Ongoing Pools projects: Clil4U, Pools-3, and Methods

Hop on board and join the pools teams

Twenty-four little artists of the Istituto Comprensivo Monte Grappa in Bussero tested a CLIL4U scenario “Art in drawing Landscapes”. That scenario came from Colegio Zola, in Madrid, the topic was “Landscape painting”, suitable for children 7/8 years old. The young students watched the video and they were immediately enraptured by the images of hills, mountains, waterfalls and trees, while learning new words. They also listened to a catchy song about shapes. They enjoyed themselves with watercolours, paintbrushes, chalks, felt-tip pens and crayons. It was very funny.

The class acquired a new vocabulary by amusing and involving activities: singing, drawing, painting, cutting. The most interesting thing was the pointillism technique: some children took 5 felt pens all together and filled the forms (smart and fast system!).

Children in Bussero, Italy working with a scenario from Spain

The POOLS-3 Transfer of Innovation project has moved into its second year, with importing partners now piloting CALL inservice courses for teachers of Catalan, Czech, and Irish languages. To keep up with the project on social media you can follow the blog - http://pools3.wordpress.com/ or "like" the Facebook page - https://www.facebook.com/projectpools3. Here, for example, you can get news and pictures of Stucom’s first workshops in Barcelona.

Try this Clilstore unit made by the Czech Pools-3 partner:
http://multidict.net/cs/2246 Visiting the bank has never been such fun!

A special visit to the bank in Brno

The University of Padova Language Centre is delighted to be hosting the 22nd EUROCALL Conference, which will take place in Italy for the first time.

The theme of Eurocall 2015 is Critical CALL, fostering the notion that we now want to step back and critically appraise the field of CALL, to unpack and examine some of the assumptions that may have become ingrained in our practice, and also to reflect on the current state and the future of CALL, language pedagogy and research.

EUROCALL 2015
Padova, 26-29 August 2015

The teams in action during workshops and courses across Europe

Languages:
Arabic
Basque
Catalan
Czech
Danish
Dutch
English
French
Gaelic
German
Greek
Irish
Italian
Lithuanian
Maltese
Portuguese
Romanian
Slovenian
Spanish
Turkish
The METHODS project in action across Europe and Guadeloupe

In November 2014 the team of S’GT Celje (Secondary School for Catering and Tourism) hosted the third METHODS partner meeting in Slovenia. The agenda was busy, covering the review of the past work, feedback from course piloting, discussions on current tasks, ideas for improvements, interim report issues and tasks for the next 6 months. The partners also observed a demonstration lesson using the Simulation method which was prepared by the teachers and students of our school. Many useful comments and new ideas came up during the debriefing session. The representative of the National Education Institute of the Republic of Slovenia was invited to take part in the discussion about possibilities for piloting the METHODS course and promised support to the Slovenian team. S’GT Celje will be included as a “modelling school” in the project Enriched Foreign Language Learning, coordinated by the National Education Institute. Thus our team will be given the opportunity to implement the METHODS course within a wide network of Slovenian schools included in this project on the national level. The news and photos from the meeting were posted on our school web page and on Facebook and shared via personal pages of the project team members.

Since the last Newsletter, we’ve made significant steps as far as the project is concerned: travel in Slovenia, end of translations and beginning of dissemination.

Astrid and Fabienne went to Slovenia and spent a lovely time there. The meeting at Celje was very productive. They dealt with the pilot courses and attended a simulation course with a class. They discussed dissemination possibilities and how to conduct a perfect workshop. Finally they made a list of what we have to do for the following months.

We worked very hard on the final translation of the Phylemoc Manual. We finally did it! We finished with the job and we are now waiting for the Work Placement Guide while focusing on the dissemination of the project. On the 24th of November 2014, we had a meeting with our School Inspector, Mrs Doquet, to determine how we could disseminate the project to all the Vocational Schools in Guadeloupe. She suggested that we first present the project to the academic think-tank. Afterwards, we can plan a meeting with the Educational Coordinators of all English Teaching Staffs of the Vocational Schools in Guadeloupe. We shall meet the academic think-tank on the 18th of December 2014 to show off the basis of the project. We are eagerly preparing ourselves for that important date that will be the starting point of the dissemination process in Guadeloupe.

We’re still working in favour of the development of the project and are now trying to reach as many colleagues as possible throughout the island of Guadeloupe.

The last 6 months at ETI have been very active with regard to project work. We have been working on the METHODS project we are involved in, and we attended a meeting in Slovenia on METHODS. This enabled us to plan the next few months’ work.

ETI will primarily be involved in editing and peer-reviewing the International Work Placement Guide for METHODS. This Guide Book has been totally rehashed, and now will include sections not only prior to the placement but also during and post a placement period.
Children from Denmark, Italy, and Spain having fun

In Kroggårds skolen we have been working on two new scenarios. The first scenario is "Superheroes", where the students learn about the element "air" through science experiments and have to use these experiences, when they are to create a superhero with great powers from "air". The second scenario is "Trial and error" which focuses on the students learning to science method of trial and error. They have to save an egg, which falls from 3 meters height.

We have also been testing four scenarios made by the Spanish and Italian teams. It’s inspiring to try other’s scenarios and experience the difference in teaching styles.

The Danish team has written an article about our project CLIL4U in the teacher’s journal “Liv i skolen” (life in school), telling about how to work with CLIL method in real life. And we have been asked to write an article for the teacher’s journal for language teachers in DK. It'll be published in January.

Each student is unique, as is every single child. However, there is a couple of things that all of them love: enjoying themselves and learning about subjects they are interested in. I have never met a kid who didn’t want to have fun, nor a person who didn’t want to learn more about those things they were interested in. These are two of the most important things we have in mind at Zola school when we are preparing a new scenario. How should we prepare a scenario to explain the same topic to such different children?

There are different methodologies, there are different ways of teaching, there are even different ways of learning, but it is not so difficult to reach students all over Europe if we keep the interest of the students in mind when preparing a scenario. This is how the teachers in our school, Zola, do it.

We have already tested and prepared some scenarios of CLIL4U and they have been a very successful experience for children and teachers!!

ETI has been extremely busy, creating more interactive exercises for any CLIL or other teachers wishing to develop their language on the CLIL4U course: https://sites.google.com/site/clil4uprecourse/

We envisage, at ETI, that once the website is finalised and up and running, teachers will be able to access this site and learn, without teacher input.

ETI has also been very actively involved in the CLIL Guide Book, which they worked upon with the team in Cyprus. The Guidebook is nearly finished and will soon be online. The book has been evaluated by David Marsh and Maria Jesus Frigols Martin, who have both been extensively involved in CLIL and instrumental in its concept and implementation, and it has received very good feedback.

Sandra and Lindsay working hard as ETI continue with the CLIL4U Pre-Course!

The Italian Team – Ms Angela Rotta’s pupils in ICMG Bussero are having a lot of fun testing "Trial and Error" a new scenario created by Danish Team.

Ingredients for the "Trial and Error scenario"
On December 10, 2014 PELICAN presented POOLS-3 to 10 representatives of primary, secondary, vocational and language schools in Brno, the Czech Republic. The participants were informed about the main outcomes of the project and had the opportunity to get hands-on experience with Multidict, Wordlink, Clilstore and Hot Potatoes. Participants were very interested in the project and its outcomes, mainly the Hot Potatoes and Clilstore. The workshop was followed by a lively discussion on various ways of using the on-line resources created by participants. Some of the participants were so excited about the newly gained skills that they promised to inform their main stakeholders about the project and workshops. They were equipped with promotional materials, including project brochures and T-shirts to be able to promote awareness of the project.

In November 2014 a conference was held at Stucom addressed to Vocational schools teachers of different organizations in Barcelona to present the pilot courses that have started in December. Complete information was given to them so they could know exactly what was going to be done every day of the pilot courses.

At the beginning of December, the Project was presented in Madrid to all partners of the K2 Erasmus+ Project "Gain time".

The 4th Lifelong Learning Week was been organised by EUCIS-LLL in the European Parliament in Brussels from 2 – 11 December 2014. The aim of the Lifelong Learning was to raise awareness of lifelong learning with a specific important topic and to bring visibility and create synergy between the work achieved by EUCIS-LLL and members –EfVET. There was focus on the three pillars of European Manifesto „Building together the future of learning“: ensuring accessible and quality learning for all, investing in the social dimension of Lifelong Learning and bringing the EU closer to its citizens.

Valentina Chanina, presented the Pools3 project and Methods project at the EfVET exhibition stand talking and presenting with MEP’s and other invited representatives.

Students from the University of Barcelona getting information on Computer Assisted Language Learning

http://multidict.net/cs/2355

Valentina from EfVET presenting Pools-3 in the European Parliament

The Irish team from Ulster visiting the Scottish Hebrides

Watch a video with two speakers discussing some of the Hallowe’en traditions: http://multidict.net/cs/2355

The projects have been funded with support from the European Commission. This publication reflects the views only of the authors, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.