

**Ján Bocatius Secondary Vocational School of Trade and
Services, Bocatiova 1, Košice**

BOCATINO Special

ERASMUS+ KEYS TO SUCCESS

OUR JOURNEY THROUGH THE PROJECT



June 2021

Table of Contents:

About School.....	3
Overview of Studies and Teaching Study	
Branches	3
Erasmus +	7
1st Project Meeting	8
2nd Project Meeting.....	15
3rd Project Meeting.....	22
Acknowledgments.....	31
Contacts	32



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Our school

It is one of the oldest schools in Košice. The mission of the school is to raise and educate pupils, thereby preparing them for their future professional life as an adult for professions in the field of catering services, hotel management, travel services, also in the field of business and for further studies at universities.

The school has been changing over the last few years and has a tendency to become a modern school that will build a status of the highest quality, where raising, together with education should resonate with the increasing demands of the labor market. The priority is the Dual Education System - the student receives a scholarship, a guaranteed job and an attractive salary, and also academic fields:

4 YEARS' COURSES - /with a high school diploma/:

2950 M Nutrition Counselling

6442 K Trade Worker

6324 M Regional Travel Management

6324 M Management of Regional Travel focused on flight attendant/steward

6444 K Waiter/Waitress

6445 K Cook

VOCATIONAL COURSES - /3-years' study, the graduate receives a vocational certificate/:

6460 H Salesman

6445 H Cook

6444 H Waiter/ Waitress

LOWER VOCATIONAL COURSES - / 2-years' study, the graduate receives a vocational certificate of a lower level/:

3161 F Practical Woman

POST GRADUATE COURSES - /for graduates of relevant academic fields/

6403 L Business in Crafts and Services

Advantages of studying with us:

- Attractive fields of study
- High reputation among gastro schools
- Work on interesting projects. Benefits - Getting to know new countries and destinations, Building friendships, Travel opportunities, Building self-esteem
- Modern, well- equipped classrooms (ICT)
- Unlimited access to the Internet - WiFi
- School snack bar
- Sports events, celebrations, Open Days
- Events representing and promoting the school
- The opportunity to increase one's chances to settle down abroad and many others...

Extracurricular activities 2021/2022

➤	<i>Pass the English exam</i>	<i>Pallayová</i>
➤	<i>Floorball</i>	<i>Blaško</i>
➤	<i>Sports and games</i>	<i>Dzurko</i>
➤	<i>Fitness</i>	<i>Papuga</i>
➤	<i>Discourse club</i>	<i>Mikovčík</i>
➤	<i>Help yourself at a Pc</i>	<i>Slichová</i>
➤	<i>Pastry dishes</i>	<i>Lacková</i>
➤	<i>Sweet variations</i>	<i>Špilárová</i>
➤	<i>Mixed drinks</i>	<i>Jurtinusová</i>
➤	<i>Regional cuisine</i>	<i>Kateržabeková</i>
➤	<i>Bocaitino magazine</i>	<i>Dulová</i>
➤	<i>Explore the beauties of France</i>	<i>Borovská</i>
➤	<i>Easy and simple programming</i>	<i>Trnka</i>
➤	<i>Pilates</i>	<i>Jančovičová</i>
➤	<i>Košice sights</i>	<i>Rostášová</i>
➤	<i>Carving</i>	<i>Köverová</i>
➤	<i>Healthily a creatively</i>	<i>Jančová</i>
➤	<i>Cold cuisine</i>	<i>Korecká</i>
➤	<i>The art of gastronomy</i>	<i>Szabóová</i>

KEYS TO SUCCESS

Since September 1, 2019, our school has been involved in the Erasmus + Project - Keys to Success, as a partner of the French coordinator - LPO Etienne Oehmichen Chalons en Champagne, and Italian Secondary Vocational School - Istituto Istruzione Superiore San Benedetto.

The objectives of the project are:

- ✓ to develop social, language and professional skills of our pupils in the field of catering, especially for our vulnerable and disadvantaged pupils.
- ✓ To help students communicate in English and to practice oral communication in this language.
- ✓ To identify obstacles and encourage social inclusion through contacts with other cultures and to acquire some new know-how in the field of catering and hotels in general.
- ✓ To introduce improvements as a result of observing other methods and ways of solving problems.
- ✓ To introduce new skills, communication skills /intercultural, language, digital/ and finally to support autonomy and self-confidence in students.

First meeting in Košice

/8 – 15 December 2019/

Our project started with the first mobility here in Košice. The welcome was held in the premises of our school in the presence of the school management. Subsequently, the students were divided into two teams, and enjoyed a tour of the school.

After a short introduction, we took our guests to the places where our students do their practical training: to the Yasmin Hotel and the Double Tree by Hilton. Here, the staff made the area of rooms available to them. We continued with lunch together at our catering training site. The program was very interesting and later the teams went to the Congress Hotel Košice.



On the next day, we travelled on a trip to Nestville Park in Hniezdne. There is a Slovak whiskey distillery. We took a tour in English language, we saw different methods of whiskey production, and at the end, we tasted real chocolate at the local Chocolatier.

We started the third day with a workshop at school, where the French, Slovaks and Italians presented their national cuisines.

After lunch, prepared in the spirit of traditional Slovak cuisine /pirohy, kapustnica, lokše, sauerkraut, red stewed cabbage, plum dumplings, etc./, we tested our experiences in the form of a fun quiz.

The Italian winners received a special gift: a small tin espresso mug with the Erasmus+ logo. All participants received a package of our traditional chocolates, wafers and candies.



Day four – a trip to the High Tatras, the majestic Hrebienok and the famous part of the Notre



Dame Cathedral, carved in ice... it was an unforgettable experience for probably everyone.

Next, we experienced a short hike through the cascades behind the Bílikova Chata, although some participants stayed in the warmth of the inside, drinking tea.





The fifth day started again with a workshop. The participants were given a copy of the Conversation Guide, which contained common phrases that foreigners can use if they are in a foreign country, to survive. The phrases were written in English, Slovak, Italian and French. We "mixed up" the students so that there was a Slovak, a French and an Italian in each of them. Then a "role-play" followed - situational scenes... During this activity, many interesting and funny dialogues were created. And at the end, a Slovak traditional lunch could not be missed again...



Day 6 - we were slowly coming to the end of our meeting, which we all were enjoying very much. We experienced a tour of Košice sights and the St. Elizabeth's Cathedral, even though the weather was foggy and rainy. We saw the most important monuments in Košice centre and heard interesting stories. And this is what it looked like...



The meeting was successful and safe, we were glad that the students dropped their shyness and started communicating with each other very quickly, although sometimes there was a huge language barrier. Although we found only 12 families who hosted 6 Italian and 6 French students, other foreign students had to stay in a hotel, where they were under the supervision of their Italian and French teachers. Our pupils, who did not hesitate to host foreign pupils in their homes, took care of them with love, tolerance and responsibility, and also presented our Slovak hospitality.

During almost the whole week, we had the opportunity to see how students of all three cultures got along. What

was reflected in their playfulness, singing, or entertaining each other. They also learned a lot about the national cuisines and cultures of other countries.

Therefore, we would like to thank everyone who helped us plan and organize this event, special thanks to the principal Mgr. J. Miglec, then the then vices: Ing. M. Zeteková, Mgr. Roman Blaško, then Martina Pallayová, Mária Vaľková , Zuzana Rusinová, Erika Brnová, Lenka Borovská and the practical training teachers - Mária Matisová, Bc. Ľudomila Palinčárová , Jozef Csorosz, Mgr. Andrea Jančová, Ľubomíra Koverová, Bc. Ľubica Korecká, Alžbeta Lacková...Special thanks to hosting students and their parents: Laura, Klaudia, Roland, Jana, Vanessa, Enrico, Salim, Richard, Marcel, Laura and simona, and of course, to Evka, our great help in planning, organizing and carryong out the activities.... and many others.....thanks to you, it all went smoothly, safely and we all enjoyed the week.

Once again: "Thank you!" ☺

Second Meeting in Cassino, Italy

/3 – 10 April 2022/

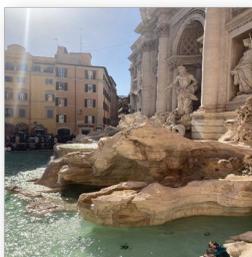
The second project meeting started with a warm welcome by the school management, staff and many students involved in the preparation of the project there in Cassino. Headmistress Maria Venuti expressed gratitude and hope that such projects will contribute to better knowledge and understanding of other cultures and emphasized the importance of preserving peace and strengthening tolerance in Europe, because shortly before the meeting, the war in Ukraine had started.

Subsequently, all three partner schools presented their schools in the form of a PPT presentations. We had a special lunch at the school's restaurant, and then we headed for Montecassino Abbey.



The second day – a visit to Rome and its unforgettable, wonderful, breathtaking sights, such as:

Piazza San Pietro, Castel San Angelo, Piazza Navona, Pantheon, Parliament, Via del Corso, Via Condotti, Piazza di Spagna, Trevi Fountain, Altar of the Nation, Roman Forum and Colosseum. It was an exhausting but rewarding experience.



On Day 3, we did activities at school such as: puzzles with the topic of national cuisines, students created presentations of national cuisines.

The interesting thing that no one expected was the geography lecture about the region, which the Italian Geography teacher presented to the participants. Julien Wendling, head of the French team and project coordinator, and our teacher of English, Martina Pallayová, joined Headmistress M. Venuti in an interview for the local radio. We presented our project, its goals and our impressions to the audience...it was broadcast online. You can see it after clicking on a link on our school website, section Projects.



Day 4 - Pompeii, tasting the real Neapolitan pizza and seeing places such as: Galleria Umberto, Teatro San Carlo, Piazza del Plebiscito, Piazza Municipio-Maschio Angioino, Via Tribunali.

The fifth day – a visit to the town hall and being welcomed by the mayor of the city. It was a huge honor for us, as we were the first visitors to get to these places after the cruel 2-year period of the pandemic. We then visited the Archaeological Museum, the Roman Amphitheater and the tomb of Ummidio Quadratillo, as well as the British War Cemetery.





Day 6 – students stayed in their families, experiencing Italian culture, customs, and food. Some teachers stayed with the hotel students in Cassino, exploring the town, the others went on a trip to Gaeta, a beautiful town at the sea.

The teachers participating in the meeting were Mgr. Martina Pallayová, Mgr. Mária Val'ková, Mgr. Matej Papuga and 12 pupils of several classes / Laura, Samo, Petra, Veronika, Bianca, Kristína, Evka, Žofia, Zuzka, Maximilián, Salim, Simona/.

During the second meeting, half of our students were accommodated in families, the other half in a hotel, under the supervision of teachers. It was not possible to find 24 families because of the impact of the pandemic.

Students staying in families enjoyed true Italian hospitality and care. Students staying at the hotel learned to rely on each other and cooperate with each other. All students had to speak English, which forced them to improve naturally in the foreign language.

Monday and Friday's activities were the best days for the Italians, where they showed their character and mentality, their temperament and big heart. We certainly did not expect such a noisy, friendly, loving and warm welcome.

What caught our attention was the initiative of the Italian partner to emphasize the importance of peace, tolerance and love in the world in connection with the war in Ukraine, which had broken out a month before this meeting. These thoughts were repeated every day, whether it was the principal's welcome speech, or the activities of the school team, where the mixed teams were called LOVE, PEACE, FREEDOM, or our visit to the mayor or a visit to the war cemetery. This made most of the students realize how lucky they were to live in peace...

Historical and cultural monuments, various meetings, famous cuisine, incredible experiences... we brought all

this with us from this meeting. We have already received several requests from students for our next potential project. Overall, we consider the second meeting very beneficial for students, teachers and the school and we are sure that it met our expectations. We all want to thank all the Italian school staff, especially Maria Venuti, Luigi, Gabriela, Claudio, Marilena, as well as the families and students for the hospitality, care and love with which they treated us all week.



Third Meeting in Chalons en Champagne

/1 – 8 May 2022/

The last meeting came very quickly - just three weeks after Italy, so we didn't have too much time to plan and organize, but we managed.

The first day traditionally started with a welcome speech by the school principal, a presentation of the weekly program and all three schools. The French teachers took us on a "Tour de School", where we were surprised by the huge premises of the school and its abundant equipment. After lunch, we wandered the streets of Chalons and went on a boat trip on the local river.



The second day – a trip to Paris. We couldn't miss Paris, because the experience of visiting the Eiffel Tower is priceless. It was a must.

We don't have lunch near the "Eiffel Tower" every day, and then we had a boat trip on the Seine. It was a fantastic experience with a great view of the tower, Louvre, Notre Dame and many other sights. We also went to the city center, enjoyed the Champs Elysee. We could enjoy shopping, coffee, ice cream, souvenir shops...



The third day was marked by creativity and health. The students again worked in mixed teams, their task was to create a portrait from fruits or vegetables, or just from kitchen utensils and cutlery, or their combinations. Despite the fact that they were in groups of mixed

nationalities, tastes, opinions, they did very well. Subsequently, in all three schools, all students, parents and teachers voted online for the best creation.

In the meantime, our coordinators of all three groups had a meeting where they were addressed the issues of preparation for the finalization of the entire project and the preparation of the final report.





Day 4 – Excursion to Reims, intermediate stop in the vineyards of Verzenay, and the famous POMMERY wine cellar. We enthusiastically absorbed information about the history of the company and the production of champagne. After lunch we visited the beautiful cathedral in Reims, then we had free time.



The fifth day was the most active. The students were divided into three groups of mixed nationalities and three different activities awaited them. The sensory analysis, which most of them had never experienced, was very interesting as the participants participated in the analysis of smell, taste, touch, hearing and sight... they analyzed food and drink samples and agreed that the activity was great and educational. The next task involved a bit of sports, facial expressions, balance and lots of fun. The students drew a kitchen utensil written on a piece of paper, they had to define it with facial expressions and gestures to their partner, who, after guessing, had to run to the table with glasses filled with water, take the utensil and bring it back to the group. Of course, many students got wet and laughed a lot. Activity 3 was very useful, even for teachers, because the students had to make one of the typical desserts of the region or France. So they were divided into groups of three and they really physically made the dough, spread it on a baking sheet, learned the tips and tricks needed for this kind of dessert and baking, and really baked it. It was then offered at the afternoon party after the certificate distribution. During

this party we all thanked each other for participating and working hard on the project and we all spent the afternoon eating, dancing and having fun.



The students spent Saturday with their families, the teachers headed for the city of Troyes, full of history and culture, with a lot of cozy restaurants, cafes and shops. In the restaurant, they had the opportunity to taste typical French salty pancakes. Throughout the day, the students sent us photos and videos of the activities they did with their host families and we knew they were happy and safe.



The teachers participating were Mgr. Martina Pallayová, Mgr. Mária Vaľková, Ing. Mária Rostášová and 12 pupils of several classes /Evka, Kristína, Zuzana, Petra, Patrik, Samuel, Simona, Natália, Tamara, Bianca, Laura, Kristína/.

During that meeting, all the students were accommodated by families, so they were very lucky, because that was what we were looking for throughout the project. We were very grateful to the French for being able to find enough host families. In this way, all students without exception could experience first-hand the way of life in France, its culture, attitudes, hospitality and home-cooked meals.

During that week, the participants had the opportunity to have lunch in the school canteen. The teachers had lunch in the school restaurant, where the chef and cooks are the teachers and students of the school, but the restaurant is also open to the public. We found this to be a very great opportunity to promote the students' work to people outside the school and a very good idea. We also had to admit that the food was delicious and looked spectacular.

Moreover, during so many activities carried out by teams of mixed nationalities, the participants again had to use English as the target language, which made them realize how important it was when working with people whose language you did not speak. The students admitted that they would spend more time learning and practicing English at home as well. They understood that were part of the EU as a full member, whose citizens could actually travel anywhere within the Union, settle and work there. The visits to Paris and Rheims were a great experience for the participants. Everyone, or almost everyone in Europe, wants to visit Paris, the city of love, with the iconic Eiffel Tower, the Louvre, Notre Dame. And this dream came true for all participants, including teachers. We learned a lot about French history and culture and how they are connected. Some students have already announced that they will return to Paris and France because they fell in love with the culture and historical monuments there. We all brought unforgettable memories of these places. And of the people, because everyone was so nice, caring and reliable. We all want to thank you, Julien, Sophie, Jean-Marie, Vina, Estelle,

Remy and many others for everything you did to make us feel great, because that's exactly how we did feel....

You can see the photodocumentation of the project, the students' presentations and all the information about the project on our school website, section Projects.

Some of the pupils' thoughts:

'This week has been amazing. Thank you for this opportunity.' /Samuel L./

'I feel my communication skills in English have got better. My point of view on French people has completely changed. I met cool people. I saw places I would never have the opportunity to visit.' /Naty K./

'These projects are good because you can go to another country and learn about their culture. You learn to communicate in English better. You meet new people and make friends.' /Kika G./

'It was really good to see something like that.' /Veronika B. /

'Thanks to his trip , I I got to know Italy better and I met a lot of interesting people. In my opinion , it was a beautiful, educational experience and it is very important for everyone to explore every corner of the world including Italy.' /Kika Ž./

*'I think that exchange trips are a really good thing to experience new cultures, you can learn a lot there, so if u have a chance, don't think about it, just go. We learned a lot about traveling and that we can try new food, meet new people and experience different cultures. Italy really opened my eyes and Sam actually started thinking about living there in the future.
'/Laura B., Samuel J./*

*'Such projects are meaningful for students, because they can learn something about different cultures, they can practice a foreign language, they can try to step out of their comfort zone, they can learn how to live on their own. And how did I feel? My feelings were positive - I was really happy. I was never bored, because we always had some interesting program.
'/Zuzka B. /*

'I definitely want to go back there at least one more time. Except that sometimes we were cold, everything else was amazing. '/ Žofka R./

*'It was such an amazing experience to see how different Italy is compared to Slovakia. I really enjoyed this whole week in Cassino. I am very glad and grateful that I could experience this. One day I might return back to visit Italy, because it's such a beautiful country and it gave me such positive vibes.
'/Peta P./*

'In my opinion something like this trip is very important because I met a lot of interesting people, discovered new things, found some interesting traditions and more. I love traveling and trying new things. / Kika Ž./

SEE, IT WAS WORTH IT.

**SO SEE YOU NEXT TIME, IN ANOTHER
PROJECT, DEAR STUDENTS!**

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