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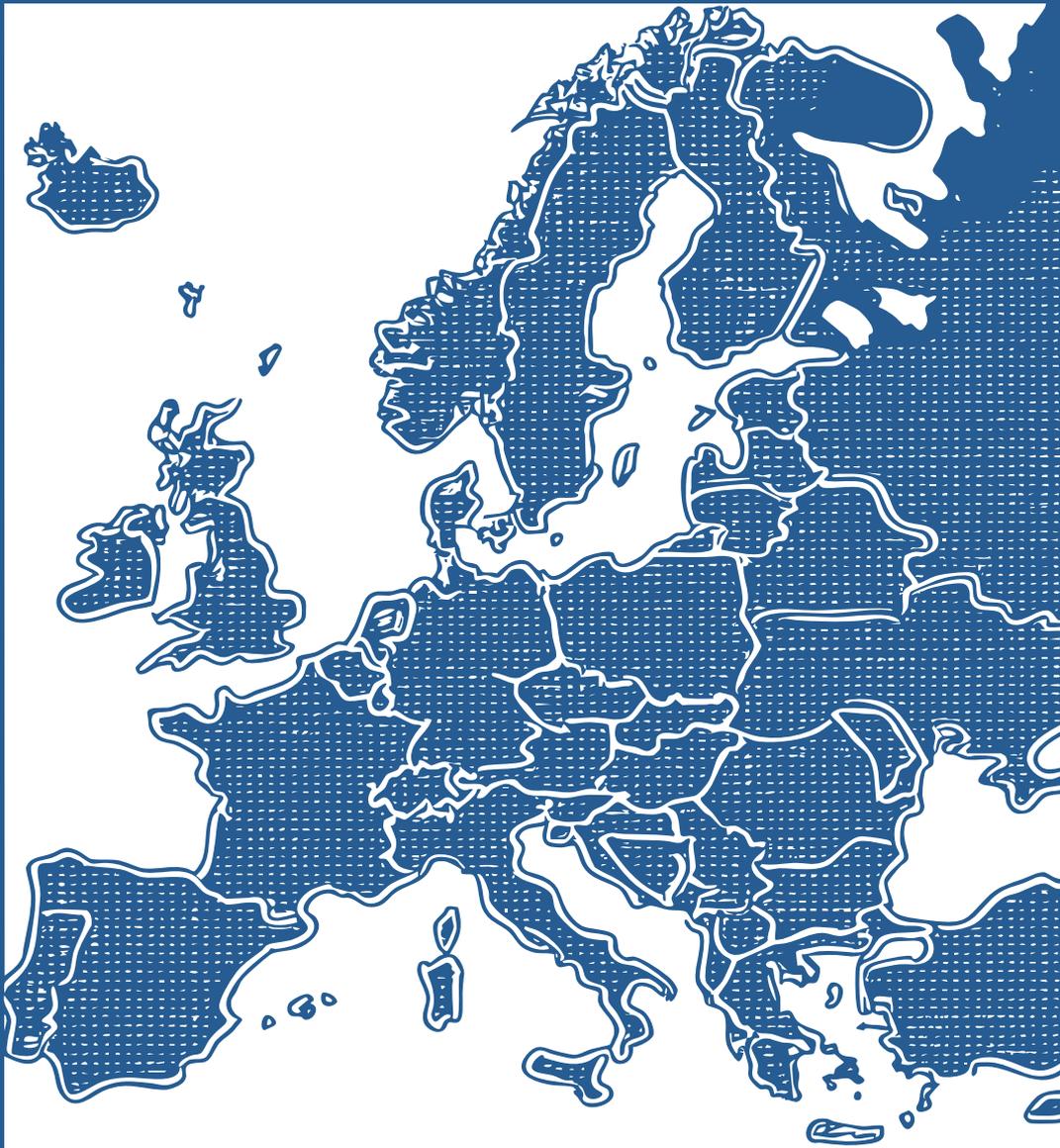
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# The Magazine of VOICEcraft No. 3

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VOICECRAFT: Cultivating Communication Through Sezatoare





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# ITALY

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## Big Win at the “Middle Etniade Team Cup”!

On February 22, 2025, we students from I.C.S. “Michele Purrello” took part in a really special math competition: the “Middle Etniade Team Cup”, organized by the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science of the University of Catania.

The competition was held at the ST Microelectronics headquarters in Catania. It lasted 90 minutes, and during that time, each team had to solve 15 math problems, working together like a real team!

Our team, accompanied by our maths teachers, was made up of: Gabriele Franchino (captain), Andrea Guarnieri (presenter), Silvia Cantarella, Giulio Longhitano, Daniele Lo Vecchio, Eva Mazzerbo, and Teresa Mignemi.

And guess what? Out of 33 schools from all over Sicily, we took third place! Each of us received a trophy and a calculator, and the school also got a special team trophy!

It was such an exciting moment and a big achievement for all of us!

We’re proud to have represented our school so well and to have brought honor once again to the name of “Purrello”!

Purrello Middle Etniade Tea



# Look Beyond!

## About prejudices

Many times, young people face prejudices. A prejudice is an opinion about someone before really knowing them. Prejudices can be different and are usually divided into two types:

**Positive prejudice:** when someone thinks something good about a person without real facts.

**Negative prejudice:** when someone thinks something bad about a person without knowing them well.

Negative prejudices are the most common and have been studied a lot by psychologists, because many people tend to judge others just by their appearance or first impression.



The word “prejudice” means a judgment made too early, without real experience or facts. It is often based on stereotypes and can lead to bad feelings, unfair treatment, or exclusion of a person or a group.

Prejudices can be learned from society or family, but they can be changed. With education, respect, and understanding, we can learn to see people for who they really are and not judge them too quickly. This helps us build a kinder and fairer world.

Chiara Fassari, Luisa Piccione, Martina Marchese (3 D class)



# ROMANIA

## Easter Celebration in Romania

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Halmeu is a village where Romanians, Hungarians and Swabians coexist, with different religions: Orthodox, Roman Catholics, Reformed, Pentecostals, etc. But Easter is celebrated by all in a similar way due to the traditions passed down from generation to generation.

For us, Easter is the most important holiday because families gather and enjoy the Resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ together.

Every year we look forward to this period because it brings peace, joy and brings us all together. We have many beautiful customs, but I'll tell you about the most important ones for us. For Romanians, this holiday is preceded by seven weeks of fasting, in which we do not eat foods containing milk, meat or eggs.



One of my favorite moments is dyeing eggs. Eggs are dyed in the traditional way, with onion peel:

we carefully place small leaves on eggs, tie them in a silk stocking and boil them in a pot with many dry onion peels. Then we grease them with bacon to shine. It is an activity that we do as a family.

Everyone strives to make the most beautiful ornaments on eggs, while we talk, laugh and enjoy.

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We celebrate the Resurrection of the Lord on Saturday night at 12:00 p.m. Then, my family and I went to church with candles in our hands that we lit from the priest. The service lasted three hours.

In the morning we went to church again, when most people dress in folk costumes, as we do on big holidays. We also prepared a basket with specific foods: roast lamb, dyed eggs, cake and wine that the priest sanctified. At the end, the priest shared with us holy bread with wine, in glasses.

The most important custom is the cracking of eggs.



While they are knocking, the eggs one person says "Christ is Risen!" and the other responds "True, He is Risen!"

The second day of Easter, the boys go to the girls, to sprinkle perfume. They learn a funny poem and go from house to house and sprinkle the girls. They receive dyed eggs from the girls.

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## MUSIC IS THE UNIVERSAL LANGUAGE OF MANKIND

*"Music educates the love for beauty"* says Plato.

The choir of our school, led by teacher Oana Smecicaş for the first place obtained at the "Claudia Popdan" Choral Music Festival-Competition, organized in Ardu.



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# CELEBRATING WORLD BOOK DAY

## April 23

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On 17th of April, the Primary Cycle, celebrated World Book Day before the official date.

The students each created their own "book", writing a story about a moment or event that impressed them. We have implemented novel book approaching activities, learned at the LTTA in Spain, to make reading even more engaging. Each page was full of color and emotion, illustrating the text with their own drawings.

The children worked enthusiastically, discovering the joy of telling their own adventures on paper. Dedicated teachers of 4th grade guided them step by step, cultivating creativity and team spirit.



Knolling Wonka, Roald Dahl

At the entrance e hallway turned into a small library full of original works. Visitors admired the stories and illustrations, praising the diversity and imagination of the students. Through this project, we renewed the love for books and promoted reading as a living experience.



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# SPAIN

## HUMAN FALLAS IN CONCHA ESPINA SCHOOL YARD

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As in Easter we do not have a lot of news, we have chosen an event that was celebrated in march for this magazin.

The Spanish team was very busy in March preparing the visit of the VOICECRAFT project partners. But as you know, in March we also celebrate the famous FALLAS, or festivities of our city, in which we burn all those things we don't like, criticisms, satires, in the form of ephemeral artwork that succumbs to fire.

Of course, in our school we can not set up a fire in the courtyard without the neighbors calling the firefighters.



That's why for several years we have invented, to hold the last day of school before march holidays, this year 14th of march, the "Human Fallas".

They consist of the composition of a sculpture similar to the "fallas" that you can see in the streets, but the characters, or "ninots" are the students and teachers.

The theme is common for all classes. All the eight secondary classes compete with their own proposal.

This year the theme was "Colors", under the slogan "De pinta y colorea", an expression that means that something is very easy.

Each classroom was assigned a color with which to assemble their proposal and compete.

This year has not been easy for the Valencian people, as you know, due to the hurricane DANA catastrophe, but we are fighting people that overcomes its wounds, and reflect our sadness but also our strength in everything we do, as you can see in these sculptures.

As in every contest, here too there are prizes, in the categories of best scene, best "ninot" (or figure) and best complete "falla".

The best ninot corresponded to Queen Elizabeth II, who used to dress in blue (Elisa, from 3ºA).



The best scene was for the Simpson family, with Oscar and other students of 2ndA. And the award for the best complete monument went to 4th, with an impeccable representation of everything related to our sorrows in October after the flood captured in a sad black color.

You can see here other monuments, each one from a secondary group and in a different colour. That's our particular valencian way to say hello to spring and warm weather.



# CZECH REPUBLIC

## SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

### Cyklo-pěško hrátky (Bicycle and pedestrian games)

Once a year we go on Bicycle and pedestrian games. In the games there are two main groups of people. The ones that walk and the ones that ride a bike. These groups then split into smaller ones. Each group, no matter if it's pedestrian or bicycle, is led by a teacher and some parents can help if they want to!

The whole thing starts with each group going on something like a trip and when they come back to the school they compete with each other for fun and the best ones can win prizes!

The Bicycle and pedestrian games are in my opinion the best event our school has it's fun and we get a day off school :D

**Anna Máčková**



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## Cross Country Run in Prokopské údolí

Once a year, there's a big cross-country run held in Prokopské údolí for all the schools in Prague 13. Each class runs a different distance – the older you are, the longer the run. It's a fun event that everyone looks forward to!

This year, I ran 1 km and placed fourth – not bad for me! Girls in 6th grade run 1 km, while boys run 1.5 km. Boys usually run more than girls in this race.

Last year, our school won first place overall! Sara from 5th grade didn't win her race, but that didn't matter – the most important thing was that we all enjoyed it.

After the run, my friends and I sold coffee and tea to the teachers. It was a nice way to relax and do something fun together.

The race was held on September 30th last year. Around 300 kids came from our school and other schools and gymnasiums. In every category, 5 students from each school ran. Our school had 42 runners in total. Every one of us gave our best on the course.

Many parents came to cheer us on – they were so loud, you could probably hear them from the other side of Prague! I think we did great, and next year, we can do even better.



**Sára Očenášová**

# TURKEY

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## April 23rd national sovereignty and children's day

### WHAT IS THE MEANING AND IMPORTANCE OF APRIL 23? WHAT HAPPENED ON APRIL 23?

April 23, 1920 is the date when the First Grand National Assembly, which represented the will of the Turkish nation, was opened and declared the sovereignty of the Turkish people.

Atatürk decided to celebrate 'April 23' as a holiday on April 23, 1924. 5 years after this date, Atatürk gave this holiday to children on April 23, 1929, and April 23 was celebrated as Children's Day for the first time in 1929. In 1979, children from foreign countries who come from more than forty countries and are guests of Turkish children participate in this national holiday, which we have brought to the international dimension with the participation of the first six countries. Turkey is the first and only country in the world to give a holiday to its children and share this holiday with the whole world...

April 23 National Sovereignty and Children's Day, which occupies the most important place in the heart of the Turkish nation as the unshakeable expression of its independence, represents the interlocated expression of our national unity by celebrating it with various activities in our representative offices at home and abroad, in all our institutions, in our schools and in every home.

In the thought of the great leader Atatürk, children are the future of the nation. As an expression of his unshakeable trust and great love for them, he gave our national holiday, April 23, to children. April 23 is an important occasion in order to learn the proud pages of our history by new generations and to raise the new Republic guardians with this awareness, to whom we will entrust the continuation of the Turkish State.

Congratulations to our nation and all children.



**Celebrations from our school:**

**Poem, Chess, Dance performances, Folk games, Songs**