

Future Classroom Ambassadors

ACTIVITY DIGEST

Issue #15, October 2021

The network of Future Classroom Lab Ambassadors is happy to share once more a kaleidoscope of activities and events taking place all over Europe.

In this digest we would also like to recommend a new document created by the partners of the Novigado project. The publication *Guidelines in Learning Space Innovations* covers essential information about organising active learning supported by space design and educational technologies.



More info:
[Novigado Guidelines](#)

BELGIUM

September 2021

Kick-off meeting of the Matatalab Pilot Project

On Wednesday 29th September the kick-off meeting of the Matatalab pilot project in Belgium took place. 23 teachers and headmasters of 8 primary schools and kindergartens attended this kick-off, organised at BSGO Molentje, in Lier (BE). The participants learned about and experimented with the Matatalab Pro Coding set. Over the following months, they will use the Matatalab materials together with their pupils to teach them the basics of computational thinking and problem-solving. Over the following months, more input from participants' experiences will be available in the FCL Activity Digest.



CZECH REPUBLIC

September 2021

Digital Technology Conference for Schools

Between the 27th - 29th September, a conference which addresses the topic of computers at schools, took place in Czech Republic. Three days full of workshops for teachers from teachers which aimed at showing new trends in using digital technology at schools. Coding and programming, new kinds of robots and so on, everything aimed on new Informatics that entered Czech schools.

More info: www.pocitacveskole.cz



DENMARK

September 2021

FCL 3.5

On Friday the 3rd of September, Danish FCL had the pleasure to organize the grand opening of the newest iteration 3.5 of Future Classroom Lab. Future Classroom Lab in Campus Carlsberg has been totally redesigned in collaboration with the Danish industry partners. The constant changing of the setup and physical space aims at experimenting with new ways and ideas in how technology challenges the pedagogical praxis and trying out new innovative thoughts around the learning zone philosophy. Despite the limitations due to Covid-19, more than 150 guests from the field of education in Europe and industry partners attended this grand opening. The FCL 3.5 will include many new furniture and an area for testing learning potentials of e-sports in school. An area is also planned for LEGO activities, tinkering, prototyping, creativity, open tasks, and playful approaches. Focus is also given on different views on Makerspace in School, especially on the pedagogical perspective and with many ties into the Danish subject “Technology comprehension” that hopefully is approved and implemented soon.



FINLAND

September 2021

FCL Network of Finland

The FCL network of Finland (FCLab) has expanded to a network consisting of ten labs. All the labs are situated in the teacher training schools of Finland, and they are parts of the university. The Finnish FCLab received further funding until the end of the academic year 2023 from the Finnish National Agency for Education.

The FCLab kicked off the new school year with a two-day workshop in Helsinki in the beginning of September. Eight of the ten labs had participants taking part face-to-face and two labs were present remotely, so it was a hybrid happening. During the two days, there were presentations from partners; discussions about future developments and, of course, a big opportunity to strengthen the Finnish network being physically together after a long time of Teams- and Zoom-calls. Experts from the Agency of Education also attended the event and presented the New Literacy Development Program. Its aim is to strengthen children's and young people's media literacy, information and communication technology (ICT) skills and programming skills in education. The FCLab members will actively contribute to the tools needed to reach the new goals. During the workshop, participants also learned about building AR content with an industry partner (Pilots ahead!) and some of them will cooperate with Microsoft in the building of a Learning Analytics Roadmap. The days were packed with enthusiasm, expertise and lively pedagogical discussions about anything that promotes learning.



FRANCE

July-August 2021

Raising Awareness about FCL

France’s lead ambassador, Baptiste Melgarejo went to the four corners of France in an attempt to raise awareness about FCL. In July, he took part in the AGEEM congress (general association of public nursery schools and classes) which was celebrating its 100th anniversary this year. In kindergarten, the space is already considered to benefit learning, the classrooms are multifunctional, and the different zones contribute to the autonomy of the pupils. The aim of raising knowledge around FCL was to meet people who were eager to exchange within the community, and by reinforcing the network, to bring their expertise. In August, the Ludovia meeting



allowed Baptiste to reach a more diverse audience for which the skills-based approach, and particularly the interaction between space and skills, echoed the expectations of these teachers in search of innovation for their classes. The discussions, both formal and informal, have contributed to increase the visibility of the FCL and its added value in teaching. The next step will be in Paris, with Educative a meeting among educational stakeholders from all the school levels: teachers, teacher trainers, decision-makers, those who make and will make the school of tomorrow.

HUNGARY

October 2021

Training in Pécs

In October there will be a face-to-face FCL training in Pécs. The three-day-training will give teachers an overview about using and implementing the FCL Toolkit in their classroom. A lot of digital tools and methods e.g., special breathing techniques, will be presented to participants in order to help them and their students to release stress during lessons.



ISRAEL

October 2021

Promoting coding at 1st grade - Israel Matalab Pilot Project

Computational Thinking and Programming has been gaining importance, especially this year, in the worlds of education and in the Israeli Ministry of Education in particular. As part of a national code and robotics program many schools have introduced the subject already from the fourth grade. In addition, a lot of attempts are made to introduce coding earlier and in a variety of ways. In October 2021, four primaries' schools in Petah Tikva will introduce coding in their junior classes (1st graders). They will do it as part of a pilot together with Matatalab Coding Tools, official Partner of the Future Classroom Lab project and Beta School, the Israeli FCL and Robotec. The pilot Kickoff was held on September 12th with a training workshop for the schools' teachers participating in the pilot. The teachers were motivated, and they are all looking forward to start teaching with #matatalab kit.



Climate Action Project

Additionally, the Israeli FCL takes part in the Climate Action Project. The project launched on September 27th and with new collaborations with The Royal Foundation's Generation Earthshot and Lego and with the new [EarthProject App](#) allowing students and teachers to take action and to see their impact.

The 6-week program brings together 1,000s of classrooms from around the world to examine climate change and environmental literacy. Students will progress through weekly activities exploring causes, effects, and solutions. Classrooms will engage in class-to-class virtual exchanges where they will work with students from other countries as they consider both local and global implications. In the final week, students will join with project partners WWF, NASA, and the UN in a global online celebration as they share their learning, actions, and even inventions. The project is free and open to all K-12 classroom.



More info: [Climate Action project \(climate-action.info\)](#), @ClimateActionED and #ClimateActionEdu on Twitter.

ITALY

Spring/summer 2021

Digital Storytelling Course

Ancona FutureLab "Lorenzo Farinelli" did not stop its training activities during the summer. Remote free training courses were offered to teachers on Digital Storytelling. Digital Storytelling has become an all-encompassing phrase associated with the process of creating any type of digital multimedia artifact that tells a story or conveys a message. Tasks of this nature are becoming increasingly popular from kindergarten through to college classes due to the learning qualities related to the process of creating and sharing these artifacts. The practice is further supported by increased access to authoring tools (devices and apps) and ease of distribution (Internet and sharing sites such as YouTube). The course Digital storytelling or the art of digital storytelling (storytelling, video making and podcasting) held by Ms Micaela Barbuzzi was structured on three levels of increasing depth, one preparatory to the next: Basic level, Intermediate level and Advanced level.

Developing Digital Skills

In addition to that, in spring/summer 2021 a wide range of remote courses were offered to increase the digital skills and the levels of mastery of the teaching staff of schools of all levels in the Marche region with reference to the first of the three guidelines. of the national program "Formare al futuro" promoted by MI (Italy's Ministry of Education), which provides for the system of digital skills of teachers within the European framework of reference "DigCompEdu". These training courses are intended to accompany the digital transformation paths / processes of the school organization and the adoption of integrated digital teaching to favour the acquisition, development and certification of the necessary technical and transversal skills within the "DigCompEdu" framework. The methodological approach pays particular attention to the didactic-pedagogical aspects as well as the technical and digital ones, as elements deemed necessary to favour the learning and development processes and "grounding" of digital and transversal skills.



MALTA

June - September 2021

21st century teaching and learning

Summer 2021 was a busy time for St Ignatius College, Middle School, Handaq, Malta. Work has just finished on a new Future Classroom Lab allowing teachers and students within the school to embrace 21st Century teaching and learning. The school will be focusing on different learning spaces based on the Future Classroom pedagogy: Present, Investigate, Create, Interact, Develop and Exchange. These spaces are equipped with collaborative tables, a Greek theatre, a book hive, digital tools like computer stations and VR sets, and an interactive flat panel board. The aim of this Future Classroom is to develop a pedagogy encouraging active learning, social interaction, critical thinking and autonomous learning.



NORWAY

September-November 2021

Courses and Workshops for various subjects

All activities below are organized by the Norwegian FCL and will be held in Didaktisk digitalt verksted (DDV) - Didactic Digital Edulab at the University of Stavanger (UiS) – Norway.

History courses using computer games are organized every Monday from the 27th of September until 1st of November 2021. In addition, Google EDU courses are organized, aimed at students before going into school practice (20-21/10, 27-28/20, 3-4/11) as well as arts classes using laser cutting and 3D print (18-19/10). A workshop



with a data projector to ensure quality presentation of pupils, and creative zone with a green screen perfect for creating videos.

In Future Classroom Lab BESST, all pupils have an iPad available for educational purposes with many applications to help them learn, re-study and create their own content. There is also an outdoor teaching terrace and a small library. The ambition of the school and Future Classroom Lab BESST is not only to train their own teachers for the effective use of methods and forms of active learning, but also to offer training for teachers of other schools from all over Slovakia.

SPAIN

September- November 2021

Network of Aula del Futuro Teacher Training Spaces

The [Ministry of Education and Vocational Training of Spain](#) inaugurates the first space of the Network of Aula del Futuro Teacher Training Spaces at the INTEF headquarters in Madrid. The inauguration ceremony was attended by Ministry 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 started the attendance sessions of the Aula del Futuro blended courses. This training was preceded by an introductory on-line phase. After their attendance, participants will have to develop a project with their students at their schools to complete the training. During the months of September and October sessions for each of nine courses will be held in the new Aula del Futuro classroom at INTEF.

Aula del Futuro dissemination

Aula del Futuro, as FCL is named in Spain, will be present in [SIMO EDUCACIÓN 2021](#) the national fair of Technologies for Education, that will be celebrated from 2nd to 4th November, 2021.

FCL Regional Training

Extremadura has launched a new call for [INNOVATED](#) projects for next school year, 2021-2022. This programme includes specific actions for those schools interested in developing their own Aula del Futuro. Extremadura is also developing "[El Aula del Futuro, diseño de espacios educativos](#)", an on-line training on FCL project management and classroom-oriented design that will take place during October.



TURKEY

FCL Local Ambassadors Meeting

A face-to-face meeting was held with the FCL local ambassadors on September 14, 2021, at the General Directorate of Innovation and Education Technologies to evaluate the work carried out by the ambassadors in their regions and to provide information on the project work carried out by our Ministry in connection with the FCL.

Eskişehir FCL

"Eskişehir FCL", a learning environment that supports flexible and innovative learning practices of the future, was opened at Avukat Mail Büyükerman Primary School located in the Tepebaşı district of Eskişehir. Tepebaşı District Governor Ahmet Önal, Provincial National Education Director Hakan Cırıt, Tepebaşı District National Education Director Mustafa Özcan, Provincial National Education Branch Manager Ahmet Şen, FCL Ambassador Gülşah Polat Sarıkaya, FCL Turkey Coordinator Sümeyye Hatice Eral, Büşra Söylemez from Learning Laboratories Group, National Education Specialist Merve Dilek Efe and Nevzat Ünsal attended. In addition, the first teacher training was organized by FCL Ambassador Can Erdoğan for teachers who will use the



Future Classroom, and active learning pedagogies in education, the use of information technologies, learning scenarios and activities in learning areas were given in practice.

Capacity Building Workshop

A capacity building workshop was held on 15-16 September 2021 within the scope of the NOVIGADO Project carried out by FCL Turkey Team to support the transition of schools from traditional practices to student-centered, active learning practices. The workshop was attended by teachers and school administrators from 6 pilot schools at the secondary level selected from 6 provinces in Turkey, as well as R&D representatives of the National Education Directorate of the selected provinces. As part of the workshop, the participants practiced hands-on training on Active Learning, Learning Scenarios, Innovative Pedagogical Practices and Flexible Learning Spaces, and they were informed about the pilot implementation process to be carried out in the September-December 2021 period at the designated pilot schools.



Design Fils Course

Design Fils Project, coordinated by Ministry of National Education, is an Erasmus+ Project that aims to design innovative, multi-disciplinary, flexible learning areas with digital skills by training Pan European trainers. Design Fils project has main priorities in line with FCL and it will appoint 14 trainers from Spain, Turkey, and Czechia. The train-the-trainer course is only available to the trainers at designfils.eba.gov.tr and the participants also attended virtual mobility with live sessions. The course will be open to all interested educators, professionals, trainers in 2022.



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