rosolini to see the work of a blacksmith and sculptor in one person. We came to his workshop where he showed us how he used the power of fire to create new things from iron.



Blacksmith shapes and joins metal by heating it in a forge until it is soft and workable. He then hammers, bends and cuts the metal into shape before it cools again. Blacksmith uses these skills to make items such as wrought-iron gates, railings, furniture and tools or artistic pieces.

The artist showed us his small gallery with pieces of art he made himself. He is a well-known sculptor who was awarded for his work on international level. This is the cultural heritage of our ancestors – the craft made into art.



## Cultural visit of the Rosolini town

The last activity of the day was a cultural visit of the Rosolini town center. It is the town in the province of Syracuse. Sebastiano Nicastro, the Italian teacher guided us. He told us about the interesting places of the town, we visited the religious monument the Mother Church of San Giuseppe which is located in the main square called Garibaldi square. It was built between 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century.



Then we visited the oldest part of the town and Parco Giovanni Paolo II.



Better known as "Verde a Valle", it includes a large green area with a small body of water inhabited by ducks. This park is an important meeting point for residents. In its amphitheater, especially in summer, events, debates and festivals are held that attract tourists to the city.



Tired but enriched for new knowledge and experience we returned to Pachino and spent the evening with our host families. Either we met with other penfriends or we stayed at home, and enjoyed the company of the host family. The island provided us with the new energy.



**Thursday, 24th February**

## Cultural and educational trip to Mount Etna

On Thursday pupils had to wake up very early. We all met at the meeting point and we set up on a trip to Mount Etna. The journey took two hours and when we could see the Etna volcano in the distance. When we came to our destination, the volcano welcomed us with a small eruption.



The guide taught us a lot of interesting things about Etna. The mount is surrounded by 400 small craters. It is the Church of Catania who is the owner of the mount. We could walk in the crater, observe the lava rivers and see its power. We could see damaged houses that didn't survive the strong eruption many years ago. And also we learned about different colours of the rocks. Interesting thing was to learn about the snow on Etna. In the past during hot days Sicilians took snow from Mount Etna. They had to pay for it. They mixed it with lemon juice or honey to refresh themselves. This is how granita was made. Later the Sicilian immigrants went to France and opened the first café in Paris where they sold granita (sorbet) and earned a fortune. Today snow in Etna is for free. 😊



Thanks to good visibility we could observe the area in the distance – The Bay of Catania and its port, the small craters around Etna, the region itself.

We had fun too, we could take a lot of pictures, pupils created a logo of your project from lava stones in the Silver crater (1986 above sea level). The tour guide showed us a house where lava river stopped just behind the window and didn't destroy the house. The locals call it a miracle.

After the guided tour we had a lunch in a nearby restaurant. On the way to our next activity, Mount Etna said goodbye to us twice.

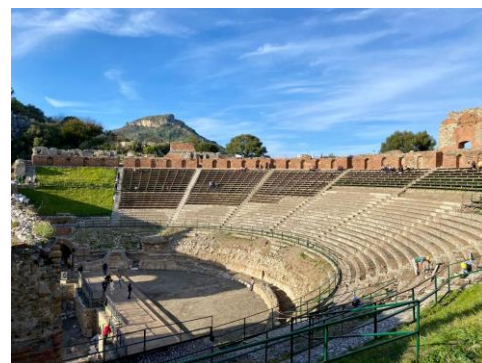


We could observe the differences between southern and northern part of the mount. This trip was very educational. We could see onsite what we learned about volcanoes a day before in the workshop in school.

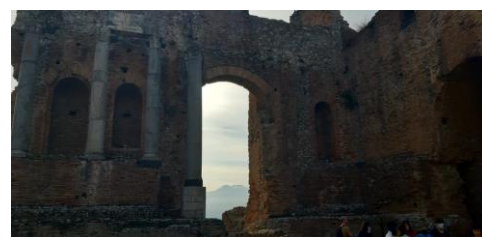


## Cultural trip to Taormina – Teatro Romano (mixture of Greek and Roman culture)

From the top of Mount Etna we headed to a most beautiful part of Sicily – Taormina. Taormina is best known for its 2nd-century Greek – Roman Theatre.



It lies on the coast of the Ionic sea on the Mount Tauro. It was a real challenge for a bus driver to go up the crooked and narrow road. The view on the sea and Mount Etna we will never forget. We could also see the continental Italy in the distance.



In the end of the day we stopped at the main street called Corso Umberto to buy a few souvenirs.



## Friday, 25th February Excursions to UNESCO Heritage Sites Trip to Syracuses

The mobility week continued with sharing information about 3 places listed in UNESCO cultural heritage. We started with an excursion to Syracuse – the city located next to the Gulf of Syracuse and Ionian sea, well-known for Greek and Roman history. It is the birthplace of a famous mathematician and engineer Archimedes.



We visited Neapolis Archaeological park and the Greek Theatre of Syracuse, which is the most famous monument of the city, but even in antiquity it had great international fame and prestige being the most important building for shows in the Greek-Western world.



In the park we entered into Ear of Dionysus (Orecchio di Dionisio). It is a limestone cave carved out of the Temenites hill. We could try how an echo works. The cave is 23 metres high.



## Trip to Ortigia

Then we visited the island of Ortigia, which is also a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It is connected to the city of Syracuse by the bridge. Near the bridge we could see the statue of Archimedes. We came to the Piazza del Duomo, one the most beautiful squares of Italy. The Cathedral rises in the middle of the square and it is an impressive testimony of all the many ages of the town.



We visited the Arethusa Fountain, a fresh-water spring whose history goes back to the earliest Greek colonists.



According to the legend, the nymph Arethusa was transformed into a fountain and Alfeo became a

stream. A sculpture showing the scene is positioned alongside the spring.



## Trip to Noto

In the afternoon we visited the city of Noto – another city on UNESCO Heritage Site. The mayor of the city greeted us and provided us with some facts about the city.



We entered the St Corrado church, which is straight opposite the city hall and Sebastiano gave us a few interesting facts about the building.





**Saturday, 26th February**

## What we have learned – feedback

For the last day of activities, students gathered in school for the feedback of the week. First, the teacher showed them the results of the Etna workshop test. The pupils learned a lot and they got a lot of points for the test.



Then, they took a quiz made in Kahoot about the whole week to see what they had learned. It consisted of 20 questions. They used their mobiles or tablets to play Kahoot quiz.



Finally, the pupils received a link in a Google Form to fill in to self-evaluate their activity and improvement.

<https://forms.gle/HJ1mdEioVEYyxHS7>



Erasmus+

During the learning activity week pupils improved following skills and competences:

- ✓ communication in foreign languages
- ✓ analytical thinking
- ✓ basic competences in science and technology
- ✓ sense of initiative and entrepreneurship
- ✓ interpersonal and intrapersonal competences
- ✓ cultural awareness and expression
- ✓ digital competences

Objectives of the mobility programme were :

- ✓ to present the cultural heritage of the region to the participants
- ✓ understand the importance of preserving the cultural heritage of the town
- ✓ to learn about the power of the fire and volcanic energy
- ✓ to develop the responsibility and teamwork of participants
- ✓ to promote the importance of being active and responsible citizens to help to protect the environment and cultural heritage
- ✓ to be a good European citizen



Due to the serious situation in Ukraine, we all sang a song "Imagine" by Jonh Lennon, to show that we want to share friendship, help, cooperation, understanding for others and that we are here for each other.



Then the principal of the school distributed the certificates of attendance to all participants and their teachers.



In the afternoon the host families prepared the individual programme for pupils and later in the evening we all went to a nearby restaurant for a farewell dinner.

## Farewell dinner

In the evening we all met in the Antico Casale degli Ulivi in Avola with the teachers, pupils and host families. It was a great moment to celebrate and say thank you to everyone without whom the activity week wouldn't be as amazing and unforgettable as it surely was.





## Sunday, 27th February Time to say goodbye

In the morning host families and pupils came to say goodbye to participants. It is always very emotional and at the same time it shows us how easy it is to find friends and make friendships forever. That's Erasmus spirit. Above all, we are all looking forward to the next learning activity which will take place in Andrej Sládkovič primary school in Sliač, Slovakia in March, where we will all meet again.



## Trip to Catania – the 2nd largest city of Sicily

Slovak team had flight back home in the evening, so they decided to spend the travel day in the city of Catania. And it was really worth it. Catania was founded in the 8th century BC by Chalcidian Greeks. It has a lot of interesting places to see and visit. Pupils visited some of the baroque churches and squares. The most interesting was the cathedral (Duomo di Catania; Cattedrale di Sant'Agata), listed in UNESCO world heritage, later they went on the roof of Badia di Saint Agatha monastery and had a nice view of the city and port. There, in Piazza di Duomo, they saw the icon of the city – Elephant fountain. They also visited the square where Theatro Massimo Bellini is built.



À bientôt!

Do skorého videnia

Ci vediamo presto

See you soon

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