



NEWSLETTER #4



This project has been funded with the support of the European Commission. This publication reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

What's new with YOGIES?

The **C3 mobility in Urbino, Italy**, took place between 5th and 12th March 2018.

The meeting was held by **I.I.S. Raffaello**, its chief organiser and coordinator being Ms. Carla Campogiani. The Italian team prepared for us a week full of learning and fun.

See the mobility schedule:

5 March (Monday)

Arrival of the teams in Bologna:

11:00 Turkish team arrival

11:40 British team arrival

13:40 Czech team arrival

13:40 Lithuanian team arrival

17:30 Arrival in Urbino

20:00 Teachers' dinner

6 March (Tuesday)

09:00 Meeting the headmaster and school magazine staff in the school plenary room

10:00 Icebreaker games

10:30 Walking tour of the city centre

13:00 Lunch at school, introduction to national cuisines and cultures

14:30 Introduction to the Italian school system

15:00 Guest teams introduce their schools, education systems, cities and countries

16:30 Presentation of the results of the questionnaire on EU citizenship

20:30 Dinner

7 March (Wednesday)

08:00 Visiting host students' classes

09:00 Laughter yoga session carried out by Accademia Della Risata

10:30 Sport – archery, volleyball, basketball

12:00 Lunch

14:00 Lecture on bullying and violence in schools and early school-leavings

16:00 National dances

16:30 Teachers' meeting

18:00 Urban trekking

8 March (Thursday)

08:00 Visiting host students' classes

09:00 Meeting Mr. Maurizio Gambini, the mayor of Urbino

09:30 Table tennis tournament with indoor climbing, zumba, volleyball and basketball

12:30 Lunch

15:00 Visit to Raffael's birthplace

16:00 Meeting

19:30 Dinner

9 March (Friday)

08:00 Departure for Ravenna

12:30 Lunch

17:30 Return to Urbino

10 March (Saturday)

08:00 Visiting host students' classes

09:00 Teachers' meeting

11:00 Tour of the Ducal Palace

13:00 Lunch

14:30 Workshop on bullying and cyber-bullying

17:00 Dance party at school

11 March (Sunday)

10:00 Teachers' meeting

13:00 Teachers' lunch in the country, evaluation

Free time

12 March (Monday)

Departure of the teams from Bologna

07:40 Lithuanian team departure

10:15 Czech team departure

11:25 Turkish team departure

12:35 British team departure

The teams consisted of:

Regent Independent College, UK – Teachers: Ms. Vritti Shah, Ms. Leonora Tomas. Students: Mr. Faizah Rahman, Miss Sangavi Suresh.

Stakliškių Gimnazija, Lithuania – Teachers: Ms. Jolanta Ručienė, Ms. Sidona Mankevičienė. Students: Miss Agnė Šermukšnytė, Miss Viktorija Švelpaitė, Mr. Vakarīs Vindziulis.

Has Okulları, Antalya, Turkey – Teachers: Mr. Gökhan Kamış, Mr. Mesut Yayla. Students: Miss Ezgi Yaman, Miss Lara Arslan, Miss Elif Nur Baş.

Gymnázium Karviná, Czechia – Teachers: Ms. Iva Vrbová, Ms. Veronika Čadová. Students: Miss Marie Strzelcová, Miss Vendula Kročilová, Mr. Jan Swiatkowski.

The team of Italian teachers, who took care of us, consisted of: Ms. Carla Campogiani, Mr. Giuseppe Puntarello, Ms. Simonetta Cartolari, Ms. Ombretta Michelini, Ms. Daria Parisi, Mr. Nino Finauri, Ms. Maria Luisa Cavallini, Mr. Samuele Giombi.

Arrival day

The teams travelled separately to Bologna, where they were met by the delegates of I.I.S. Raffaello, who took them to Urbino, which they reached at half past five. While the teachers were accommodated at the Albergo Italia hotel, situated close to the city centre and within a walking distance to the school building, the students were accommodated at their host families' homes.



Day #1

The first day was full of icebreaker activities. After Prof. Samuele Giombi, the head teacher, welcomed us in the assembly room, and we played some icebreaker games. Then we went for a short tour of the city. Urbino is a historical town full of narrow streets going up and down. It might be quite an exercise for an untrained person, but when the mobility meeting was ending, we had pretty much got used to it. It is also

worth saying that Urbino has some marvellous architecture and the city has a vibe of history.

“As for Urbino, it is a small but beautiful town. My twin there was so friendly. We had so much fun together. Her mom made us some traditional Italian fishcake. It was really delicious. And I made Turkish coffee for my host family but they didn’t like it :-)” (Lara, Turkey)

The afternoon was spent at school. The lunch was composed of food the partners had brought, so it was an international experience, but most of the food was Italian. Presentations of the delegations followed. They talked about their schools, systems of education, towns and countries. They also exchanged gifts.

In the evening, the students departed for their host families’ homes and the teachers went for dinner together.

“I am fascinated with the Erasmus+ project YOGIES that has given me a chance to visit Urbino in Italy, to have activities in I.I.S. ‘Raffaello’ Lyceum and to stay with Jacopo Bruno’s family. The impressions are unforgettable. I am thankful to the family for their hospitality. At school we did lots of different sports. I enjoyed the indoor climbing wall most. It was a real test of my stamina. I was happy to reach the top.” (Viktorija, Lithuania)



Day #2

In the morning, the students took part in their Italian hosts' lessons. Then we enjoyed a show prepared by Accademia Della Risata (Laughter Academy). They're a group of volunteers that visit patients at hospitals and cheer them up. After some good laugh, we could play some sports. We had an opportunity to try archery, volleyball or basketball.

Then we were paid a visit by Ms. Carmen Belacchi from the University of Urbino, who talked about bullying and cyber-bullying at schools. Later, we had a lesson of national dances accompanied by harmonica and violin. In the evening, we went for urban trekking with two professionals.

"The third mobility was in the beautiful town of Urbino in Italy. I fell in love with this historical town. I stayed with a really kind family and I tried a lot of delicious food. It was a great experience for me. I met new friends, visited new places and of course I had a lot of fun. I was afraid of speaking English but surprisingly it was okay. I can recommend this project to everyone." (Marie, Czechia)



Day #3

The mood got even better on Thursday, because the sun finally turned up. The day started with a visit to the local city hall, where we met Maurizio Gambini, the mayor of

Urbino. The rest of the morning was occupied by a table tennis tournament. We also tried bouldering, volleyball or zumba.

While the students were doing sports, the teachers got down to work and discussed the details of the following mobility meeting in Czechia.

The organisers had prepared us a pleasant surprise. They took us to a genuine Italian restaurant. The students and teachers ate together. We tried spaghetti carbonara, aubergine lasagne, fresh vegetables and vegetables au gratin, and carpaccio. And since it was the International Women's Day, each woman got a bouquet of mimosa. These yellow blossoms' scent is omnipresent around the city. The women's holiday is quite popular in Italy.



The day's highlight was a visit to the birth house of Raffael Santi, the famous Italian renaissance painter. The tour was guided by I.I.S. Raffaello students, occasionally interrupted by the teachers. At five o'clock, we went our own ways to get ready and fresh for the upcoming Ravenna trip the next day.

"We had so much fun Italy. There are a lot of historical places to visit and also very delicious food. Especially the pizza and pasta we tried were amazing. The people there were also amazing. They were so friendly and warm." (Lara, Turkey)



Day #4

We got up really early and at 8 o'clock we were sitting on a bus to Ravenna. It was nice to see the kids enjoying fun together as a team.

"I learnt that even if you are from different countries where English is not the common language spoken, friendships can be formed easily, and that communication can be done through different forms. The students I met in Italy were friendly and very caring, who invited us with open arms and introduced us to their culture and traditions. Their families were even more kind-hearted." (Sangavi, UK)



It was a day of sightseeing and we were guided by a teacher of the host school and his students. We visited the Sant'Apollinare basilica, Dante's tomb, the Galla Placidia mausoleum, the Arcivescoville e Capella di Sant'Andrea museum and more. A mosaic was followed by another mosaic and they were all beautiful. After resting for an hour, we set on the evening journey back.

"I am really satisfied with the Urbino mobility. I had everything I needed. Every day I had something different for dinner, breakfast and lunch. The entertainment provided by the

school was delightful. The best day was the sports day with the dancing lesson. I fell in love with my twin family and the new friends that I met. I was really surprised by the friendly atmosphere. I have a lot of new experiences. Thanks for everything. I would like to come back to Urbino again.” (Jan, Czechia)

Day #5

Even though it was Saturday, the students spent it just like the other days. They visited their hosts’ lessons to compare the experience to their own school routines. The teachers used the time to plan the next mobility meeting.

“I brought some useful experiences from Italy. First: care and good relationship among family members is a number one item in any person’s life. Guido, I’ll never forget your family. Thank you! Second: only smart, friendly and easy going students and teachers take part in YOGIES project. Due to them, lots of new and interesting experiences! Third: sport’s not only for competition. It’s for pleasure, relaxation, fun and personal development.” (Vakaris, Lithuania)

Shortly before midday, we went to Palazzo Ducale, the Duke’s Palace. Even here we were guided by I.I.S. Raffaello’s students. The tour took two hours. Everywhere we went, Urbino had always something to surprise us with.



In the afternoon, a workshop on bullying and cyber-bullying took place. The main task was to create a poster drawing attention to the issue. In the evening, we met in the gym to dance and spend time together.

“I was so happy to stay in Elena’s family, to experience her family’s warmth and share information about Lithuania with them. A view to the mountains from my room, the streets and atmosphere of ancient Urbino, beauty of the mosaics in Ravenna churches, traditional Italian food and dances – everything was so new and impressive for me. It was interesting to create posters against bullying. Archery and zumba enchanted me!” (Agnė, Lithuania)

Day #6



The students spent the last day with their host families. Some went shopping, some saw their grandmas or just talked at home and relaxed. The teachers closed their preparations of the next meeting in Czechia. Everything had been done, everything had been running smoothly.

“We had such a great time in Italy. We visited lots of beautiful places, tried delicious food and met lovely people. There were students from three other countries. We spent time together and shared our similar interests and hobbies. Our twins in Urbino were very friendly, kind and caring. They cooked some delicious food for us. In brief, it was an amazing experience and I would love to visit them again.” (Ezgi, Turkey)

Departure day

We left Urbino on Monday 12th March early in the morning to catch our planes home. After a week spent with nice people doing great things, no wonder the parting was met with tears.

“It was an amazing experience that brought me a lot of new friends. I had an opportunity to explore a new culture, traditions and people's mentality. I definitely improved my English skills too, especially speaking. What's more, I found out that travelling and exploring new things are really important and I'm so thankful for this opportunity. BTW, if I ever travel there again, I know I'm always welcomed in my Italian family.” (Vendula, Czechia)

Evaluation of the mobility

The mobility meeting was one of those events that will certainly be returned to in the participants' memories. Carla and her team had done a great job showing us a little fraction of their culture. Everybody involved helped create unforgettable atmosphere of joy and cooperation. Grazie!

We should also thank to all the teachers involved in the project, to the host families, to our students and to their parents. The meeting would have been impossible without them.

"It was an amazing mobility for us but especially for the students. Because they made peer friends and enjoyed using a foreign language in a different country. Their motivation is high. YOGIES is a great opportunity to meet European citizens. Urbino is wonderful to visit. It has got historical places. The Ducal Palace was absolutely wonderful. We are looking forward to the next mobility meetings." (Mesut, teacher, Turkey)



Extra-mobility activities

Before doing the survey on EU citizenship, the Lithuanian YOGIES team paid a visit to the Europe Direct Information centre in Alytus to get some more information about the EU in general and the EU citizenship. The Centre's director N. Vitienė provided them with the data on the EU growth, the EU institutions and the current affairs and challenges the EU experiences now.

The Czech students attended a lecture on cyber-bullying, prepared by the local police department. In March, they also visited the seat of the European Parliament in Strasbourg in terms of the Euroscola competition. They had a chance to see how the EP operates and tried to pass their own resolutions.



Links

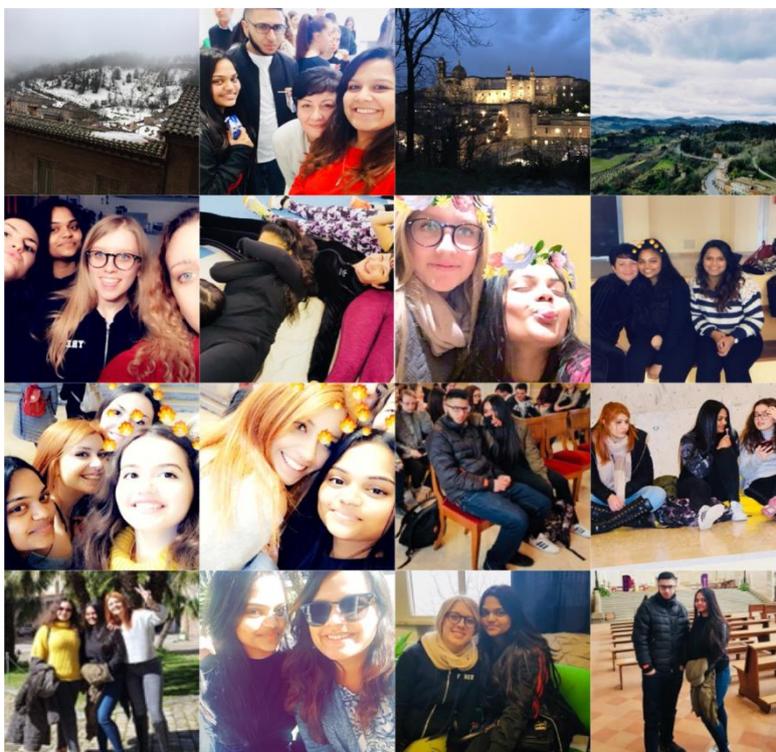
YOGIES main page: <http://www.yogieserasmusplus.com/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/yogieserasmusplus/>

E-twinning: <https://twinspace.etwinning.net/6482>

Text: Michal Ledwoń, Gymnázium Karviná

Photos: Gymnázium Karviná, I.I.S. Raffaello Urbino et al.



See you in Karviná!