

MALTA PROJECT RECAP

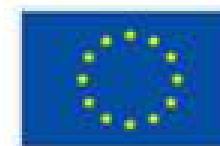
Language skills shaped through learning
and participation in school and cultural life



Project co-funded by the European funds.

The main aim of the project was to increase students' motivation to learn foreign languages, improve their communication skills in English, as well as spread the attitudes of tolerance and openness towards other cultures as well as learn about the CLIL method.

The amount of funds from the European Union: €19,352.



Co-funded by
the European Union

Hosting organisation: Newark School, Malta



Sending organisation: Państwowe Liceum Sztuk Plastycznych
im. J. Szermentowskiego, Kielce in Poland



20 students were divided into two groups of 10 and observed the lessons at Newark School in Malta.

Group 1: 28.11.2022 – 02.12.2022

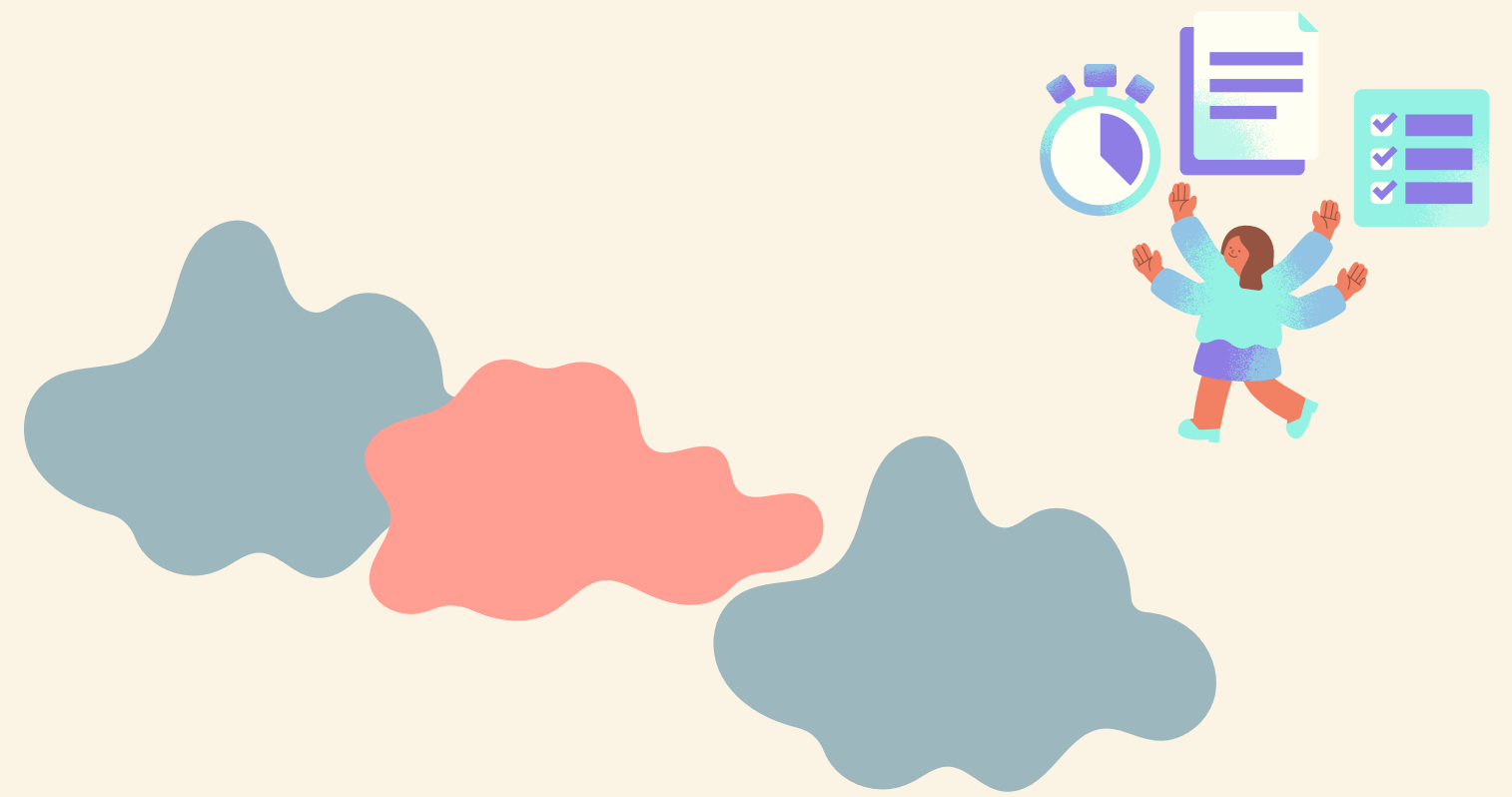
Group 2: 16.01.2023 – 20.01.2023

The students also had the opportunity to broaden their knowledge of history of art. They visited many places of interests in Malta, e.g. St. John's Co-Cathedral, Lower and Upper Barrakka Gardens, Museum of Fine Arts, Grand Master's Palace, St. Paul's Pro-Cathedral, Fort Saint Elmo, the Basilica of Our Lady of Mount Carmel and the Cathedral of St. Paul's in Mdina.

PREPARING

Before going to Malta we had language and culture classes. The language classes helped us expand our vocabulary range and revise topics about English grammar. Maltese culture classes helped us get to know Malta: learn about Malta's history, traditional food and festivals. What is more, we also learned about politics, climate and art in Malta.

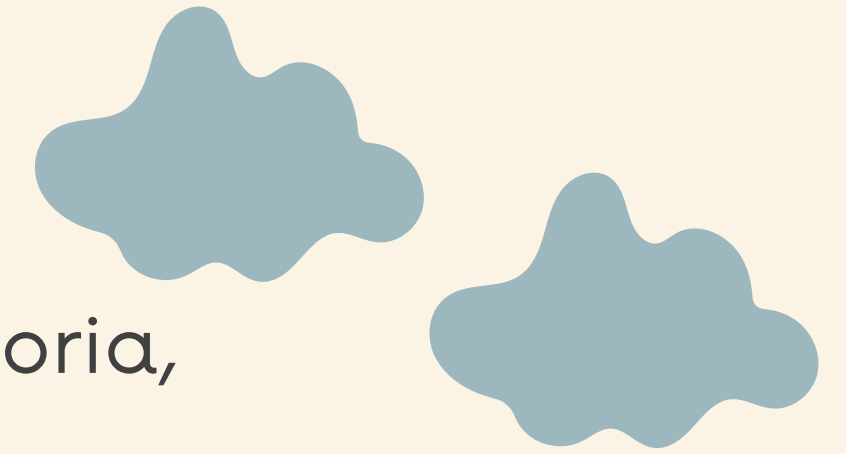
Not that long before our trip we also had a meeting where we were told how to prepare before our trip, what to pack and what size of the luggage we should take and how our trip to the airport would go. We were told about the hotel in Malta and how coming back would look like.



ABOUT MALTA

- it is an archipelago consisting of 3 inhabited islands (Malta, Gozo, Comino) and a few microislands;
- the capital city - Valletta (on Malta island);
- styles of architecture: renaissance, baroque, neo-classical, neo-gothic, Italian futurism, modernism;

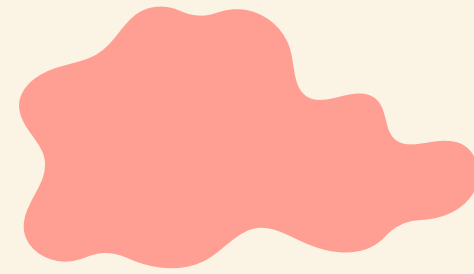
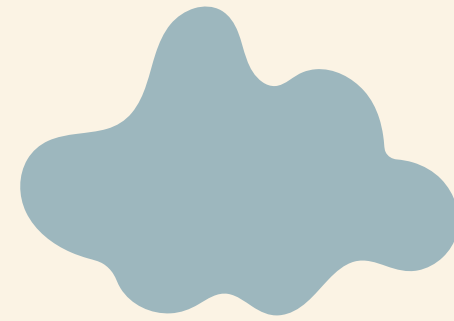
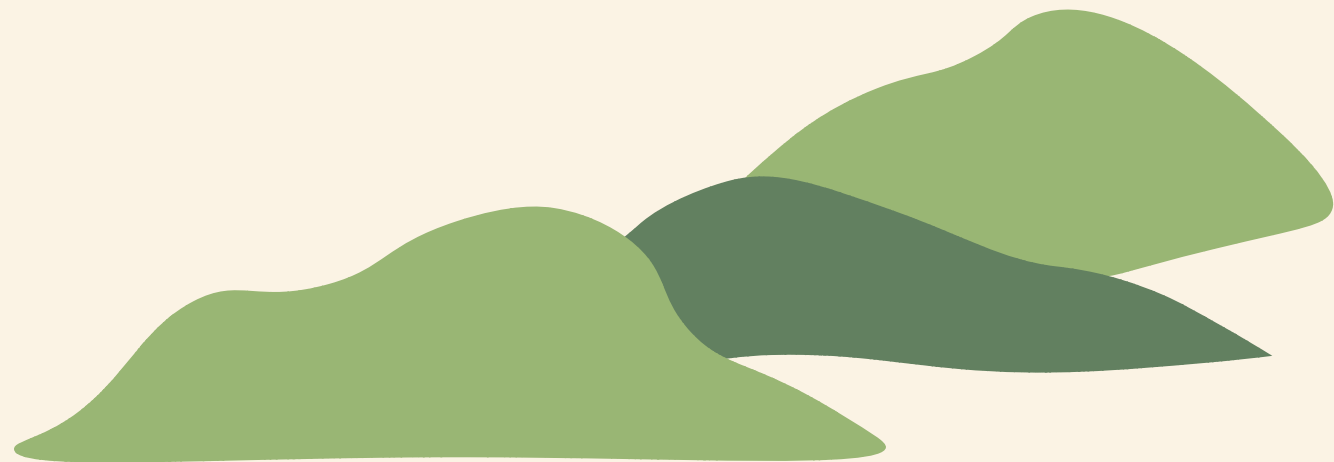
- main cities: Valletta, Victoria, Birgu;
- 93% of people are Catholic;
- climate is typically Mediterranean;
- there are many, many cats.



EDUCATION

3 types of schools :

- church schools - free (but parents can make donations), because of lots of candidates students are chosen by the boards;
- state schools - free;
- private schools - paid for (and expensive);



The universities on Malta are free for the Europeans.

There are 11 compulsory grades and children start school at the age of 5.

The education for Maltese children can be stressful as they get homework even in kindergarten. The schools emphasize science subjects and there are no art classes.



LIFESTYLE

You can say that living on Malta is like having vacations everyday. Unlike in Poland, people there are very easygoing. They do not really care if they are going to be late for something or if they wear a T-shirt and shorts to work. They very much practice the "island lifestyle". Everyone is also extremely welcoming. You can easily make new friends just by talking to a random person on the street.



We stayed in St. Julian's, which is known to be a party city. This means that there are many people outside even at night. Nevertheless, everyone should always be careful after dark. Still, Malta is known to be one of the safest places on earth.

People there just seem to enjoy their lives and do not care about what other people think.



FOOD

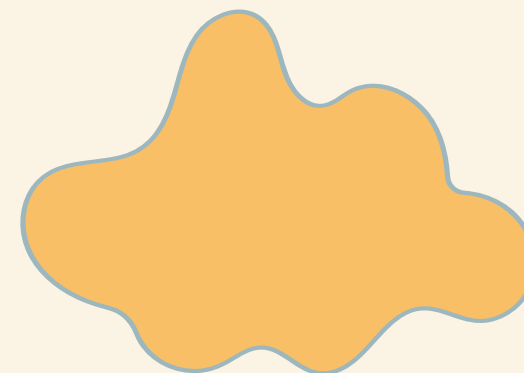
You can find there an interesting range of flavours which most Maltese people eat on daily basis.

- Kinnie - cola-like beverage with an orange-bitter flavour
- ftira - a sandwich filled to the rim
- bragioli - "beef olives" with bread, bacon, eggs and parsley inside
- fenek - beef loin filings with bacon, olives or rabbit caserole



Due to Malta being an island :

- near Italy, their Italian cuisine is very on-spot
- the most common type of meat there is rabbit meat
- they have a wide range of pastry (sweet and salty snacks, such as pastizzi with ricotta)



AT NEWARK SCHOOL

This project can be broken into 3 areas, which allowed us not only to develop our language skills but also to appreciate the art, specific to the region and learn about many historical attractions of the island.



THE AREAS:

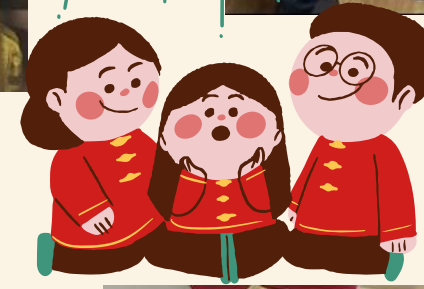
- SOCIAL INTERACTION WITH THE NEWARK STUDENTS**
- VISITS TO PLACES OF ARTISTIC IMPORTANCE, WHICH WERE KEY TO COMPLETE THE ART-RELATED PROJECT WE HAD BEEN ASSIGNED**
- VISITS TO AREAS OF IMPORTANCE IN MALTA AND THE AREA**

AT NEWARK SCHOOL



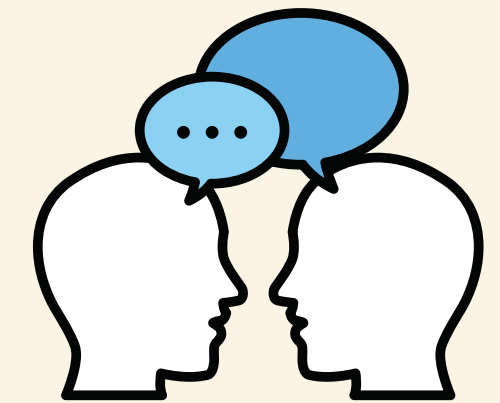
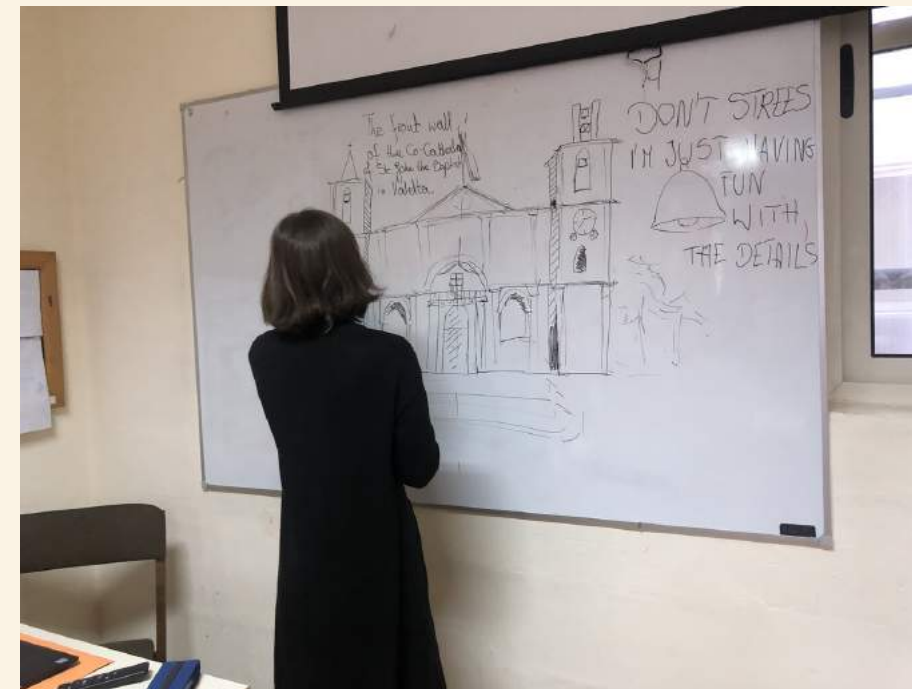
During the classes we:

- got to know the school: its profile, tasks and priorities;
- learned about the CLIL method: Content and Language Integrated Learning;
- observed a variety of lessons: Physics, Maths, Biology, Chemistry, English as the first language, French/Italian, Social Studies and Economics;
- took part in a Maltese language lesson at Newark School;
- interacted with the students;



ART LESSON

We also delivered a presentation for the students about Polish cities, including Warsaw, Wroclaw and Kielce, and their monuments as well as about the artists. We showed the students our drawings of different important buildings in Poland, such as Pałac Kultury i Nauki in Warsaw.



Then we conducted a drawing lesson, teaching the students how to draw St. John's Co-Cathedral. We were explaining every step, drawing on the whiteboard. The lesson went very well.

ARCHITECTURE

Maltese architecture has its origins in prehistory, and some of the oldest free-standing structures on the Earth – a series of megalithic temples – can be found there.

It flourished while the islands were under the rule of the Order of St. John from 1530 to 1798. The Hospitallers introduced Renaissance architecture to Malta in the mid-16th century, with the Baroque style becoming popular about a century later.



After Malta became part of the British Empire in 1800, Neoclassical and Neo-Gothic architecture were introduced.

Several styles left an influence on Maltese architecture in the first half of the 20th century, including Art Nouveau, Art Deco, Italian futurism, rationalism and modernism.

Malta experienced a building boom after World War II, which increased after gaining independence in 1964.



VALLETTA

capital city

Valetta is located between Marsamxett Harbour and the Grand Harbour. Building a city on peninsula was Order of Saint John's initiative. At first there was only one building – a watchtower, but soon after The Fort Saint Elmo was built, and after the Fort fell to Ottoman's attack in 1565, Knights decided to build a whole city to fortify Order's position on Malta.





There are many buildings from the 16th century, mostly baroque architecture that was built by the Knights of St. John. Amongst them is the majestic St. John's Cathedral, several auberges that hosted the Knights in their times, the bastions surrounding the city, and gardens. In fact, one could say that Valletta is actually a monument donated by the Knights and in our times it's just one huge open-air museum. You can feel the history in the air there.

One of the greatest baroque artists - Michelangelo Merisi known as Caravaggio was settled in Malta around 1606. He arrived there while fleeing the sentence of death he got after committing a murder. On the island the artist gained trust, got feted and admitted to the Order of St. John. That's when he painted one of the greatest of all his works - "Beheading of St. John the Baptist". However, his freedom didn't last long, because after a year he got arrested once again, which caused him another, well accomplished, escape attempt.

CARAVAGGIO



Two of his paintings are still on display in the Oratory of the Co-Cathedral of St. John in Malta's capital - Valletta.

GOZO

- After Malta itself, it is the second largest island in this archipelago;
- Capital - Victoria (renamed from Rabat in 1897);
- It has a population of 37,342 (7%);
- The maximum width of the island is only 7.25km;
- You can get there by ferry; the journey takes about 25 minutes (the island also does not have an airport, so it is dependent on Malta - there's only an emergency helipad).



Gozo, like Malta, has often been used as a stage for filming. We could see it in movies with agent 007, in Game of Thrones or the famous Da Vinci Code. The island has already pretended to be: Syria, Palestine or Israel.



BIRGU

also known as Città Vittoriosa ("Victorious City"), is an old fortified city on the south side of the Grand Harbour in the South Eastern Region of Malta. Over time it has developed with a very long history with maritime and military activities. Birgu is a very old locality with its origins reaching back to medieval times.



Prior to the establishment of Valletta as capital and the main city of Malta, military powers that wanted to rule would need to obtain control of Birgu due to its significant position. In fact, it served as the base of the Order of Saint John and capital city of Malta from 1530 to 1571. It is location of several tourist attractions: the historic Vittoriosa Waterfront contains the former Palace of the General of the Galleys and the Order of St John's treasury.



RELIGION AND HOLIDAYS

In Malta, where Christian traditions are a living part of culture, 93% of residents declare themselves as Catholic. The vivid history of this small island leads to many memorials of war.



Christmas are full of lights shaped in beautiful motifs, streets and houses decorated with pasturi of religious figures. Schools often hold a Christmas concert, where children sing Carols, recite poetry and exchange gifts. Celebration is deeply related with family bounding and charity work.



On 15th August, they celebrate the Feast of Assumptions (Santa Marija) which is the biggest festival of the year raised to commemorate both Our Lady and turbulences of the past in hopes for them to never occur again.

MEGALITHIC TEMPLES OF GGANTIJA

are one of the many megalithic structures in Malta that have survived to the present day. It is located on Gozo and consists of two temples. It was built around 3600 BC, which makes it older than the Egyptian pyramids and Stonehenge.

It is believed that the temples were the site of a prehistoric fertility cult. This is indicated by figurines and statues found there by archaeologists.

Massive boulders, the largest of which weighed up to 50 tons, were used to build Ggantija. It is not known exactly how the huge rock blocks were placed one on top of the other, but the Maltese legends say it is the work of giants who inhabited Gozo.



Ggantija temples are on the UNESCO world heritage list.

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