

This Learning and Teaching and Training activity was hosted in Banbridge, Northern Ireland from 12-16 March 2018. It was attended by members of partner countries as follows. Italy - 6 staff members, Bulgaria 2 staff, Ireland 3 staff, Estonia 2 staff, England 3 staff, Spain – Catalan region – 2 people, Croatia 2 staff and 3 students and Sweden 3 staff.

This overall aim of this LTTA was to meet our project partners again in a face to face meeting, to engage in and sample the life of our school St.Mary's PS and to allow partner countries and of course participating students to see firsthand our education system in practice, to assess and evaluate teaching and learning practices in our classrooms and to forward plan in the respect of how they could use teaching styles and strategies adopted here into their own education systems in their respective countries. Participants also engaged in a number of practical, educational workshops during their stay which aimed to equip them with new or the enhancement of existing skills to continue to put our current @museart project into practise. Participants also were introduced to the cultural and historical aspects of our locality and were given ample opportunities to immerse themselves in our local traditions and cultures. A detailed outline of our visit below.

Day 1 - St.Mary's school choir and musicians sang and played a number of instruments which demonstrated our rich historical and cultural roots.

Workshop 1 - Amma Centre, delivered a digital storytelling and use of iPad media workshop to enhance our project outcomes. Project partners were keen to extend their skills and knowledge of iPad apps and how we can use these to carry out activities in our Gantt chart, eg digital storytelling based on traditional tales. As a result of the training workshop, participants feel more skilled and equipped to use ICT mediums such as iPads as a integral part of our project @museart. Jason Diamond from our local council guided our visitors on a walking historical tour of our town Banbridge. This was a wonderful opportunity to educate our partners about the historical roots of our local buildings and famous characters such as Emily Bronte's family and Arctic explorers such as William Crozier. It was a great opportunity to compare and contrast architecture and historical features.

Day 2 - Etwinning workshop delivered by Alan Cowie from the British Council. At our last TPM, partners discussed the need to be better skilled and more knowledgeable about

Etwinning and our Twinspace in order to maximise the impact of our project @museart and as a platform to disseminate good practice and project results and outcomes. Alan Cowie discussed our Twinspace area and gave us information about uploading project materials, arranging content and how we can use this platform to extend and enhance our project. Following this, project partners were able to access the project via Etwinning and feel more competent about sharing good practices and reaching out to a local

and wider European audience. This workshop was followed by a visit to a local linen factory and a guided tour of the workings of a functioning linen factory. Nigel Spiers from Ferguson's Linen Centre explained the history of linen and how it had flourished in old Ireland to the modern day industry of linen in our town of Banbridge. This visit was a great opportunity to showcase the fruits of a modern day linen factory.

St.Brigid's cross making workshop - hosted by a skilled member of our staff, visitors were introduced to the historical figure of Saint Brigid and her significance in Irish culture

and history. This was followed by a practical cross making workshop using reeds from local fields. This is a great Irish family tradition which we were delighted to share with our European friends.

Day 3 - Visit to Belfast and Titanic Exhibition Centre - a rich cultural and historical day exploring the history of NI through art murals. History exhibition of the famous Belfast build Titanic.

Day 4 - dissemination of good teaching practices and skills by our project partners. Partners introduced their countries to pupils and engaged pupils in a practical and stimulating lesson which was art based and culturally rich. Visit to Ballydougan pottery where guests used skills and techniques to create a unique piece of clay based on our rich tradition/culture.

Day 5 - A day to celebrate Irish Culture and traditions through a Green Day celebration in preparation for St.Patrick's Day. This activity was enriched in culture, tradition and folklore. Children from the school drama club and learning support units reinacted the life and times of St.Patrick through story, rhyme and dance. A local Irish traditional group played a range of traditional instruments and our guests were treated to a wealth of cultural experiences at our Green Day concert.

Our week of workshops and activities helped participants to pursue stimulating learning opportunities for all involved. Life experiences were enhanced by our local culture and history and activities have undoubtedly helped partners develop professionally, personally and academically.