

Erasmus + Developing FL literacy in CLIL contexts LIT4CLIL
Zurbarán School

May 2021

Zurbarán school, together with Ntra. Sra. Del Pilar school in Madrid and the University of Alcalá, has participated as a Spanish representative in an Erasmus + project led by the University of Warsaw, which also involves two Polish and two Slovenian schools and the University of Ljubljana.

The project, which has been carried out from September 2018 to July 2021, aims to develop a common approach in Primary that contributes to the development of the communicative skills in English in third, fourth and fifth graders who use English in their bilingual curriculum. In the first phase, our school teachers, with the help of university professors, developed this new approach in their own classrooms. In a second moment, teachers from the three countries participating in the project have been trained to finally disseminate this way of working through a MOOC (Massive Online Open Course) available to teachers all over the world. In this way, the teachers at Zurbarán have not only had an opportunity to train and enrich themselves with the experiences of other schools from different countries, but have also become teacher trainers, and therefore managers of educational innovation at the highest level.

Our teachers created and carried out, in the first term of the present academic year, five literacy units that were designed within transnational groups. In addition, thanks to the participation in the Erasmus + project and the support of the researchers at the University of Alcalá, this year, two Primary groups in year 4 have studied EFL following the Literacy Approach. Students' and teacher's materials have been designed at Zurbarán School and numerous evidences of the results have been collected throughout the year for further analysis. Preliminary results show that the students', families' and teachers' perceptions are very positive, especially in terms of increasing motivation, improving academic results and applying what has been learned not only in the FL but in the rest of the subjects taught in this language.

Next year, the plan is to implement the Literacy Approach from year 3 to year 6 in Primary and in some subjects in Secondary such as Advanced English or French. Besides, we have created an e-Twinning project to work with a public school in the area of Madrid (CEIP Infanta Leonor) that is currently in the process of creating a pilot project to teach through literacy. The idea is to include Ntra. Sra. de El Pilar and the Slovenian or Polish schools from the Erasmus + to carry on working together in the future.