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NEWS LETTER



Happy Christmas dear TGS friends!

by Alessandra Granziero, in collaboration with Benjamin Harding, Katya De Marchi and Alessandra Lugato.

The Festive Season is upon us and more than ever we are here to send you our Christmas wishes; this is especially true this year, since we know it's going to be a very different Christmas for everyone. We are confident Father Christmas will carry this Newsletter on his sleigh and leave it under your tree or fill your stockings with. Our monthly "TGS On Line Newsletter" last Summer allowed us to keep you posted on the activities we were carrying out at TGS and offered different perspectives on them (did you miss any On Line Newsletter? you can find them all here: <https://www.tgseurogroup.it/tag/tgs-on-line-newsletter/>). We particularly focused our attention on our newest educational project: TGS Summer Camp, taking place at TGS Eurogroup headquarters at the Salesian College "Astori"

in Mogliano Veneto (Treviso), including English lessons in the morning, workshops in the afternoon, as well as study visits to Venice and lots of group activities. Nevertheless, we were considering that in our "TGS On Line Newsletter" we had not given voice to the main actors from the Association so far. Here you will find what Benjamin (English mother tongue teacher in Mogliano Veneto last Summer), Alessandra and Katya (for long TGS collaborators and school teachers) think about their experience and the new language course they had the chance to help develop.

This is what Benjamin told us: *"During the month of July 2020, I had the good fortune of joining TGS for the very first time to teach English to two sets of groups over a two week period. Iginio and his colleagues were especially welcoming and friendly throughout the duration of my course when implementing a series of exciting games, theatre and filmmaking workshops. Children performed a number titled 'This Is Me' from the musical 'The Greatest Showman' and also produced an existing screenplay from acting and camera work to cutting the film*

*«See, I am making all things new»
Rev 21,5
Moved by Hope*

"Strenna 2021", Fr. Ángel Fernández Artime, Rector Major of the Salesians



*Best wishes for a merry Christmas and a happy New Year
TGS Eurogroup Students, Leaders and Committee*



together. The best part of working for TGS is not only do I have the chance to part my knowledge and skills on to others but also I have the unique pleasure of communicating with different people of different backgrounds and sharing experiences from our past and our hopes for the future. I will remember these moments and hope TGS invites me".

Let's now move to Katya's and Alessandra's points of view.

Katya's feedback was the following: "Last July, one of the hottest times of the summer, Benjamin and I were teaching a group of teenagers aged 14-18. Teaching is always a new challenge, with fears and expectations. You plan the activities and the objectives of the day but you have to be ready and be flexible and to make a change if needed. Luckily our students were very motivated and collaborative; indeed, it was a great pleasure to share every single moment with them. The pandemic affected the way TGS leaders and teachers relate to their students - wearing masks, keeping the social distancing, limiting the movements - nevertheless, we managed to organise dynamic activities providing educational and social guidance to the guys. Overall cooperating with Benjamin has been rewarding and important for my professional development as a teacher as well. To develop the students' love for learning is one of the main objectives of a teacher's job and I believe this purpose was reached. I wish to thank TGS for allowing such opportunity."

Alessandra added: "What a surprise when Gino asked me 'Would you like to help TGS?! Of course, I would... but how? Last summer any course abroad wasn't possible... No Italian students in the UK, so no joyful leaders, no helpful trainers and no friendly host families. Even no tours around England and no spaghetti parties... What was Gino's idea? 'A summer

course in Mogliano Veneto is starting in July for students aged 11-14. Would you like to cooperate with the mother tongue English teacher? You are an English teacher, so...' Wow, what a challenging proposal. I immediately accepted! And a new adventure started; a new way to consider a TGS English course (because in Italy), a TGS group experience (because in a college), school activities (because only one teacher was English). Yet, the mood was the typical TGS one: joyful and respectful. What about me? It was a real challenge; I wasn't a leader or a trainer... I was a teacher; it showed a new, involving way of teaching English based on games and role plays and moreover, it permitted me to know, also this year even for a very short period, outstanding guys."

What will 2021 bring us and how will specifically Summer 2021 challenge TGS is still to know. We will keep developing new ideas and activities, both in Italy and abroad, as it has been our trademark through the years. Feel free to get in touch to know more about what is being cooked up and to share suggestions, anytime.

Meanwhile, as always, keep safe and enjoy this time of the year with your family and dear ones!



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