

Kalipatira program

1. Dreamland - Games without Borders (2006-07)

During school year 2006-7 the Olympic education program was replaced by Kalipatira program.

Mrs Vodeniotou Chrisopigi who was in charge of the program suggested a pilot project to the Ministry of Education titled: **Dreamland - Games without Borders** which was approved

Pele, the famous footballer once said "Sports give us the chance to dream and have equal opportunities in distinction. This is a rare moment when we are equal"

Sports and games in general are source of joy and happiness for the kids. Through them they develop a sense of companionship, equality and social solidarity.

Worldwide, kids play and have fun, we may call them or play them differently however, the goal and the result always the same.

More specifically, through the games students had the chance to get information and learn about other civilizations and cultures by working with foreigners and they discovered common points....

Finally, they realized that one of all the children's common points, regardless of their color, language, religion, country is games. They realized that some of the games that they already play are known to other countries as well, although they may be called differently.

In **DREAMLAND** (the titled was given by a young student in A class), games have no borders....the students asked their parents and grandparents about the games they used to play in their own country.

With their teachers' help they also searched for other games elsewhere. They even contacted European schools with which we had cooperated in previous years.

Some of the games were presented and made known to the local community in Thessaloniki by presenting them in our **intercultural school newspaper** which can also be found on our school's website.

We released a book containing all the rules of the games with pictures, translated in six languages.

(Greek, English, French, German, Russian and Albanian)

Moreover, we created a great **game with cards** in 6 different languages.



2. Learning about the Olympics through play (2007-08)

In the school year 2007-08, within the framework of the *Kallipateira Programme*, we submitted a proposal to the Ministry of Education concerning a project entitled '**Learning about the Olympics through play**', which was approved for implementation. The *Kallipateira Programme 2007-08* concerned all children attending the 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th grades of Primary School. Taking into consideration that children regardless of age learn through play, we invented a table trivia game that contained questions and answers about the Olympics and particularly the modern Olympic Games, in 6 different languages, in an attempt to provide our school kids with knowledge about the Olympics translated in their native languages. It was a card game consisting of 52 questions and answers. On each card there was a question and its answer in Greek, Russian, Albanian, German, French and English.

There was also a painting made by one of our school's pupils related to one of the following topics: peace, equality, respect, sports, health, and acceptance. The card game was available on the school's website, and could be downloaded and printed.

In addition to the creation of the game, we dealt with the same topic, that is the history of the modern Olympic Games, from another point of view. We found pictures, photos and texts associated with the history of the modern Olympics from various sources, and at the end of the school year we organized an exhibition on the school's premises.

The material was taken from books, from archives of the Association of Hellenic Olympic Winners, from printed material issued by "Athens 2004" Organization, from newspapers and the Internet, which we copied, enlarged to A3 size and plasticized. The photo-, picture- and text - exhibition was as complete as possible since it included shots from all the modern Olympics, a fact that gave students the opportunity to compare the present with the past. Besides, students from neighboring schools had the chance to visit the exhibition. Furthermore, the kids that participated in the *Kallipateira programme* paid a visit to the Thessaloniki Olympic Museum, where they 'traveled' through the history of track and field, 'experienced' the Olympics of more than 100 years and lived the magic of participating in a museo-educational project called '**Olympics and Track & Field - A journey into the past and the future**'.

In this action programme the kids constituted the focus of the learning process. The basic principle of the museo-educational program was learning through play.

