

Future Classroom Ambassadors

ACTIVITY DIGEST

Issue #17, March 2022

The network of FCL ambassadors is again happy and proud to share some activities that took place during the past months in several European countries.

In this first digest of 2022, we would also like to present a free, online tool that has been created as part of the Novigado project. The project partners developed a tool to create scenarios or lesson plans that promote active learning. The tool has been inspired by the concept of learning zones at the Future Classroom Lab. It will help teachers to create engaging lessons.

Discover the tool: fcl.eun.org/scenario-tool



BELGIUM

March 2022

Immersion in the FCL Philosophy

On 14 March 2022, the employees of the Flemish Knowledge Centre Digisprong got an introduction to the activities of European Schoolnet and the philosophy behind the Future Classroom Lab. No better place for this activity than the FCL in Brussels itself. The goal of the day? To inspire the policy makers and let them brainstorm. The fascinating afternoon began with a presentation on the importance of international cooperation by Jan De Craemer, Chair of European Schoolnet. Afterwards, the philosophy of the FCL was explained by Bart Verswijvel, the pedagogical lead of the Future Classroom Lab. The members were inspired by the many insights on how to design innovative classrooms and how to stimulate active learning by making smart use of space. Afterwards, the FCL action plan for Flanders was presented by Stephanie De Clercq, lead FCL ambassador (Flanders). A lot of information was exchanged, but there was also a lot of brainstorming about the content of certain actions. The afternoon was closed by Karen Vander Plaetse, coordinator of the Digisprong Knowledge Centre. She had staff members draw up a plan for communicating and collaborating with stakeholders and for efficiently organizing activities for them.



CZECH REPUBLIC

March 2022

Nationwide Online Conference in Computer Science

The National Pedagogical Institute of the Czech Republic organized a nationwide online conference to introduce new topics in computer science, especially computational thinking, programming, robotics, and to offer practical examples for teaching and school equipment. At the same time, it aimed to promote the perception of digital competences in the revised RVP as a cross-cutting component of each field of education and to offer concrete suggestions for their anchoring in the school curriculum. The conference was held on 10th March - 11th March 2022. In the opening plenary session, the conference offered key topics such as the Revision of the National Framework of Secondary Education, the 2030+ Strategy or the National Renewal Plan as seen by the Ministry of Education, and support for schools was presented by a team of experts working on the topics within the National Institute of

Education of the Czech Republic. The next part of the two-day online conference consisted of thematic meetings with experts on specific topics of new informatics and digital competences and familiarisation with examples of good practice in teaching.

DENMARK

January – March 2022

Practitioner network on technology understanding

In Denmark we are right now exploring and developing a new take on digital empowering in the education system. The new subject “Understanding of Technology” is a broad view on how we can handle technology comprehension and digital citizenship in education. This has been tested as a compulsory subject in 46 primary schools in 2019-2021, and as a continuation of this, a new project “Practitioner network for technology understanding” has been born. The idea is to build a network of practitioners between municipalities, schools and teachers to strengthen experiences with the work with technology understanding and digital citizenship. Currently we are working on impact together with 150 schools, 2000 teachers and thereby approximately 40000 students in schools all over Denmark. The digital empowerment of our students is perhaps the most important and complex task in hand in a democratic world of technology. In Future Classroom Lab Denmark we are supporting and exploring the impact of this project.

More information can be found [here](#).



FINLAND

January – March 2022

Coding and Looping – Training Future Skills in Rauma Teacher Training School

During the month of February, the third graders had the chance to use their iPads in the new “digiluokka” (digital classroom) and test different ways of programming with robots, Scratch, Legos, etc. Students provided very positive feedback after this programming session, indicating their excitement and willingness to learn more.

Rauman Normaalikoulu (Rauma Teacher Training School) is focusing on to meet the growing need of digital competence in many different ways. The main idea is the involvement and dialogue with students as well as teachers. The outcome of this cooperation was “Kaikki koodaa – digiviikko” (Everybody Codes – Digital Week) during which every single class from the 1st to the 8th grade was taught age-appropriately the basic skills in programming and coding for one week. The goal of this week was to introduce different ways of programming to both students and teachers.

Rauman Normaalikoulu has its own digital pedagogy team which consists of four primary school teachers. These teachers know the school needs, teachers, and its students. The joint mission of the team is to meet the needs of the digital competence with the right tools. The whole school, staff, and students benefit from FCLab.fi in Rauman Normaalikoulu.

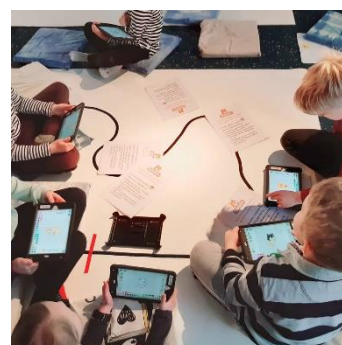
More information:

Website: <https://sites.utu.fi/rnk>

Instagram: @raumannormaalikoulu

Facebook: @rauman.normaalikoulu

Twitter: #RaumanNorssi



FRANCE

FCL links middle schools and companies

Considering that sciences suffer from a lack of interest, especially among young girls, companies are trying to promote their fields of activity, to inspire students to study these fields and to develop relevant skills. To do so, the AJE29 (Association Jeunesse Entreprises du Finistère) has been interested in other learning models and has found an echo to its expectations in the Future Classroom Lab project. Thierry Vanpevenage - FCL ambassador - supports their projects by connecting companies and middle schools. He brings advice and expertise and offers resources adapted to the different cultures and priorities of each school. Beyond a one-size-fits-all solution, he supports schools and companies in designing common projects that address their needs, and that focus on sciences. The schools are in charge of the pedagogical aspect and the companies provide practical examples from professionals who talk about their work, or through company visits to show what these topics are used for. In just a few months, several middle schools have begun this process, accompanied by the AJE, which puts them in touch with local companies and organizes exchanges with scientific and technical staff, company visits, and prepares students to produce a "report'aje" that shows the use of science and technology in today's professions. The topics covered are multiple: programming connected objects, designing a solar tracker or a space conquest project with the trip to Mars, and others to come ... so many ways to implement a new form of teaching.



HUNGARY

Teaching Methodology Seminar

The former Hungarian FCL Lead Ambassador held an online teaching methodology seminar at the Pázmány Péter Catholic University on 18th February 2022 for in-service teachers. During the seminar the participants had the opportunity to explore the FCL concept and the various possibilities the Toolkit can offer for them in their everyday work at school. They learnt how to take the first steps to create flexible learning spaces for innovative teaching and learning from their existing classroom.

Involvement of Hungarian Teachers in MenSi Project

During the fall of 2021, twenty Hungarian primary and secondary schools started to work together in the [MenSi project](#). They had on and offline meetings where they discussed the possibilities of adapting each other's good practices during a whole school mentoring process. During the close collaboration the mentor and mentee schools have several opportunities for self/reflection and can support each other by sharing their own insight, expertise, and knowledge.

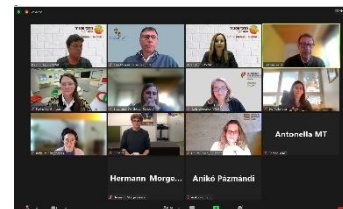


ISRAEL

The International Teachers Professional Development Meeting: Collaborate | Co-Learn | Co-create

“School closures due to COVID-19 have brought significant disruptions to education across Europe” (The World Bank,2022). What about the professional development for teachers? Did Covid-19 change how teachers professionally learn? Is it a story of new opportunities or a story of challenges? These questions were the basis for a joint initiative of Beta School (The Israeli FCL), the FCL Ambassadors’ Network led by Bart Verswijvel and Pisga (the Center of Teachers PD in Petah Tikva). The aim of the initiative was to create a collaborative framework from various countries to discuss new challenges raised post Covid19, share success stories and learn from each other.

14 participants took part from 7 different countries: Portugal, Belgium, Slovakia, USA, Turkey, Malta, and Israel. The meeting started with a short intro about the initiative and two stories about teachers PD pre, during and post Covid19; one from Israel presented by Vered Amit, Pisga Principal and Ronit Cohen Deputy Principal and the second from Portugal presented by Carla Lourenco; Head of Resources and Educational Technologies. After the presentations we split up into breakout rooms to discuss about new trends in teachers PD. The closing session included a summary of the room voices and hope for another meeting on the subject. Are you interested in the subject? Are you a Teachers PD expert? Would you like to join the group and receive an invitation to the next meeting? Please contact Karina Batat at karina@israel365.info.



MALTA

January-March 2022

Professional Development for educators

The FCL Lead Ambassador and colleagues within the Directorate for Digital Literacy & Transversal Skills have delivered an asynchronous 6-week online course designed on the FCL pedagogy of active learning in the hybrid classroom. This course focuses on the educational benefits and pedagogical opportunities of using Web 2.0 tools in a creative way to engage students in the current ‘distanced’ classroom and at home during online learning.

Safer Internet Day 2022 in schools

The Digital Literacy Centre has organised a national campaign during the month of February 2022 on the safe use of internet for both primary and secondary school students. Various resources and educational material were distributed to all schools encouraging educators to deliver sessions on eSafety with their students. Students created posters and adverts to promote a safer online world. Professionals within the area were also invited to deliver webinars on Internet Safety to parents and guardians.



Digital Toolkit in the Primary Classroom



PORTUGAL

March 2022

MOOC by the Portuguese General-Directorate for Education

The Portuguese General-Directorate for education (DGE), through its Future Classroom Lab ambassadors and within the scope of the Pilot-Project for Digital Coursebooks (PPMD), has put together a MOOC entitled: “Active Learning stirred by the use of digital technologies and coursebooks”. This training course has been accredited by the Portuguese Scientific and Pedagogical Council for Continuous Professional Development (CCPFC) within the context of a pilot project for MOOCs accreditation.

This MOOC which started on the 17th of February and will finish on the 7th of April 2022, has a total of 25 hours of work commitment. The target-public of this MOOC



are educators and teachers of all recruiting groups as well as all the heads of school clusters or schools. Its main goal is to support educators in the deployment of student-centred teaching, learning and assessment strategies, supported by digital technologies, digital coursebooks and other Open Education Resources (OER).

SLOVAKIA

January – March 2022

Science Teachers and LEGO Engineering on STEM

In the new Slovak Future Classroom Lab BESST, we are constantly testing new methods and forms of education. An important part of education in FCL BESST is also the STEM concept, where the teachers of Science and LEGO Engineering came together. Cooperatively they create lesson plans that fulfil the STEM concept. One of their lessons was about how frog eggs turn into frogs. With the help of LEGO, pupils created and programmed all stages of this life cycle. We believe that coding and engineering with connection to science in the flexible learning space is the right step forward in education.



SPAIN

January – March 2022

Network of Aula del Futuro Teacher Training Spaces

The [Ministry of Education and Vocational Training of Spain](#) together with the Department of Education, Culture and Sport of the Valencian Community have inaugurated in Valencia the first space in the autonomous communities of Network of Aula del Futuro Teacher Training Spaces. The inauguration ceremony was attended by the Minister of Education, Pilar Alegría and the Head of Department of Education of the Valencian Community, Vicent Marzà among other authorities as well as representatives of the partner companies that signed the MoU to create the Aula del Futuro Network.



Blended FCL training

INTEF has launched the [call for Aula del Futuro 2022 blended courses](#). In this second edition the thematic offer has been extended with the incorporation of three new courses in Mobile Learning, Computational Thinking and Robotics oriented to Aula del Futuro methodology.



This training starts with an on-line preparatory phase. After that, the core of this training takes place in the Aula del Futuro classroom at INTEF headquarters over three days. During these days, the participants design a learning activity that they will develop with their students at their schools to complete the training.

Regional FCL training

Castilla y León offers an [online training on Learning Spaces](#) to provide teachers with ideas and methodological approaches that will be able to apply in their schools and classrooms to promote the development of 21st century skills.

Comunidad Valenciana launches the online training [Aulas transformadoras: organización e implementación](#). The course offers a tour through the FCL Toolkit focusing on the most relevant aspects when considering organising and implementing a spatial, technological and pedagogical change.

Extremadura offers blended training to the coordinators of the schools participating in the [INNOVATED Aula del Futuro programme](#). This training aims at giving advice to the coordinators, promoting collaboration among participants, implementing learning scenarios and solving doubts related to the development of the programme.

January – March 2022

Capacity Building for Vocational Education Teachers

Continuous Professional Development Team for FCL in Turkey organized informative meetings for vocational education high schools between December 2021 and January 2022 in 3 provinces, reaching out to approximately 150 teachers and school leaders in total. The topics of the training include EdTech use in flexible learning spaces, STEAM approach, innovative pedagogies, school networks, active learning. Dr Tunç Erdal AKDUR, Büşra SÖYLEMEZ and Özge TAŞTAN from the FCL Turkey CPD Team delivered informative sessions on the focus themes and provided guidance, support and useful resources to help teachers take part in training courses, webinars, EUN events, and other activities for integrating innovative educational practices in their schools.

Teacher Training for Primary School Teachers

A primary school in Ankara province, Bilge Kağan Primary School, has transformed their school as an innovative learning environment. In January 2022, a two-day face-to-face training was held for the teachers with the aim of guiding them to update their teaching practices and include active learning in the flexible learning spaces in their school.

Design FILS Project Activities

Within the scope of the Future Classroom Lab (FCL), a series of studies are carried out based on supporting 21st century skills. The FCL constitutes the general framework of the "Designing Future Innovative Learning Spaces (Design FILS) project, which has been carried out together with the European Schoolnet since 2019. The Design FILS project aims to train educators and teachers who will design innovative, multidisciplinary and flexible learning spaces where digital skills are improved, and who will implement innovative pedagogies by developing learning scenarios. Accordingly, 13 Pan-European Trainers from Turkey, Spain, Czechia and Austria, defined at EU level, received training for innovative learning spaces between September-2021. These trainers participated in theoretical and practical trainings on four main topics (ICT, Innovative Pedagogies, Space Design and Learning Scenarios). In the second phase of the training, 78 trainers (54 from Turkey, 6 from Spain, 9 from Austria, 9 from Czechia) were trained at the national level by the trainers trained in the first phase in these four countries. With these trainers, approximately 2000 teachers will receive teacher training in the third phase, which will be organized in April-May 2022. Then, an international conference will be held in June 2022 with the participation of project partners, academics, experts, trainers and teachers, which will disseminate the project activities and outputs at an international level. Further details are available [here](#).



Upcoming Events: EUN Professional Development Workshops

On 2-4 March 2022, the European Schoolnet organized a series of online workshops on learning spaces. The workshops aimed to provide educators and teachers with the idea of transforming education through up-to-date educational practices and innovative learning spaces. Büşra Söylemez, who is a local FCL ambassador from Turkey working in MoNE DG for Innovation and Educational Technologies as the project officer and a staff member for CPD programs, delivered a workshop titled as "Design Learner-led Learning Spaces". The workshop focuses on providing guidelines on how to design such spaces and disseminate some good examples and practices of well-designed spaces with interactive and hands-on activities for teachers.

For further information on the Future Classroom Ambassadors, please contact Bart Verswijvel - bart.verswijvel@eun.org