

ENEWS FROM ICS LAMARMORA LAINATE

MARCH 2021



ETWINNING PROJECT - SCHOOL YEAR 2020-2021

LOGO BY SOFIA, KHADIJA AND MR PRAVETTONI

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Welcome!

This month it is our turn to produce an etwinning online magazine. We hope you all like it. We certainly had a lot of fun writing and preparing it. For us it was an opportunity to stop and think about ourselves, our school, our town, the world we live in and to imagine how other people in other places might see all this.

We chose Friendship as a theme. In these pages you all find reflections on friendship in art and literature as well as our personal reflections. But above all we hope our magazine will serve as a basis for a new friendship, the friendship between the participants in this etwinning project. Whether in France, Romania, Turkey, we can all get to know and respect one another.

We hope you find something in these pages to make you smile, to make you think, to make you wonder, and above all to make you want to know your etwinning friends better. Enjoy!

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AN INTERVIEW WITH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL NICOLA FRATINI

BY FEDERICA, SOFIA AND MARCO



ICS Lamarmora Principal Nicola Fratini gave an interview to students on Friday, February 26th 2021, The students were very happy that Mr Fratini generously took time out from his schedule to answer our questions.

How would you introduce our school to our project partners in other countries?

Our school has got very strong roots in the area. The students are in general local and come from our town. The school is quite big with about 1,300 students in the three levels – pre-school, elementary and secondary. I would say ours is a school that is very sensitive to ecological questions. A new initiative this year in the secondary school has been the beginning of a course on entrepreneurial skills and this is very important. We are also very intent on introducing children from the earliest age to computational thinking. Let's say, it's a school that is open to new ways of thinking about the future.

How should school prepare students for the world?

The school of today in my opinion can no longer simply prepare students for a profession. Rather it has to try teach students how to orient themselves in the long term and so to be flexible because fundamentally, we can't know in what world you, the students and young people of today, will find yourselves. In ten years time there will be new professions that we can't imagine today so the role of the school has changed in this regard.

What do you think of international projects?

International projects help students to widen their horizons, to know what students of their age think in other countries, near and far. We live in a globalized world. It is important that kids from the earliest age compare and measure themselves with others who live in other cultures, maybe a little different to ours. In any event, in the future, students will have to work with these others in the working environments of tomorrow.

How would you like students to remember the time in school?

In my opinion it is important to remember school as that place where you started to dream of your future, that is to believe in what you could achieve with a feeling of security, a place where your self-confidence could grow, and so where more and more you had the courage to confront the future and begin to think of it with hope, a positive mental attitude and confidence in what you wanted to do. This I believe is also the role of the school.

**What do you remember of your time in school?
What did you like?**

What I always loved in the school environment is its meritocratic aspect. Of course I didn't know this word when I was small but I discovered it later. It's a word that describes that place where effort gets rewarded. It's almost like a mathematical equation - if you give x, you receive y. This is a beautiful ideal that generates trust. You know that if you make an effort, you will be rewarded. So we can say school is a place where I always found this certainty and satisfaction. The key word for me is meritocracy. Even later at university level I found this same pattern. It exists throughout the school system - the sure knowledge that sacrifice and commitment get results.

Why did you decide to become a school principal?

After twenty years teaching mathematics in secondary schools, I don't know, I felt the desire to be more directly involved in the life of students. It's a job that has its own complexity and responsibility but allows you, in the decisions you take along with the teachers of the school, to really make a difference in the lives of young people. This is a great satisfaction and also a great motivation. It's a position that permits you to positively affect the lives of students and, if you do it for long enough, the lives of generations of students.

Is there anything else you want to say to students?

I would like to tell kids to demand that their teachers impart to them the capacity to dream. Teachers can give young people confidence and optimism, even in a period such as ours, and this is important because the future is born in our dreams. Sometimes you hear people talk about students saying that one is attentive and another is lazy or listless. I never believe this. To me there are only students who believe in their capacities and have faith in their dreams and others who don't have the courage of their dreams. If you don't believe in yourself, you have no motivation, and without motivation there can be no results. Dream, believe, and fight to achieve your dreams.

Thank you, Mr Fratini.

You're very welcome.



LAINATE, OUR TOWN

By Jacopo and Gabriele



Lainate is a town in northern Italy in the province of Milan. With only 25.500 people it is small, but with lots of interesting places.

Lainate has some historical buildings, for example Villa Litta, which was nominated in 2016 as "the most beautiful park in Italy". Villa Litta Visconti Borromeo is a beautiful historic villa of 1500, surrounded by a big park. There are beautiful mosaics, frescoes and antique furniture. In the park there's also the nymphaeum with water games, statues, two fountains and mosaics.

The city has many other green places such as "Lura Park", "Rose Camuna Park" or the "Path of Life" near the Villoresi canal which crosses the town.

In the central square there is an imposing statue to remember the people who died during the first and second world wars and there are the names of some of these people.

On the border of Lainate, there is a car museum: the historical museum of Alfa Romeo. Near it there is a small track for cars, very well known to car enthusiasts and journalists. Still on the border of Lainate there is a really big shopping centre called "Il Centro," famous for being one of the largest in Europe.

Lainate has many pizzerias and some fast food restaurants. The town has a very big golf course and a park for biking and skating, called "Pump Track". You can do different sports in our town. There are tennis courts, football fields, rugby fields, basketball courts, swimming pools and gyms.



MILAN

BY CHIARA, FEDERICA, VALENTINA, NICCOLÒ AND ANNA



Best places to visit in Milan



THE CATHEDRAL

Milan is not one of the most famous Italian cities for tourism, in fact it is one of the most important centres of the economy. Nevertheless, it has some characteristic and suggestive places.

An example is the Duomo, the biggest church in Italy: it is a Gothic-style cathedral and it is the symbol of Milan.

It is located in the historic centre, in the square that takes its name: Piazza Duomo.

Its construction began in 1386 and ended in 1800. It's dedicated to Our Lady. It is rich in decorations, stained glass windows and sculptures in Gothic style. The most famous element is the spire, on which is located the "madonnina", a statue that represents Mary, Christ's mother, realized in gold and which is about 4 meters high.



THE GALLERIA

Galleria Vittorio Emanuele is a gallery which connects Piazza Duomo to Piazza della Scala. It is named "The Mother" of all Italian galleries.

The first stone was laid by Vittorio Emanuele, King of Italy, on 7 March 1865. The gallery was inaugurated in 1877 and it is said that the architect fell from the dome a few days before for an unknown reason, accident or suicide?

Galleria Vittorio Emanuele was bombed in August 1943 during World War II. As a result of these bombings, the glass roof, part of the metal roof and many interior decorations were destroyed.

The Gallery was inaugurated a second time in 1955, at the same time as the Prima della Scala. Galleria Vittorio Emanuele is defined as the "living room of Milan", because since its inauguration the upper class of Milan began to use the gallery as a meeting place, for cultural exchanges and entertainment. The most popular tradition is to turn around on your heel three times on the bull in the mosaic in the middle of the gallery

HOLY MARY OF GRACE AND THE LAST SUPPER

Santa Maria delle Grazie ("Holy Mary of Grace") is a 15th century church and Dominican convent in Milan and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The church contains the mural of *The Last Supper* by Leonardo da Vinci, which is in the refectory of the convent.

The Last Supper is one of the most famous paintings in the world. Leonardo da Vinci painted it in the late 15th century for the Duke of Milan Ludovico Sforza who was his patron while he lived in Milan.

The picture shows Jesus in the centre of a long table with the Apostles to the left and right. The room behind is simple. There are three windows which show landscapes like the countryside around Milan. Leonardo used linear perspective, that is, all parallel lines recede into the same point, and this gives the illusion of depth. The disappearing point which is the centre of the viewer's attention is found on Jesus's forehead.

The painting shows a dramatic moment in the story of Jesus. He has just declared that one of the Apostles present will betray him and they are all reacting to this announcement. They are shocked and agitated but he is calm. The viewer can see the different reactions of each Apostle.

When Leonardo painted *The Last Supper* he used a new technique combining tempera and oil paint. The location of the painting in the monastery was humid however and the work deteriorated quickly. Over the centuries it became very faded and smudged. In 1978 a major restoration began and took more than twenty years.





CANALS

The “navigli” are one of the most interesting areas of Milan. They are in the south-west of the city which nowadays is an important nightlife area, with many restaurants and cafes.

Navigli are big *canals* that were used to give Milan access to water for navigation and for agriculture. Milan is a very big city without a natural river.

The story of Navigli starts in the second half of the XIIth century. The first *canal* was opened ready in 1179. In time other canals were built. Even Leonardo da Vinci worked on them and he designed watergates. It was Napoleon who, in 1805, completed their construction. Navigli were built with marble blocks that were also used to build the famous cathedral of Milan.

THE PEACE ARCH

Arco della Pace was built between 1806 and 1859 and it was first called Arco della Vittoria in honour of Napoleon who also supervised the work.

Ferdinand of Austria decided to dedicate the monument to the peace between nations with the congress of Vienna in 1815.

This structure later became the symbol of independence in Milan. Arco della Pace is located in the centre of Piazza Sempione near Parco Sempione and the Sforzesco Castle.

It's positioned in the centre of a large circular square and on the sides of the arch there are two toll booths that were used as toll booths for customs duties.

The arch was built in a neoclassical style and all the sculptures are in bronze.

The structure is granite. On top we find four horses placed in the center of the corners representing peace.

THE CASTLE

The Sforzesco Castle is in the centre of Milan. It is close to the immense Sempione park and the cathedral.

It was built in the fifteenth century by Francesco Sforza, Duke of Milan on the site of a 14th century fort. The castle got bigger in the 16th century and it became one of the largest citadels in Europe. It was renovated at the end of the 19th century and it now houses several museums and collections. When you visit the castle, apart from the fortifications and gardens, you can see paintings, sculptures, furniture, Egyptian artefacts, archeology and musical instruments. The most famous exhibits are a statue by Michelangelo and a room painted by Leonardo da Vinci.



MILAN TRADITIONAL FOOD

By Davide, Kostas, Giorgia and Anna

SAFFRON RICE

Milan is more famous for fashion than for cooking, but, like other Italian cities, Milan can boast some famous dishes .

The origin of "risotto alla Milanese" or saffron rice dates from the Middle Ages. It comes from a similar recipe of Arab and Jewish cuisine.

It's a main dish and it is usually accompanied by braised marrowbone.

The ingredients of the dish are: butter, onion, 2 or 3 litres of broth and saffron.

It's a typical winter dish and should be eaten hot. It is a very common dish for Italians.



COTOLETTA

Cotoletta alla milanese is a typical meat dish. The veal meat is cut very high (3 cm) with the bone, then it is covered with eggs and breadcrumbs and finally it is fried into butter. The cotoletta alla milanese is also called orecchia di elefante or "elephant ears" because of its large size. We eat it with fries, tomatoes, salad and other accompaniments.

It's a very old traditional dish. It is said that already in 1134 during important meals, there was Lombos cum panitio (an ancient Latin word for cotoletta). The name of cotoletta originates from a French word côtelette and it was officially given to the dish on March 17th 2008.



PANETTONE

Panettone is a typical Milanese dessert. A long time ago a cook in the service of Ludovico il Moro was commissioned to prepare an excellent Christmas lunch for which many nobles from the neighborhood had been invited, but the cake, forgotten by mistake in the oven, was almost completely charred. At that moment the cook was desperate ,but then Toni, a little scullery boy, proposed a solution with what was left in the pantry, some flour, butter, eggs, cedar peel and some remaining raisins. The cook accepted and stood behind a curtain to observe the reaction of the guests. Everyone was excited and the duke wanted to know the name of that delicacy, the cook revealed the secret: "l'è 'l pan del toni". Since that time the "pane di toni" is "panettone".

APERITIF



The aperitif is an alcoholic or non-alcoholic drink that is drunk before meals. The aperitif was invented in Turin 200 years ago by Antonio Benedetto Carpatò. He began to produce, in a shop, a flavored wine obtained with an infusion of herbs and spices. Since then, Vermouth has become one of the symbols of the city of Turin and also of Piedmont. Today the moment of the aperitif is the basis of city life and it's very popular in Milan. After work, people meet to talk and relax while having a drink accompanied by snacks such as cheeses, cold cuts, breadsticks, small savoury dishes.

FRIENDSHIP IN ART

By Khadija, Sofia, Jacopo, Meredith and Giorgia



HIS ONLY FRIEND

By Briton Rivière

Friendship is a very important theme and many artists have depicted it at different times.

This picture was painted by Briton Rivière. He was the son of an artist in Oxford and grandson of a watercolourist.

This picture, called "His only friend", was made in 1871 and it is located at the Royal Academy. In the picture there is a boy sleeping near his dog. The colours are warm and shining.

In my opinion, this painting wants to communicate that there is a friendship between man and animal and you will never be alone if you have an animal with you.



FRIENDS AT THE THEATRE

By Edgar Degas

Lots of artists tried to represent friendship in their paintings.

Edgar Degas was one of

them. He was a French artist, who started with impressionism between the 1860s and the 1870s. He was from Paris. In his paintings, he preferred painting shadows instead of light and his paintings were full of details.

He loved painting indoors like in theaters, but other artists loved painting outdoors, in nature. That's why his paintings don't respect all impressionism rules.

One of his most famous paintings is "Friends at the theatre". It was realized in 1879. You can see it in the museum d'Orsay, in Paris. The two people in this painting are Ludovic Halévy and Albert Cavé: two important Parisian theatre workers. They are talking in a theatre, in front of the set. It looks like someone is secretly spying on them.

Edgar Degas used bright colors to paint the set and the dark ones for the men's clothes.

The light is concentrated on the set.



FRIENDSHIP

By Pablo Picasso

Pablo Picasso was a Spanish painter.

He was born on 25 October 1881 in Malaga and he died in 1973 in France. He was a popular painter because he founded a new art movement: Cubism. In 1908 when he was 27, he painted "Friendship". For two years his paintings were influenced by African Art. This picture was the starting point of Cubism. The painting is enigmatic too, with different interpretations; the two people, in my opinion, are a man and a woman and they are sleeping. When someone asked Picasso what this painting meant, he answered: "Do you think I care that this painting represents two figures? These two figures existed, but they no longer exist. They gave me an emotion at the beginning; little by little their presence became indistinct to me, they became fiction, and then they disappeared or, rather, they turned into problems of all kinds.

For me they are no longer two figures, but shapes and colors". With this exclamation Picasso wanted to say that it didn't matter who the people were but only what they represented. This painting, kept at the Hermitage Museum in San Pietroburgo, represents his vision of friendships.



FRIENDS

By Konstantin Makovskij

Konstantin Makovskij was a Russian painter, who lived in the periods of romanticism and realism.

Makovskij gave space to small and humble scenes of proletarian and peasant life as in the painting Friends of 1895.

This painting portrays an aspect of everyday life, two old friends spending some time together in a bar; one is playing the guitar and the other is holding a cigarette in his mouth and a glass in his hand while listening to his friend with interest.

The colours are dull, but the light coming from one side dominates the scene of the two friends.

For me, this painting makes me understand that true friendship can last forever.

FRIENDSHIP IN LITERATURE

Orestes and Pylades

By Rebecca



Who are they?

Orestes and Pylades are two great friends in Aeschylus' *Coefore*.

What does the story say?

Orestes is the son of King Agamemnon and his wife Clytemnestra. When Agamemnon is murdered, Oreste is entrusted to his uncle Strofio who raises him together with his own son Pylades. The two grow up together and become great friends. When he grows up, Orestes is given the task of killing Clytemnestra by Apollo. Pylades agrees to be his accomplice and they think about how to commit the murder. They appear at the palace pretending to be wayfarers bringing the news that Orestes is dead. Clytemnestra is desperate and invites them to enter the house. Orestes goes into action. First he kills Egisto, Clytemnestra's lover. Then after a moment of hesitation he also kills Clytemnestra, his mother, with help from Pylades.

I believe that in friendship there is almost always someone who leads and someone else who is led. In my opinion, this is because of the diversity of character. I don't think Pylades was a good friend, at least on this occasion. I believe that a friend would never encourage the other to kill a close relative such as a mother. Orestes has a lot of rancour and hatred inside toward his mother, who had his father killed, and the actions of Pylades do nothing but encourage these negative emotions. In his place, I would have gone with Orestes but I would not have helped in committing the murder.

If Orestes were my friend, I would not feed his anger but I would make him understand that revenge is not a good thing. I would try to make him understand that one does not respond to evil with evil but with good. I would not be next to him during the killing and I certainly would never, ever encourage someone to murder his mother when he was still undecided. In my opinion, Pylades is not a good friend because he can't say no to Orestes. He is unable to stop his friend when he has to. Sometimes you can risk doing the wrong thing because of bad advice. Orestes also makes a mistake in asking Pylades for too great a favour, which Pylades is unable to refuse. Cicero also says, "Only the right things must be asked of the friend, only the right things must be done for the friend." This is a virtue that must be respected because it confers the moral authority necessary to be able to advise friends and help them think clearly in order to save their reputation, possession and even their lives. According to Cicero, the friend is not the one who favours the friend in everything but the one who exposes himself in order to avoid harm to his friend.

FRIENDS IN WAR

ACHILLES AND PATROCLUS

By Federica

Who are they?

Achilles and Patroclus are one of the most popular examples of friendship in literature. Achilles's parents were the human Peleus, and the goddess Teti, so he was a demigod. Patroclus's parents, on the other hand, were Menetius and Stenele. They were both warriors in the Greek army and their story is told in the Iliad, written by Homer.

What does the story say?

The poem recounts that Achilles left the Greek camp because of an argument with Agamemnon, while Patroclus decided to stay and fight for him. Patroclus was killed by Hector. When Achilles learnt this, he returned to the battlefield and killed Hector, to avenge his friend.

Achilles and Patroclus feel something beyond friendship: they would die for each other, they would kill to avenge one another, they would protect one another and they would love each other, if it were the last thing they did.

The distance between love and friendship, in my opinion, is very small: if in a friendship you have a bond as strong as that of Achilles and Patroclus, it is inevitable that something greater will begin.

When you realize that you would do anything for a person and you start to feel something stronger, you've already passed to the other side: you've fallen in love. The story of Achilles and Patroclus shows that for love you can do anything.

NISUS AND EURYALUS

By Filippo

In the epic poem Aeneid by Latin author Virgil, we find two friends, Nisus and Euryalus, who are Trojans and are fighting the Rutulians. During the war between the Trojans and Rutulians, Nisus and Euryalus decide to go to warn their chief Aeneas, but they have to cross the Rutulian military camp at night.



So, they attack the enemies, wound them and steal their spoils. However, a moonbeam reveals their position to the Rutulians. While Nisus, the smartest and most experienced, hides, the chief of the enemies Volcens duels with Euryalus, the most impulsive and idealist, and kills him.

Nisus can't stop him, so he avenges his friend by killing Volcens and dies near Euryalus's corpse.

Nisus and Euryalus are not only friends, but almost brothers, because they are teammates in the war. As in every relation, there is an older and dynamic brother, that is to say Nisus, and a younger and submissive one, that is to say Euryalus. In fact, Nisus wants to go alone, but Euryalus insists on following him and, at the end, dies before him. So they are complementary, and that's why they die together. Their challenge assumes a patriotic and heroic value, and it is not pursued only for personal glory.

FRIENDS IN ANCIENT ROME

"DE AMICITIA"

By Federica

Cicero was a Latin writer and speaker. He wrote "De Amicitia" in 44 BC., for his friend Atticus. This tract discusses the close bonds of friendship between the most powerful men of the Roman Republic.



Cicero thought that humans are sociable by nature, and that friendship is a good that they can't do without. He said that a lot of people see in friends all they can't be. He thought that true friendships come from the admiration that one person has towards another, and from the way he tries to earn the other's esteem. It is not intended to benefit: in Cicero's opinion only wise men can manage a true friendship, because they aren't looking for advantages to escape difficulties. He said that some friendships, especially those between children or young people, die because they take different roads in life, while those among teens usually die because rivalries that are created, and those between adults die because of disagreements that separate them. A true friendship survives over time, unless one friend asks the other to do something illicit. The first rule of friendship is: "ask and do only right things for the friend"... The real friend is not the one who indulges the other in everything, but who scolds him if he's doing something wrong. The friendship understood by Cicero was very different from the friendship that we mean today: it wasn't a private matter... it was a civil virtue. Finally, according to Cicero, every private friendship is situated in the context of an environment for which they are all responsible. Friendship, especially among illustrious men of ancient Rome, meant friends pushing each other to be good citizens and to help the community.

FRIENDSHIP IN EARLY ITALIAN POETRY

"GUIDO, I WISH THAT LIPPO, YOU, AND I"

By Angela and Vanessa



Dante and Guido are two friends in the poem 'Guido, I wish that Lippo, you and I' by Dante Alighieri. The two friends are Guido Cavalcanti and Dante Alighieri who are two Florentine poets of the Middle Ages.

In the poem, they imagine they are best friends and that, along with a third poet, Filippo de Bardi, they are on a magical ship, talking about love.

This poem is the first text in Italian literature that deals with friendship.

Dante Alighieri is one of the characters of the poem, but also the author of the poem. This poem talks about friendship, because it expresses Dante's desire to remain with his friends and compose poems about love, since their interests are the same.

It dates back to the Provençal poetry genre of 'plazer', because it lists a lot of pleasant things to share with friends. It conveys a simple and genuine idea of friendship, because the two poets just want to stay together and talk about their loves. It is a basic text, because it dates from the origin of Italian literature.

THE LAST LETTERS OF JACOPO ORTIS

”JACOPO AND LORENZO”

By Rubens and Gioele

Jacopo and Lorenzo are two friends in the novel 'The Last Letters of Jacopo Ortis' by the Italian romantic author Ugo Foscolo. The two friends are called Jacopo Ortis and Lorenzo Alderani. Jacopo is a university student and a patriot in the Italian reunification process, while Lorenzo gathers the letters sent to him by Jacopo after his death and gives them a logical sense. Jacopo leaves Venice, because he is persecuted. He falls in love with Teresa, but can't marry her. He travels around Italy, but can't find peace because of the political situation, so he decides to kill himself. Jacopo and Lorenzo never meet in the novel, so their friendship is based on the letters they send each other.

At that time it was difficult, but nowadays it is easy to keep in touch despite distance, thanks to mobiles, video-calls and social media. Their friendship is based on the values of sharing and communication.

It is very important to have a friend with whom you can share ideas and problems. You can always talk to a friend, even about secrets, but, for difficult problems, you should talk to a more experienced person, such as an adult, or, at least, talk face to face with someone.



A handwritten signature in black ink, which reads 'Ugo Foscolo'.

FRIENDSHIP - A TEENAGE VIEW

In my opinion, a close friend should know you fully, understand when you need help, know how to listen to you and give you good advice.

But, above all, he mustn't always agree with you and when you are wrong he must make you understand why.

When I'm with my friends I like to have fun with them, speak to them about how I feel, and I like when they listen to me and try to make me feel better.

I think that it is very important to stay in contact with friends, especially at this moment: we are all at home in quarantine, and the only way to be in contact is by video calls or calls.

Friendship has a fundamental role in my life: just knowing I have one or more friends that I know I can call when I need them makes me feel very lucky.

Even just seeing each other for an hour in the afternoon, talking about what happened to us during the day, going to school together or going shopping makes me realise that there really are people who care about me. *(Federica)*

I think I'm a good friend and I hope I show it.

The qualities of a close friend are fidelity, being nice and being funny.

The things I like most about friends are that they are nice, fun, and they keep me company and help me in difficult times.

I don't think it's important to have things in common. For me being in contact with friends is very important because at least I know how they are. Friendship in my life is very important because it is something that makes me happy. *(Khadija)*

A friend is an important person because he always makes you smile, you can tell your secrets to him and they will be safe, and you know that he will never cheat you. I really like my friends because they are really crazy, they are honest with me and they are a beautiful living "secret diary". They are always ready to help. It is very important to be in contact with friends because they can help you, they can make you smile when you are sad, but not only then, and you can spend your free time with them. The role of friendship in my life is very important. I think that you don't need to have a lot of friends but a few good friends. Without friends your life is sad because you don't have the possibility to have fun with someone and to feel good and to be happy. *(Anna)*

In my opinion, close friends are people who know you very well, maybe for years, and you can ask them for advice because you know they are always sincere with you.

There are things I like best about them: they can bring happiness, you can be yourself with them and they are always ready to help you.

I think having a few interests in common with your friends can be useful, because you can have something to talk about, for example, you might like the same music genre, the same movies or the same food. Obviously, having everything in common isn't necessary.

Being in contact with friends is probably the most important thing: if you don't want to end a friendship, you have to contact your friend sometimes. The best way to spend time with your friends is going to the park with them or inviting them to your home. You can do lots of things together: playing some board games, cooking or watching a movie. *(Sofia)*

A friend must always be there, especially in the worst moments, but also when things are fine, because a little company never hurts

A friend must make it clear if the other is wrong, and help him not to make the same mistakes..

Friends, despite the difficulties, must take risks for each other. *(Chiara)*

I think that friendship is an essential thing in life, I always try to be a good friend and I think I am.

For me the qualities of a close friend are to always listen to friends, to spend time with them, to help them and trust them.

A friendship usually starts when two people have some things in common for example passions, topics to talk about or funny topics. *(Gabriele)*

A close friend must be nice, he mustn't make fun of others in order to look good. Friends have to be complicit in everything. Friendship in my life has the role of a second family. *(Nicolò)*

A close friend is nice and helps you. He's also someone you have fun with. It is someone who keeps you company and someone you enjoy being with. It is important to have things in common to talk about. *(Gioele)*

When you are sad, a friend makes you laugh and would do anything just to see you smile.

The things I like most about my friends are their sincerity, sympathy and the mentality in how they do things.

It isn't very important to have common interests with your friends but you must interest them so they listen to you when you talk or explain something and then give you advice on how to deal with it.

For me it's important to stay in touch with friends. They're important for us teenagers because we need friends to be in company.

Friendship has a particular and fundamental role in life, not only of us teenagers, but of all the people in the world.

Friendship is a big word and is used to cover both acquaintances and real friends. Acquaintances aren't friends. You know that real friends would do anything to see you happy. They tell you things as they are, even if it might hurt, but the basis of all friendship must be trust. *(Giorgia)*

A good friend is a person who is open, funny, but above all a person you can trust, a loyal, faithful and true person. A friend is the person who waits for you when you are tying your shoes while everyone else goes on ahead. A real friend is the person who is not with you just because he is forced to. A genuine friend is the person who will always be next to you, helping you and supporting you.

The thing I like about friends is that they're like brothers. But unlike them, we rarely fight with friends. Or at least not as often as with our real brothers. It's funny.

Staying in contact and having at least some common interests is very important in my opinion. If you haven't a common interest and you don't spend some time with him, your friendship will be very short or may not even start. *(Jacopo)*

A good friend should have a good character, love his friends and be supportive. The most beautiful thing is how much he cares about you. *(Filippo)*

A friend understands you: you make the same mistakes together or he tells you that, "You are wrong". When you are sad, a friend does everything to make you smile. I think you should not always have things in common with a friend. The more different you are, the nicer it is. But if you have a friend who listens to the same music as you or who has the same taste, that's nice too.

(Valentina)

"Whoever finds a friend finds a treasure".

This saying represents the truth.

I am not a person who imposes precise limits especially if we are talking about a person or a friend.

However, I am sure that a friend must have specific qualities.

First of all, he must be faithful and sincere, he must not double-cross and must not show up only when he needs something or needs help.

He has to be present and he has to know the limits that a friendship could have.

It is not always necessary to have all things in common. In my opinion we need to have in common a way of thinking and seeing things which does not mean having the same opinions on everything.

Having contact with a friend is very important. There is no need to do much, even just a walk or a phone call is fine, even if I prefer to see each other in person.

True friendship can be seen as we grow older. *(Rebecca)*

The role of friendship in my life is the basis of everything because having friends is to be in company and have fun and spend unforgettable moments with them.

For me it is very important to keep in touch with friends because they make me understand that the world is out in the open air, taking a walk chatting about random things and not locked in the house in front of video games.

The things I like most about friends are: their liveliness, their way of being and their funny jokes.

For me you don't necessarily have to have things in common other than a friend because in this way you can get to know your friend's passions. *(Davide)*

In my life the role of friendship is very important. Without friends the smile on my face would not often be seen, without my friends I don't know how I would go on and I would be very sad. A close friend should always help during times of need, and understand and defend his friend. *(Kostas)*

Friendship in my life is important because it is part of loving others and something that I could not do without, since as the saying goes "whoever finds a friend finds a treasure". It is important for me to be in contact with my friends because I can share my emotions and sometimes my fears or worries with them and also get some advice. The qualities of a close friend are confidence, sincerity, love, and being close to friends in good times and bad. It is important to know how to make your friend smile when necessary. Friends should make you smile when you are together. I like friends because they're faithful and they accept you for who you are. *(Meredith)*

LIFE IS THE ONLY WAY

Introduction by Laurend

In a writing workshop, we read a poem called "Life is the only way", by Wislawa Szymborska. It talks about how uncertainty is the master of life. We selected a few key lines from the poem (here in bold) and we all tried to write our own poems based on them. Each poem represents a different vision of life. Here are some examples.

Life is the only way
to dive into the ocean,
run in a flowery field,
to dream with eyes open;
To be a feather
or a free fish.
To distinguish pain
from everything superficial;
To stay inside events,
get lost in the horizon,
looking for tranquillity.
An exceptional occasion
to remember even for a little
days in the sun passed serenely.
And at least once
to trip up in thought,
be elsewhere in the mind,
smile without worry,
and follow the moving clouds, lights
And to go on now knowing
something of importance.

Sofia

Life is the only way
to grow
make mistakes and learn
take a breath and drive in,
To have eyes filled with tears
or a smile that dazzles
to distinguish pain
from everything around you.
To stay inside events,
finding goals,
looking for the smallest thing.
An exceptional occasion
to remember the darkness
that came before you on an infinite road.
And at least once
to trip over a cliff,
lift your head,
find a way out,
and follow the light that guides,
And to go on not knowing
something of importance.

Valentina

Life is the only way
to love your neighbour
to remember the most beautiful secrets
and destroy drk ideas,
To be a falling star
or a bolt of lightning
To distinguish pain
from everything you love in the world.
To stay inside events,
feeling the strongest emotions,
looking for infinite hiding places.
An exceptional occasion
to remember pains we felt,
infinite loves, lived dreams and songs
sung.
And at least once
to trip in a vortex,
told by places,
and obliged by memories,
to follow learned mistakes.
And to go on not knowing
something of importance.

Angela

Life is the only way
to open your eyes
walk on your own path
and run down steep slopes,
To be on the right
or on the left.
To distinguish pain
from everything that is pleasure.
To stay inside events,
look at yourself in the mirror,
looking for yourself.
An exceptional occasion
to remember who created you
and everything he gave you
And at least once
to trip over an obstacle,
lower your head,
free yourself from feelings,
and follow the distant horizon
And to go on not knowing
something of importance.

Alessandro

Life is the only way
to have courage
reflect on yourself
walk on clouds
either be a butterfly
or cover yourself with obstacles
to distinguish pain
from everything that is not a pain.
To stay inside events,
marking yourself out from all the others,
looking for the hidden detail.
An exceptional occasion
to remember a dream
by now suffocated by other ideas.
And at least once
to trip over a mistake,
lose yourself,
but get back up, head high,
and follow the dreams you never lost,
And to go on not knowing
something of importance.

Giorgia

Life is the only way
to enjoy things without thinking
to see the world differently
to shout "Hakuna Matata" without being criticised,
To either be the horizon
or to look at it with someone dear to you
To distinguish pain
from everything we can do that doesn't bring pain
To stay inside events,
adventuring inside ourselves,
looking for aspects we do not know,
An exceptional occasion
to remember for a moment
what was accomplished by our actions.
And at least once
to trip over a root,
be ourselves without asking permission from
anyone,
to claim liberty in order to use it well
and follow our own ego
And to go on not knowing
something of importance.

Niccolò

CARNIVAL

By class 3F



Carnival is a major holiday in Italy. It is a Christian celebration that, according to the liturgical calendar, lasts the entire week before Lent, which precedes Easter. Its most important days are the weekend and Mardi Gras, during which there are parties and festivities.

The word "Carnival" originates in the Latin 'carnem levare', which means 'remove meat', because, in the past, when Lent arrived, people had to begin a period of penitence and abstinence, that included avoiding meat.

The Christian concept of Carnival dates back to a completely different celebration, that is to say Saturnalia, a Roman Pagan holiday, during which all rules were changed, everyone could do whatever they wanted, and the poor people pretended to be rich. However, the modern concept of Carnival was born in the Middle Ages, when the liturgical holiday was linked to the ancient Saturnalia and was enhanced with banquets, dances, masks, and floats. Floats were very important and represented Greek and Latin myths, episodes from the Bible and the lives of saints, virtues and vices, and local folklore tales.

They also showed the prosperity of the lord of the city who organised them.

Eating and drinking are an essential part of Carnival. The most famous Carnival food is a sweet named "chiacchiere" which consists of fried or baked pastries coated with icing sugar.

According to tradition at Carnival, everyone should wear a mask regardless of age. The idea is that with masks, if you break the rules, you can not be identified. In the past, the most famous Italian masks were of Arlecchino, Pulcinella, and Pantalone, characters from Italian popular theatre or "Commedia dell'arte." Nowadays, usually only children dress up and they prefer to be superheroes, fantasy characters, or celebrities.

Italy's most famous Carnival is in Venice. It takes place in the laguna of Venice and focuses on stylish, baroque, and extravagant masks. Classical music plays and, people parade with masks on Venice's streets and bridges, creating an elegant and timeless atmosphere.

Another well known Carnival is in Viareggio, Tuscany, in the centre of Italy. It features fun, irreverent, and satirical floats, which usually deal with current or classical events. They are created by different teams who challenge each other during a final parade, to become the winner of that year. Lastly, the Carnival of Ivrea cannot be ignored. It takes place in that town, near Turin in the north, and focuses on people throwing oranges at each other. It symbolises the rebellion of peasants against nobles. Masked competitors on floats try to hit enemies and simulate a war, hoping all the time not to end up in hospital.

COVID, THE STORY SO FAR

By Rubens and Angela

The first time we heard about Coronavirus was at the end of 2019. We thought it was just a Chinese affair and we developed hypotheses on its diffusion. After the Winter holidays, we returned to class and we forgot about it.



Then, in February, we heard on the TV News that, for safety reasons, schools would close. We were very happy, because we thought that, for a couple of weeks, we would have no classes and little homework.

At the beginning, Coronavirus spread only in a town near Milan, named Codogno, and so we felt safe.

But after a week, our entire region, called Lombardy, was full of people with Covid and we were scared. Not only were schools closed, but also people couldn't go to work and shops, factories, and offices were shut down.

Italy was the first country in Europe to enter a 'lockdown'.

In March we started 'Distance Teaching.' This system wasn't organised by the government, but was the initiative of individual schools. At first, it was very difficult because we felt isolated from our teachers and schoolmates and because we had to handle devices, software and platforms that were new to us. But there were positive aspects too: we could sleep longer in the morning, there were fewer classes, and we could attend classes in pyjamas.

This school year the situation was better. People could go to work and school, and do some sports and shopping without too many problems, always respecting anti-Covid rules, such as wearing face masks, social distancing, and using hygiene gels.

Unfortunately, at the moment, schools are closed once more because of high infection rates. We hope this will be temporary.

We hear a lot about vaccinations and we are confident that this is the solution to the whole problem, so that we can return to stay together at school and with our friends and loved ones, without worrying about infections.



THE PLANET NEEDS YOU

By Federica

The water you drink, the air you breathe, the sea you swim in... they are ruined every day by pollution.

Do you really want this future for those who will live after us?

What can you do to protect the planet?

REDUCE: do not use the plastic bags that are given to you at the supermarket, bring one from home!

Do not print out documents if you don't need them;

Do not leave lights, televisions or computers on when they are not in use.

RECYCLE: do separate waste collection, separating glass, paper, plastic and food waste

REUSE: when you have printed a page on one side and no longer need it, use the other side to write the shopping list or a reminder. Don't throw away carton boxes or plastic bottles: they might be useful again!

If we all try to reduce, recycle and reuse our waste and everyday objects, we'll make the Earth a much cleaner planet with less pollution, where we can all enjoy a better life.

TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

DIY: DO IT YOURSELF!



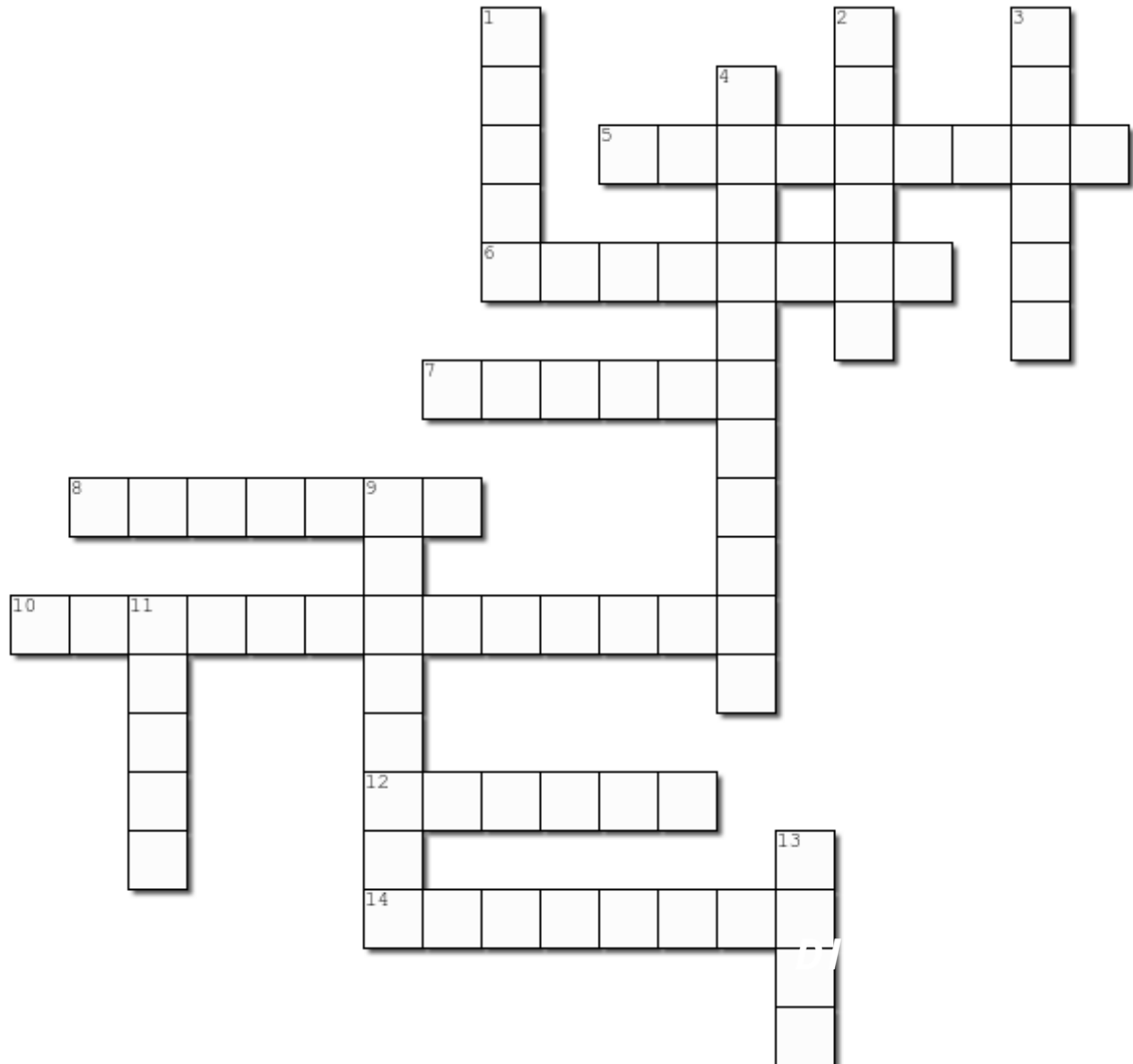
Today we will make a pot reusing everyday objects!

You will need: scissors, a plastic bottle, acrylic paint, brushes, old small decorative objects (for example, buttons), hot glue gun.

1. Cut the bottle and keep the bottom.
2. Make some small holes in the bottom using scissors. It is to let water out when you water your plant.
3. Paint the bottom of the bottle with acrylic paint and let it dry .
4. Choose old objects to glue to the pot, in our case buttons.
5. Attach the buttons to the bottle with hot glue.
6. The pot is ready to hold a plant!



CROSSWORD ABOUT ITALY



Created using the Crossword Maker on TheTeachersCorner.net

Across

- 5.** Traditional Christmas cake in Milan
- 6.** A drink before dinner
- 7.** Latin writer of 'De Amicitia'
- 8.** Reduce, and Reuse
- 10.** The sea around Italy
- 12.** Famous Carnival city
- 14.** Painter of 'The Last Supper'

Down

- 1.** Famous Italian food
- 2.** Architectural style of Milan's Cathedral
- 3.** Waterways called Navigli in Milan
- 4.** Natural world around us
- 9.** Holiday that precedes Easter
- 11.** The cathedral in Milan
- 13.** Capital of Italy

THE CONTRIBUTORS

*Meredith, Vanessa, Gioele, Federica,
Rubens, Sofia, Laurend, Giorgia, Loris,
Khadija, Nicolò, Alessandro, Chiara,
Gabriele, Rebecca, Davide, Filippo, Jacopo,
Angela, Valentina, Marco, Kostas, Anna*

*Teachers: Mr Gavuglio, Mrs Pagliara,
Mrs Plinio and Mr Pravettoni*



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