



**Erasmus+ Small Scale Cooperation  
Partnership  
“Bringing Education Yielding Outdoor  
New Directions (BEYOND)”  
Codice Progetto 2025-1-IT02-KA210-SCH-  
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## **MONDAY, 11 MAY 2026 – Outdoor Learning at Castello Utveglio**

The international partners were welcomed briefly at I.C.S. Giuseppe Di Vittorio, ensuring a smooth and punctual start to the mobility week. Because of bus availability, the morning programme was slightly adjusted.

At 9:45, the group departed for Castello Utveglio, where the first major outdoor learning activity took place. Upon arrival, students participated in a very detailed guided tour in English, led by a cultural expert who introduced the history of the castle, its architectural evolution, and its symbolic role for the city of Palermo. The guide also encouraged students to observe the surrounding natural environment, the panoramic view over the Gulf of Palermo, and the relationship between the landscape and the city's historical development-fully aligned with the project's outdoor learning approach.

After the visit, the group returned to school for the official welcome ceremony, followed by a lunch offered by the Italian coordinating school, which provided an important moment of intercultural exchange and community building.

Accompanying teachers:

- Italian team: Caldarella, Di Natale, La Mendola
- Turkish accompanying teachers: Selçuk Akdeniz ( Headmaster), Duygu Pakel, Gökhan Özdemirhan, Ümran Yumuk
- Greek training experts: Mokias Ioannis, Kalliopi Bakou

Participants: All Italian and Turkish students



## Photos from the day of 11 May 2026



## **TUESDAY, 12 MAY 2026 – Outdoor Cultural Heritage & Science Activity**

The second day of the mobility brought together all partners and all Turkish students, who participated fully in the outdoor learning programme.

At 09:30, the group visited the Chinese Pavilion, where the Italian teachers guided the students through a detailed explanation of the site. The teachers provided descriptions in Italian and translated them into English to ensure full understanding for all international participants. The activity focused on architectural symbolism, historical context, and the relationship between the pavilion and its surrounding natural environment, reinforcing the project's strong emphasis on outdoor experiential learning.

At 12:30, the mobility continued at Villa Niscemi, where all partners and Italian and Turkish students took part in a structured science activity on chemotypy, carried out outdoors in the villa's historical gardens.

Working in mixed international groups, students:

- observed aromatic plants and compared their characteristics,
- explored how environmental conditions influence chemotypes,
- connected botanical diversity with cultural and historical uses of plants,
- reflected on how outdoor environments support scientific inquiry and collaborative learning.

This hands-on scientific activity strengthened the link between environmental education, cultural heritage, and intercultural cooperation, forming the basis for the practical tasks developed later in the week.

Accompanying teachers:

- Italian team: Celi, Di Natale , Venturini
- Turkish accompanying teachers: Selçuk Akdeniz ( Headmaster), Duygu Pakel, Gökhan Özdemirkan, Ümran Yumuk
- Greek training experts: Mokias Ioannis, Kalliopi Bakou

Participants: All Italian and Turkish students



# Photos from the day of 12 May 2026



## WEDNESDAY, 13 MAY 2026 – Outdoor Learning in the Historic Centre

The third day of the mobility was fully dedicated to exploring Palermo's monumental heritage through an outdoor urban itinerary, with the continuous participation of all Italian and Turkish students, as well as all international partners.

At 09:30, the group visited the Teatro Massimo, where students enjoyed an excellent guided tour in English. The guide introduced the architectural structure, artistic details, and cultural significance of the theatre, encouraging students to observe how cultural spaces shape the identity of a city. The visit supported the project's outdoor learning approach by combining movement, observation, and direct engagement with the environment.

At 11:00, the mobility continued with the Arab-Norman Itinerary, which included the Cathedral of Palermo, the Church of Santa Maria dell'Ammiraglio (Martorana), San Giuseppe dei Teatini, and San Cataldo. Throughout the itinerary, students worked in mixed international groups to:

- identify key architectural and artistic features,
- compare Arab, Norman, and Baroque influences,
- reflect on the coexistence of different civilizations in Palermo's history,
- understand how outdoor cultural spaces can become powerful learning environments.

The entire morning strongly reinforced the project's emphasis on outdoor experiential learning, allowing students to learn through observation, movement, dialogue, and intercultural collaboration.

Accompanying teachers:

- Italian team: Caruso, La Mendola, Lo Iacono

Turkish accompanying teachers:

- Selçuk Akdeniz ( Headmaster), Duygu Pakel, Gökhan Özdemirkan, Ümran Yumuk
- Greek training experts: Mokias Ioannis, Kalliopi Bakou

Participants: All Italian and Turkish students



# Photos from the day of 13 May 2026



## THURSDAY, 14 MAY 2026 – Outdoor Learning at Villa d'Orléans & Visit to Palazzo Reale

The fourth day of the mobility programme was adapted due to technical reasons that made the planned visit to Palazzo d'Orléans impossible. Instead, the entire group—all Italian and Turkish students, except one Italian student absent for health reasons, together with all partners—carried out a rich set of outdoor educational activities at Villa d'Orléans.

The morning focused on continuing the scientific and environmental learning pathway initiated the previous day at Villa Niscemi. Students explored the botanical and zoological areas of the villa, observing plant species, small animals, and the ecological characteristics of the park. Working in mixed international groups, they:

- documented biodiversity through photographs and field notes,
- compared environmental features with those studied at Villa Niscemi,
- reflected on the relationship between natural and urban ecosystems,
- discussed sustainability and conservation in public green spaces,
- strengthened intercultural cooperation through shared outdoor tasks.

This activity strongly reinforced the project's emphasis on outdoor experiential learning, allowing students to learn through direct observation, movement, and collaborative inquiry in a natural environment.

After the outdoor session at Villa d'Orléans, the group continued with the scheduled visit to Palazzo Reale and the Cappella Palatina, where students deepened their understanding of Palermo's multicultural heritage through guided exploration of the Royal Halls and the Palatine Chapel.

Accompanying teachers:

- Italian teachers: Marsala, La Mendola, Cangelosi, Caruso
- Turkish accompanying teachers: Selçuk Akdeniz ( Headmaster), Duygu Pikel, Gökhan Özdemirkan, Ümran Yumuk
- Greek training experts: Mokias Ioannis, Kalliopi Bakou

Participants: All Italian and Turkish students, except one Italian student absent for health reasons



## Photos from the day of 14 May 2026



## FRIDAY, 15 MAY 2026 – Laboratory Activities, Science Workshop & Closing Ceremony

The final day of the mobility took place at I.C.S. Giuseppe Di Vittorio, where all Italian and Turkish students, together with all accompanying teachers and the Greek training experts, participated in a rich programme of hands-on laboratory activities. The day served as the culmination of the outdoor learning pathway developed throughout the week.

The morning began with a science laboratory session, during which students worked on the reproduction of chemotypy diagrams. Building on the outdoor scientific observations carried out at Villa Niscemi and Villa d'Orléans, students:

- analysed aromatic plants previously studied outdoors,
- reproduced chemotypy figures using scientific notation,
- compared environmental influences on plant characteristics,
- discussed how outdoor observation supports laboratory interpretation.

This activity reinforced the connection between fieldwork and scientific analysis, a central element of the project's pedagogical approach.

The programme continued with a traditional Sicilian *frutta martorana* workshop, where students learned how to model and decorate marzipan fruit. This hands-on cultural activity allowed them to explore local heritage through creativity, craftsmanship, and sensory learning.

During the morning spent at school, the partners also visited the institution, including the primary and lower-secondary classrooms, the laboratories, and the computer room, gaining an overview of the school's learning environments and facilities.

At the end of the workshops, a closing ceremony was held. All students received their participation certificates, signed by the hosting and sending organisations. The ceremony celebrated the achievements of the week, the intercultural collaboration, and the strong bonds created among students and teachers.

The morning concluded with a lunch offered by the Italian coordinating school, attended by all students, all teachers (Italian and Turkish), and the two Greek training experts. This final moment of conviviality reinforced the spirit of cooperation and friendship that characterised the entire mobility.

Accompanying teachers: Italian teachers: all members of the technical team involved in the laboratories Turkish accompanying teachers: Selçuk Akdeniz (Headmaster), Duygu Pakel, Gökhan Özdemirkan, Ümran Yumuk Greek training experts: Mokias Ioannis, Kalliopi Bakou





# END OF THE MOBILITY IN ITALY



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