

“PORTEAPERTE AL TILGHER”

Euromediterranean Meeting - Common Sea

The Euromediterranean Meeting “Common Sea” - arranged this school - year by a network of international high schools from the Project “Multi-Cultural Education” which the High School “Adriano Tilgher” of Ercolano has been carrying out for over ten years now – is aimed at strengthening the bonds of friendship among teenagers from all over the world who basically reject the idea of living their lives without being in touch with one another. As a rule, these youths share the same desire of getting to know boys and girls from different countries, their ways of life, their families and their schools.

Thus, it cannot but sound familiar to everybody concerned that fourteen students and three teachers from a high school in Ramallah (Palestine), ten students and two teachers from a high school in Amman (Jordan), sixteen students and two teachers from a high school in Lillehammer (Norway), were hosted from March 31st to April 9th by the High School “Adriano Tilgher” in Ercolano for an international meeting arisen from the bunch of activities of students’ exchange of the Project “Multi-Cultural Education”.



This project is one of the so many successful initiatives of the educational opportunities offered by the High School “Tilgher” of Ercolano, whose goal is to enable the students of the school to overcome racial barriers and promote friendly relationships with students from different countries, cultures and religions.

On April 6th groups of students from the high schools “Videregående Skole” of Lillehammer (Norway), “Heilig Hartscholen” of Heist op den Berg (Belgium), “Al Raed Al Arabi School” of Amman (Jordan), “School of Hope” of

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Ramallah (Palestine), “Villari” of Naples, “Tilgher” of Ercolano, “Salvemini” of Sorrento”, “Galiani” of Naples, “Perito” of Eboli (Italy), met at the High School “Villari” of Naples and experienced the emotional beauty of feeling as one. As a matter of fact, it was nearly impossible to stay concentrated because of the contagious joy running from faces to faces. “Apart from the differences of the climate”, Paul, from Norway, playfully said, “the people here are very kind and friendly.



We’ve been partners for three years in several multi-cultural projects with different countries such as Germany, Belgium, Jordan. I hope that the partnership with Italy too will go on in the future”. The students from the high school “Villari” stressed the relevance of the common project being carried out as a meaningful action within a wider project of peace involving people from all over the world. “Ours is a school of hope”, said Michail Abu Ghazaleh from Ramallah. “Everybody wants to live better and in order to change things we must talk with people, especially the youths”.

During the meeting a video was screened which reported “the biggest robbery” of Palestinian land from 1946 up to the year 2000 - a long story of pain and seclusion along a

border six hundred kilometres long. “We understand”, said Marilena, a schoolgirl from the “Tilgher”, “how important it is to be here all together after watching this video”.

The coordinator of the project Imma Grazioli pointed out the huge educational value of the meeting’s common sharing of solidarity, tolerance and peace. “We have respect”, she said, “for every people, regardless of the religion and the political belongings, because each person we meet deserves respect and dignity for what he/she is”.

The Principal of the High School “Tilgher” Ubaldo Grimaldi expressed his public thanks to the Regional Councillor Corrado Gabriele for his unfailing support to the schools of the Neapolitan area.

Corrado Gabriele, in turn, reminded the youths of the Article 34 of the Republic of Italy’s Constitution, wherein the basic values on which the Italian school system is founded are meaningfully worded. “I am a lucky man”, he added, “because I am a friend of so many Palestinians, especially those who live in the refugee camps”.

After this passionate speech, the Principal of the School of Hope of Ramallah gave the Regional Councillor a small statue of olive wood as a symbol of friendship and peace.

Visits to the school of the network were paid as well, such as the visit to the Lyceum “Salvemini” of Sorrento, where the schoolboys and the schoolgirls were enabled to exchange ideas and implement creative actions in lab classes.

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