

BILATERAL PARTNERSHIP between

II Liceum Ogólnokształcące im. Emilii Plater – Sosnowiec – Silesia – Poland

<http://www.plater.edu.pl/>

Istituto Tecnico Commerciale e per Geometri “Enrico Fermi” – Pontedera – Italy

<http://www.itcfermi.it>

Title of the partnership:

Kalokagathia (harmony between the mind and the body) - ancient Greek idea of education in modern times

The ancient Greek ideal of education is depicted in the term of Kalokagathia - in a human being harmony consists of reaching balance between their two dimensions - body and mind. Education in Athens did not divide the mind from the body, people were educated towards harmony. There were two kinds of education that helped to develop a human being - "music" and "gymnastics". Both, "music" and "gymnastics" were taught at the same place and belonged inseparably to each other. They were both necessary for a human being to become harmonious. "Music" meant learning not only music, but also to appreciate the works of famous poets, to play musical instruments and to acquire general knowledge, and "gymnastics" meant exercising in order to have a strong and healthy body, to learn noble manners, to develop physical abilities and to achieve good taste. In our project we would like to learn more about kalokagathia and find ways to incorporate the idea into our everyday school practice. It should not only improve the quality and attractiveness of education but also promote the idea of lifelong learning, active citizenship and intercultural dialogue.

The project is aimed at enhancing a positive attitude to the social, moral and psychological development of students by improving their lifestyle with regard to healthy eating and active living. Teams of Italian-Polish students will carry out surveys and the resulting materials will be posted on the project website in order to lead an open discussion concerning various topics connected with promoting a healthy and active lifestyle (e.g. ancient idea of Olympics and drugs in modern sports; questionnaire about fitness and dietary habits of young people; anorexia and bulimia in connection with the world of fashion and pop music celebrities). Students and staff will have the opportunity to practice a wide range of sport and leisure activities focusing on the culture of active participation, in each school and also in international teams during the class exchanges.

We want to encourage our students to use the Internet as a supportive tool for learning. One of the main methods of working on the project are WebQuests. This innovative, student-centered and inquiry-based method challenges students to explore the web for information. WebQuests include the links that are appropriate for students to research as well as suggestions for further research. The first WebQuest will be created by teachers but we want to teach the students how to create their own WebQuest and we expect our students will share the knowledge they have gained and the information about their town and region using WebQuests and/or PowerPoint presentations

We will also create a website with a special forum space for students and teachers to discuss the main topic of the project and to exchange information, opinions, good practice. The Skype peer-to-peer network will be also used

Contacts with the students from the other country, discussing interesting topics chosen by students, research on their town and region, creating WebQuests and PowerPoint presentations to show their partners the culture of their country, receiving information and knowledge of the same kind from them, visiting their school and town, staying in their

families for several days etc. will promote tolerance and mutual understanding. Students will also improve their English communication skills and motivation to communicate in a foreign language for real purposes.

EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

X 2008	General WebQuest on kalokagathia
XI 2008	Students learn how to create a WebQuest
I 2009	Students' WebQuests in Word about various aspects of kalokagathia
II 2009	Students learn how to make a PowerPoint presentation
III 2009	Students' PowerPoint presentations about kalokagathia
IV 2009	Italian students prepare leaflets and PowerPoint presentations about their town and region Class exchange (Italy). Presentation of students research on healthy lifestyle and following open discussion on the project website
V 2009	Students' and teachers' discussion "How we understand kalokagathia in our times and what we can do/change/improve in our schools to incorporate the idea in school practice" Preparation of the materials about each school for the official website of the project
X 2009	Polish students prepare leaflets and PowerPoint presentations about their town and region Class exchange (Poland).
XII 2009	Students learn how to build a website Students' website presenting the results of their artistic activities
VI 2010	Final version of the official website of the project with the best results of our work, anthology of students artistic achievements on CD, DVD