

# SEG BULLETIN

*the latest articles, activities, and platform updates*

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## About this bulletin

This bulletin aims to keep our stakeholders up to speed with new content, activities and developments of the School Education Gateway.

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## The importance of languages in connection with identity and culture

Languages are deeply connected with identities and cultures. Pupils speaking different languages at home can be a challenge in the classroom, but also an opportunity for enrichment. As classrooms become more diverse, it is up to the teachers to incorporate the children's heritage and culture at school.



David Little, Trinity College Dublin, and Déirdre Kirwan, former principal of Scoil Bhríde Cailíní, Ireland, reflected on the topic, using the example of this school, in which students from immigrant families were encouraged to use their home languages both inside and outside of the classroom to reinforce plurilingual identities.

Multilingualism is seen more and more as an opportunity for enrichment and the following three Erasmus+ projects examples show how this can be achieved. *Seeds of Tellers* focuses on engaging children through oral storytelling. The tool *Listiac* helps teachers engage in the reflection on their language use and *WelComm 2 Explore Europe* focuses on the linguistic and intercultural skills of migrant and bilingual children through a series of activities and products.



Another initiative that strives to change the way teachers approach multilingualism is the international “Language Friendly School”. It is built around the celebration of languages the children bring to the school, customised school plans and a whole-school approach, in which everybody can contribute to, creating a language-friendly learning environment.

On School Education Gateway, we have prepared a few professional development opportunities for you to join:

## 1) MOOC on Addressing the Global Climate Crisis in your Classroom – 2021 Edition

Join the free online course starting on **8 November** aiming to help teachers make sense of the scientific evidence behind the crisis and the associated ongoing debates. It will also explore ways in which the topic can be tackled through projects and other activities in the classroom.



## 2) Webinar on Digital technologies for climate action in the classroom

The webinar on **19 November (16h CET)** will be a precious opportunity to discover how digital tools can support active teachers and students across Europe in understanding and mitigating the negative effects of climate change. Special emphasis will be placed on teaching strategies aimed at boosting student participation and engagement in activities related to climate change.



School Education Gateway is an initiative of the European Union and funded by Erasmus+, the European programme for Education, Training, Youth and Sport. Neither the European Union institutions and bodies nor any person acting on their behalf may be held responsible for the use which may be made of the information contained herein.

## Video selection of this month

### Traveller education

Education Talks: Supporting Traveller education

The topic of traveller education was addressed in the latest Education Talks in which five networks for Traveller education – ECA, ENTE, ESU, KSCC and EBG – explained what they do to ensure equal opportunities for circus workers and shared their view on how the COVID-19 pandemic impacted on their education, sharing insights and positive experiences.



Schooling for families on the move: blended learning in the Rijndende School

The Rijndende School (Travelling School) has been experimenting with blended learning, offering primary education to children 4-13 while the parents are travelling. The teaching happens in mobile teaching trucks, when possible, or individual children are reached via remote education.

## Survey on action research in classrooms

Action research in classrooms is a helpful tool in teacher's professional development, focusing on improving teaching and learning (*Tripp, 2005*). It is specifically targeted at teachers who want to reflect on their work, solve problems and come up with evidence-based improvements for their own professional practices. You can share your views on the topic in a short, multilingual survey by **21 November 2021**. The results will be published on School Education Gateway.