

Future Classroom Ambassadors

ACTIVITY DIGEST

Issue #14, June 2021

We are happy, once again, to share with you the latest FCL Ambassadors Digest. Let us hope this summer break will be the transition to a period where we regained our freedom.

The FCL Ambassadors have been very active as usual. They took, for example, part in the past [School Innovation Forum](#) and led a successful workshop on The School of the Future.

Enjoy reading the news items about past and upcoming activities, taking place in different countries of the network. We also invite you to discover on our website the 3D virtual tour of the Future Classroom at European Schoolnet.

The FCL Ambassadors wish everyone a relaxing summer break!



3D Virtual Tour FCL

BELGIUM

September 2021-April 2021

Matalab Pilot Project

Between September 2021 and April 2022 FCL Flanders will run a pilot project together with [Matatalab Coding Tools](#), official Partner of the Future Classroom Lab project. During this project teachers and pupils in kindergarten and primary schools of [GO! Scholengroep Fluxus](#) will test the Matatalab coding tools in real life situation and provide feedback about it. The pilot will be used to improve the quality of the Matatalab tools. It will also strengthen the capability of the partnering schools to teach and promote STEM at a really young age.

The FCL and Education community will be informed about the progress of the project in the following year.



CZECH REPUBLIC

Summer School for Teachers' Professional Development

Czech Republic has taken advantage of the time during the pandemic for teachers' professional development.

Therefore, a few summer schools have been developed aiming at sharing information and good practices and improving teachers' ICT skills. If teachers are interested in Microsoft environment, they are given the opportunity to visit a [School for Modern Teachers](#). This summer school is for active teachers who like new teaching practices and technology and want to develop further. Another school, targeting the integration of iPads in classrooms has been created, named [Summer School for iPads](#). Teachers, apart from practicing their ICT skills in teaching, would also learn more about the use of web tools, exchange experiences, and make new contacts.

More summer schools with various topics will take place.



Summer School of Modern Teachers



DENMARK

Playful learning

Under the umbrella of Playful Learning, a new national project called Play@heart has emerged. The purpose is teaching a new subject before being compulsory at school, called Technology Comprehension at K9-level, through playful approaches. Twelve schools have been selected to experiment with the subject during a three-year period. The aim is to build capacity around the emerging subject knowledge and explore ways to build physical and mentally learning spaces at the schools. Initially six staff members from each school have been bought off minimum 10 % of their time to take part in the project. The project will be evaluated on a formative basis, so the findings can be communicated and inspire ongoing at a national level.

More info: [Playful Learning](#)



ESTONIA

Student exam results linked to newly founded StateOS

Estonia has been working on the online examination system for students.

The Examination Information System managed by the Education and Youth Board of Estonia has been interfaced with the newly launched StateOS application. The latter allows those who have downloaded the app to receive personal notifications from different public, private and third sector sources in one place. These include healthcare information such as vaccination certificates, welfare information such as child benefit payment updates, or education information such as state exam results.

Students received confirmation of exam registration, location of state exams, or notifications of exam results. The new solution ensures that no one loses the necessary information. The results of the newly announced state exams quickly reach the smartphone of young people. Often people cannot find the e-mails sent to the information system, because they can go to spam, for example. The application tells students when to take the exam and shares the result.



FINLAND

FCL Zone Thinking Into an Open Learning Environment

During the 2020-2021 year, the Rantakylä Teacher Training School was involved in the second phase of the FCLab project. In particular, the teacher team (3-4 grades) worked on the development of the learning environment, starting from the “School of the Future”. The school of the future emphasizes technology, learner-centredness, inclusion, 21st century skills and phenomenon-based learning.

Additionally, together with the FCLab Ambassadors, the teacher team started exploring flexible grouping, a more efficient use of the whole learning landscape and transitioning to a team model both for classroom and special needs teachers.

The team discussed the changes from a pedagogical perspective, collected students’ feedback, collaborated with FCL Ambassadors and an interior architect and by the end of the spring semester, the space had been rearranged. Additional work will also continue the next academic year.

Last, the Finnish FCL-team guaranteed funding for the next two years from the Finnish National Agency for Education.



FRANCE

Little Inventors at FCL Marronniers

2021 started with a new project for FCL France.

From all Impact Ed Tech proposals, students decided to apply for Inventors. The goal of this project was to let students make their own creations and write a report explaining the procedures followed. From February through May, students tested solutions that mainly involved physics and technology. Support and collaboration between students were also important to enable successful experiments, gather information, and understand how circuits and mechanisms work. In the end, five inventions were made, and the students' creativity was also enhanced. In parallel to the construction time, they were able to reinvest their learning methods concerning documentary research and the scientific approach. Both boys and girls were challenged with problems that they solved in groups, enabling them to strengthen their self-confidence and, for some, reconciling them with scientific subjects.



ISRAEL

The Israeli FCL team was involved in several projects the last months.

First Key2enable Pilot in Israel

The 'Key2enable Pilot' has been launched in June, in Petah Tikva involving one special kindergarten and one special education school. This pilot is a collaboration between the Municipal Innovation Team, the director of the Special Education Division, Amos Tamam and Beta School. It has developed innovative technologies allowing children and adults with all types of disabilities to communicate, learn and play in a way they were never able to before. Key2enable developed innovative technologies, allowing children and adults with all manner of disabilities to communicate, learn and play in a way they were never able to before. Its technology makes the digital world accessible to people with disabilities. Another step towards a more inclusive and better world. The Startup won 2nd place in #GES Awards 2020 and was one of 10 startups selected for #ImpactEdtech Accelerator in 2020. The pilot in Petah Tikva started in June for a month and include one special kindergarten: Pninas' Kindergarten and one special education school: Lea Rabin School.



Math Thinking Olympics

The Math Thinking Olympic Awards Ceremony took place in the beginning of June with the mayor of Petah Tikva, awarding the three winning school teams, Neve Oz, Dvora Omer and Morasha.



Beta School next transformation

After 6 years Beta School is scaling to be a part of the House of Innovation that will be built this year in Petah Tikva. The House of Innovation aims to empower the digital transformation in Petah Tikva youth to better prepare them for the future work force. The House of Innovation is in BSR Tower, a new business center in Petah Tikva and will include a whole ecosystem with Hitech Companies, schools and future employment resources. This transformation is part of the Mayors' agenda, Rami Grinberg, toward Innovation led by its Innovation and Gender Equality Adviser, Rachel Alon, Head of the City Innovation Team.



ITALY

Training Activities for the effective use of Google Workspace for Education platform

In collaboration with C2 GROUP, the FutureLab "Lorenzo Farinelli" at IIS "Savoia-Benincasa", Ancona, promoted a set of training activities to accompany schools in the first adoption of the Google Workspace for Education platform. Some of the training topics were: student centred engaged classes through Digital Storytelling with Google Workspace, providing environments for collaborative learning, creating interactive and collaborative digital content, basic and advanced course on the platform and more.

Aimed at achieving and/or consolidating digital skills in the European reference framework DigCompEdu 2.1, the FutureLab "Lorenzo Farinelli" proposed quality activities in collaboration with Campustore in May and June. The schedule covers the fields of Digital Citizenship and STEAM.



MALTA

April-June 2021

This scholastic year, the Directorate for Digital Literacy and Transversal Skills, MALTA, have launched a new website to support educators in the Primary Sector during online and home teaching and learning. You can view the website [here](#).

Additionally, two asynchronous 6-week online courses were delivered during Term 3 of this scholastic year targeted for Primary Educators and designed on the FCL pedagogy of active learning in the hybrid classroom. The courses: *21st Century Skills through Technology in the Primary Classroom* and *Using Tablets to Promote Collaboration* focused on the educational benefits and pedagogical opportunities of using online tools creatively to engage students in the current 'distanced' classroom and at home during online learning.

Also, the DL Team of Secondary educators in collaboration with History teachers and students produced a number of 360° Videos using a 360 Camera mounted on a monopod stand. Videos can be viewed through a VR headset for a more immersive experience and include voice-over narration. Videos may be viewed [here](#).



NORWAY

The National network for Future Classroom Labs in Teacher Education will from now on represent Norway in the network of European FCL Ambassadors.

The National network for FCL in Teacher Education consists of and is led by Norwegian Teacher Education institutions that have developed or are in a process of developing a Future Classroom Lab. Currently there are nine institutions in the network. The aim is to promote professional digital competences in teacher education and to organize activities for member institutions. The network also functions as a point of contact for schools and kindergartens.



PORTUGAL

Sharing innovative practices through "Partilhas à Quarta"

The sixth and final session of the "Partilhas à Quarta" initiative has held on May 26th aiming at sharing innovative teaching and learning practices. "Partilhas à Quarta", which is now in its third consecutive year, comprised a set of six videoconferences fostered by the Portuguese FCL and eTwinning ambassadors elapsed from December 2020 to May 2021 and was opened to all teachers interested in accompanying new experiences and teaching practices. In each session participants had the opportunity



of viewing two fruitful projects developed in Portuguese schools. The impact of this initiative was profoundly positive considering the high public participation and the participants' feedback and rating. The same initiative will be organized by the Portuguese FCL Ambassadors again next year, as teachers will be given the opportunity to not only share but also learn about good practices that have taken place in schools, be inspired and gain knowledge.

SLOVAKIA

Professional Development Program for Teachers

The Slovakian FCL Ambassadors team has worked on a Professional Development Program based on innovative education for teachers.

The main course objective was gaining the skills needed to innovate the conditions, means and procedures in the implementation of an educational project in which to develop the science literacy of students using digital technologies. The thematic areas addressed are *Innovations in the Organization and Conditions of Educational Units*, *Science Literacy in the Context of State and School Educational Program*, *Learning Activities for 21st century Skills* and *Planning and Designing of the Educational Process within the Educational Area*. Each thematic area includes different reflective questions, material and distant tasks with an estimated effort of 12 hours per topic, both for online and distant tasks time.

In May, an article about the concept, design and elements of the FCL was published in a magazine entitled: *Pedagogické rozhľady* (Pedagogical views). The article is available [here](#).



SPAIN

Network of Aula del Futuro Teacher Training Spaces

As part of the [Ministry of Education and Vocational Training of Spain](#), New MoU have been signed since last April by INTEF. More companies are now involved to create 20 Aula del Futuro spaces in different teacher training institutions throughout Spain.

Video

"INTEF - Aula del Futuro" launches a [new video](#) that summarizes the origins of the FCL project in Spain, explains its main goals through the learning zones and gives an insight on the resources, training activities and the ambassadors' network.

Online FCL Training

INTEF has developed the first edition of its NOOC "[Discover what is Aula del Futuro](#)" facilitated by Maria Castro, AdF ambassador. With more than 500 participants registered, The NOOC has been a great success of participation and results. Two new NOOCs will be launched next autumn to offer the participants the opportunity to get in touch with the design of both FCL learning scenarios and activities. These NOOCs will be facilitated by ambassadors Mari Carmen Montoya, and David Artime.

Regional FCL training

Comunidad de Madrid has launched a new call for [educational innovation projects on the digitalization of schools](#) for next school year, 2021-2022. Schools interested in developing their own Aula del Futuro have an opportunity in this call. Castilla y Leon is developing the summer course [Espacios Flexibles de Aprendizaje](#), and Catalonia will develop [Les Aules del Futur](#), an on-line workshop on the FCL Toolkit next autumn.



TURKEY

Online learning events

Several online learning events including webinars, workshops and zoom meetings were organized to introduce the Future Classroom Lab approach and overall methodology in Turkey. FCL local ambassador Zehra Kaya organized an online meeting addressing 1000 teachers. Local ambassadors also organized a workshop on robotic coding, an FCL training and Canva Event, another online training on internet security and information seminars on the general approach of designing a Future Classroom Lab. An online course "Rethinking Learning and Teaching Fields" was held in April addressing 420 participants.

Academic studies

FCL Turkey Ministry Team Members and FCL ambassadors worked on writing a book called "Future Classroom Lab: Learning Zones, Pedagogy and Technology" with nine chapters, between March 2021 and June 2021.

More info: [FCL Book by Turkish Ministry Team Members](#)



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