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March 2005

Issue 5

New EkoSkola Website

Thanks to Mr Emmanuel Zammit (our webmaster), we are pleased to announce that our website has been renovated. Most of the work done on it was based on the feedback received from our member schools. The final product is great! The site provides clear online information about the EkoSkola process and the possibility of downloading resources and forms. A page containing information about each participating school is also available. The aim of this page is to help schools participating in the project to interact and network with each other. The website also contains an archive of resources, photos of activities and National EkoSkola newsletters.



Welcome page



Resources page



Participating Schools page

We would like to take the opportunity to encourage our member schools to contribute to the Projects Page by sending in write ups of activities related to EkoSkola that they organise from time to time.

The site will be officially launched on Friday 4th March 2005 and can be accessed on: <http://www.ekoskolamalta.com/>

Green Week 2005

We would like to remind you of the Green Week 2005 that was announced in the January edition of the International Eco-Schools Newsletter. Just in case you have missed the invitation, we are reproducing it once again below. We would greatly appreciate if you could keep us informed about your participation.



Nature Trust (Malta)
PO Box 9
Valletta CMR 01
<http://www.naturetrustmalta.org>



The European Commission invites all children in the enlarged EU and candidate countries, aged between 6 and 16 years, to take part in its **Green Week Schools Competition 2005**. The competition is part of the annual Green Week conference and exhibition, which will take place from 31 May to 3 June 2005 in Brussels. This year the competition highlights the theme of **Climate Change**.

Younger children may create drawings and paintings illustrating their views about climate change, while older pupils are invited to submit a short digital video on the same subject. The three best entrants in each category of the competition will **win a trip to Brussels, accompanied by a parent or guardian**. They will receive a prize and also get an opportunity to meet the European Commissioner for the Environment, Mr. Stavros Dimas. The competition is open to schools in the enlarged EU and candidate countries. This year there are two competition categories:



(a) A Drawing and Painting Competition for Children aged 6-10

In the competition for the younger age group, children are invited to send in drawings or paintings illustrating their ideas on climate change. Children could draw or paint possible changes to their local ecosystems caused by global warming or illustrate ideas on how air pollution and climate change may be prevented. The best 20 entrants will have their paintings displayed at the Green Week Exhibition.

(b) A Short Digital Video Competition for Young People aged 11-16

Older children are asked to work in teams of several pupils. They should make a short digital video on climate change. The video should be no more than three minutes long, and shouldn't include any text or speech. The children can show what causes climate change and give ideas on how they can make a difference by changing their behaviours. Creative approaches will be awarded. The top 20 entrants will be shown at the Green Week exhibition.

Entries and Judging

Entries may only be submitted with the support of a school. Entries must be scanned, or created digitally, and sent to the Environment Directorate-General (**deadline 15 March 2005**) via the entry forms on the Green Week School Competition website accessible in 20 languages at: **www.greenweek2005.eun.org**

Teachers are encouraged to make the competition part of a class activity and the web site will offer some ideas and support. A panel of teachers and environmental experts from all over Europe will assist the European Commission in carrying out the judging.

General information

The competition, which is the fifth edition of its kind, is being run by European Schoolnet (www.eun.org) on behalf of the Commission's Environment Directorate-General. Questions about the competitions can be addressed to Chris Coakley at the following email address: chris.coakley@eun.org

You can also visit the project's website on:

http://www.greenweek2005.eun.org/ww/mt/pub/greenweek_2005/homepage.htm

ENO Schools

Have you been wondering how to use ICT in your teaching or find interactive ways in learning? Are you interested in environmental issues and global education? Would you

like to improve your teaching, and meet colleagues from all over the world? This is your chance!

ENO-Environment Online is a global web school for environmental awareness. Four environmental themes (dimensions of sustainable development) are studied within a school year (Social, Natural, Cultural Environment and a sustainable way of living) on a weekly basis. ENO Program is a strong and active network of schools. It has been running since 2000 and it is administrated by the city of Joensuu, Finland. Over 180 schools from 68 countries currently participate in this program. ENO is a truly international web school for kids!



Unfortunately there are no Maltese schools participating in this initiative.

The main idea is to lay emphasis on local environment and see it from a global perspective: act locally - think globally. Information is gathered in local communities and shared globally in the website. Learning is student-centred, both online and offline activities. At the end of each theme there is a campaign week when students share their results and raise them up in their local communities. They become eventually ambassadors for environment in their respective local communities and regions and worldwide.

ENO is a well-known program supported by the European Commission and National Board Of Education. We have received many international awards. And above all, this is currently a free service for your school!

Sounds interesting? Why not become a member!! We will choose approximately 200 new schools to become members for school year 2005 -2006. The deadline for applications is March 31st 2005. The official list of ENO schools will be announced on April 2005 on the ENO website.

Find out more about ENO by visiting the project's website on <http://eno.joensuu.fi>.

If you would like to contribute to this newsletter please contact Dr Paul Pace, National EkoSkola Co-ordinator, on paul.j.pace@um.edu.mt