



**Dear reader,**

Welcome to the **FLIP THE CLASSROOM** newsletter!

In this second edition we are delighted to inform about the project to you; its aims and first achievements and our upcoming activities. You can follow the developments of the project by visiting the FTC project on: our [website](http://flippedclass.weebly.com) <http://flippedclass.weebly.com> and on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/fliptheclass/?fref=ts) <https://www.facebook.com/fliptheclass/?fref=ts>

If you want to know more, please do not hesitate to contact us via email or telephone.

We are happy to keep you informed about FTC's activities.

We would appreciate your feedback and wish you an informative read!

Your FTC Team

## **Flip the Classroom**

The Erasmus+ project Flip the Classroom started in December 2014 and ends in November 2016. The project aimed to provide literacy teachers with the knowledge to enrich the process of teaching foreign languages. Special attention was given to the technique known as “Flipped Classroom.” At the end of the project, the teachers were provided with the following outputs:

- Understanding the definition and the concept of “Flipped Classroom” -the knowledge how to use the concept and why it is a useful tool to teach every learner
- Examples of Flipped Classroom and its usage
- Obtained knowledge on how to improve the process of literacy teaching Information on how to gain more time during the classes for practical tasks
- The ability to apply their new knowledge at the organizations/institutions they work for.

There were many tasks that had to be completed before the project ended, like: transnational meetings had to take place, learning activities were provided, a new curriculum was designed, as well as guidelines and material for learners. The participants have acquired a deep knowledge during these two years and they can state that the project has provided a real advantage to their organisations and learners.

## **Transnational meetings**

The first transnational meeting was held in Iceland in March 2015. This meeting was hosted by MSS. The meeting started with an introduction of all partners and their institutions. The partners got to know each other and acquired a common understanding of the project. During the meeting the project was organised, also the steps that were ahead for the next two years.



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The second transnational meeting was in Poland in January 2016. The meeting in Poland was hosted by Speak Europe. It focused on the sharing of prepared materials by each partner. This method provided an opportunity to see what others had worked on and used when teaching, and was based on an A1/A2 level syllabus devised for each partner. It was very interesting to discuss the process others had used to develop the materials, and see the different programs and methods that had been used.

The third and the last meeting of the project took place in Italy in September 2016. The Italian meeting was hosted by International Language School. Each partner presented the results of their activities, and this was followed by a discussion of the results. Partners then worked in groups to prepare the final report, and this was an interactive way to develop ideas and evaluate the progress that was made.



## Learning activities in Iceland

The learning activities for FLIPPED CLASSROOM were presented in Reykjanesbær, Iceland during April 13<sup>TH</sup> – April 17<sup>TH</sup> of 2015. There were 25 participants from every partner's organisation. The program included different approaches to the method, as well as visits to different schools, conferences and workshops.

At the conference Jonathan Bergmann and Aaron Sams were the key speakers. Bergmann and Sams are true pioneers of the flipped classroom movement and authors of the best-selling book; "Flip Your Classroom: Reach Every Student in Every Class Every Day." They were really inspiring and convinced the participants that flipping is a useful method for teaching.

Ívar Valbergsson, a teacher at The Sudurnes Comprehensive College, taught the participants about turning the classroom into an open and powerful learning environment where the student is the most active participant. The programs Book Creator and Educreations were used to produce teaching materials, utilizing a tablet in the making of these resources and in teaching. The programs are applicable for smart-devices from Apple and Android.

Teachers at Miðstöð símenntunar á Suðurnesjum (MSS) introduced the programs; Lync, Smartboard, Livescribe and Moodle.



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The primary school, Heiðarskóli, told the participants about their use of iPads for the oldest children at the school and Hlíf Böðvarsdóttir teacher at MSS told about her experience of flipped learning.

The participants agreed that the learning activities were interesting, useful and that they inspired them to flip their classrooms. The learning activities were organised by the Icelandic partner Miðstöð símenntunar á Suðurnesjum.



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## Learning Material

One of the key products of the project was that all partners had to produce learning material to use in level A1 in language teaching. Therefore the project was very practical and the teachers were able to use their knowledge right away.

Sveindís Valdimarsdóttir Icelandic teacher at MSS say's that it is very important to be able to show her students authentic materials in teaching. The best part of the project is to have created materials that students can work on whenever they want. In Sveindís' opinion practicing their skills -from learning the alphabet and the absolute basics towards having short dialogues is easier for the students when they are able to see it delivered in front of them.

„In conclusion the Estonian team appreciated firstly the knowledge which was gained in the conference in Iceland. It helped to start creating the flips. Secondly, the project gave the practical advice to enrich the everyday learning and teaching process. Now flipping is an accepted method of teaching and learning in the nowadays school“.



Kersti Rohtmets  
Project leader for Estonia

According to Diego from International Language School in Italia using flipped classroom method with his students had various positive impacts. Firstly it allows them to introduce new methodology in order to make lessons more effective and to enable students to learn new topics without stress, taking all the time they need. Flipping the classroom has allowed them to be updated on the new tools available on the web. The teachers had the opportunity to use new ideas to create new lessons, as well as videos, audio files quizzes e.g.

The participation in this project gave us a great insight in to the teaching methods used in Iceland, that was our guide in this project say's Agnieszka from Poland. Thanks to the project we learned a totally new method for us which is flipped classroom and we could exercise it during one-week workshops. The workshops were an incredible opportunity for us to work in international groups and exchange our ideas and expertise in teaching.

„One of the main things we gained from this project was the technological knowledge and personal confidence to make materials for the Flipped Classroom. We will re-use the materials we have already created, but are can adapt them and make them appropriate to different levels and types of students. We feel that this new skill is one of the things we value most as an outcome of the project“.



Francesca Giacomini  
NW Academy of English

## Multiplier events

### Conference in Estonia

Estonia arranged the International conference „Flip the Classroom“. The event took place in Paikuse Basic School on April 28<sup>TH</sup> 2016. The participants were from Estonia (53) and Latvia (10).

The agenda was made up by three main parts: -an academic overview of flipping, -workshops, and -presentations and feedback.

In the first part of the conference the lecture of the University of Tartu gave an academic overview of flipping. The participants of the project talked about their gained knowledge in the flipping conference in Iceland and experience practising flipping in their own school by themselves.



In the second part the participants got information about the different websites for flipping. Then the nine groups were formed and the tasks for flipping were assigned. All the groups got the same task. They had to make one flip on the topic “Spring”. The ICT facilities from the school were open to all participants to use.

In the third part of the conference the groups presented their flips and explained the process of creating them. At last all the participants evaluated the conference and gave feedback. Everybody gave the highest points to the conference arrangement and they liked the workshop as it provided the practical experience and encouragement to use flipping in the future.

## Conference in Poland

On May 11<sup>TH</sup> of 2016, Speak Europe had the pleasure to organise a one-day event dedicated to flipped classroom in cooperation with the Department of Italian Language and Culture. More than 50 participants actively took part in the event. The day was divided into 2 parts, the first part was a practical workshop for soon-to-be teachers of languages who learned how to prepare educational materials. The second part of the day was an open conference for not only teachers of languages but for everybody interested in the subject of education.

During the presentation done by Agnieszka Pawłowska and Izabela Napiórkowska, the audience asked questions about similarities and differences between this method and cooperative learning/teaching and Montessori methodology. The discussion that followed at the end of the presentation provided interesting exchange of views on educational systems and the possibilities of development in Poland based on the best practice examples from all over Europe.

