

Kiili Gymnasium, Estonia

Contact Details

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The School

Country: Estonia
School name: Kiili Gymnasium
Address: 1 Kooli street, Kiili Community, harju County, Estonia
School level: primary-secondary
Number of students: 375
Number of teachers: 33
URL: <http://www.kiili.edu.ee>

About the school



The school was founded in 1858 and has a school area of 6500m². There are two branches of study in the secondary school.

Our goal is to improve every student and to help everyone finish basic school and continue his/her education beyond elementary level. Indeed, most of the school's graduates continue their studies in a university.

The school has taken part in many International projects: Comenius, eTwinning, Eurodrawing.

ICT in the school

The School has received most of the financial resources for ICT from the local government. Important financial help has also come from Tiger Leap Foundation. However, there are not enough resources for some kind of software and hardware.

We have permanent connectivity with speed 2 Mbps, internal network for computers and wireless Internet for laptops. Most of our teachers have laptops for schoolwork and teachers' cabinets have PCs and Internet connection. We use TeamBoard in the computer class and in auditorium. All the school building has wireless network and Internet cables are in every (class) room. Every teacher follows basic ICT training, courses for advanced users as well as training on the pedagogical use of ICT. Some experienced teachers help the others, when they need instructions.

School's vision and ethos

ICT development is a part of our development programme. This means that ICT will be included in the educational process and in everyday lessons didactically.



We started with three computers more than ten years ago. Every year we bought about two or three computers. Financial help has come from Tiger Leap Foundation. In spring 2005 we had a total of 16 old and new PCs in the computer class and 6 PCs for teachers` use. Since autumn 2005 we have 23 new computers in our new computer suite and teachers have 12 used PCs and 22 new laptops. The school has two TeamBoards and two multimedia projectors. In the future we want to build a terminal network for teachers and give more PCs for free use to students (in the corridor or library). We also want to buy more multimedia projectors.

Trainings, supports participating in international programmes, information is supplied through internet, every classroom has internet connection, e-school.

Teachers take part in discussions about the vision of the school. The majority of teachers uses ICT devices in everyday work. Our school is involved in two international projects. We have different teachers for different age groups. Our teachers and students meet with teachers and students from other schools ("open" classes, various joint activities, and meetings).

ICT is used in a variety of ways but mainly for communication. For sharing new ideas we sometimes use the school intranet, mailing lists, MSN but the most effective way inside a school is still considered to be a face to face discussion. .

Innovation in the school

Our school participates in the eTwinning project 'Books and Life' 2004 – 2006. In this project pupils (aged 8-12) from Kiili Gymnasium, Estonia and from AISV Lithuania learn about partnership countries' culture and manners. During the project pupils introduce books they have read with the help of short stories and pictures. They write stories about their everyday life, school, clothing, food, hobbies and holidays. The web page and video contact will be made after all materials are collected.



The aims are to increase pupils' interest in reading; learn about other European Union countries, their culture and traditions; use English; develop communication skills; use ITC; produce a web page and video contact. For more information see: <http://www.koolielu.edu.ee/lastelugemine/eng/index.htm>.

Kiili Gymnasium is a partner in Comenius 1 School Partnership project 'COMMUNICATION 2004 – 2007'. Within the project students (aged 12-19) study communication on different levels: non-verbal communication, communication within families, at school, among friends, communication in the media and international communication between countries. Surveys have been carried out to identify patterns of communication between family members, students and teachers. Students produce videos, PowerPoint and Flash presentations using their own photographs to present everything they have learnt about communication. Descriptions of traditions, folklore and traditional cultural events have been produced and a

number of Head teachers' exchange visits have been organised. A multi-media pack will be produced including all work submitted during the project, perhaps the full recording of all of the final live performances. The progress of the project is evaluated by monitoring the amount and content of communication (mainly via E mail) between the participants, pupils and teachers. The final product will be a live performance to show some aspects of the best work produced, under the common theme of communication.

Students from grades 4 and 9A have also participated in two different activities of the project 'SPRINGDAY IN EUROPE' They sent their eight proposals to Europe, three of which passed to the second round. They also created their blog titled Eurospring. It has second place in Estonia. It was necessary to search materials concerning the EU during the project. The whole project worked in the Internet. Creating a blog and voting online was a new experience for our students (<http://www.eurospring.blogspot.com>).

Therefore we can say we have innovative ICT practices in our school for different levels and our students participate in various ICT projects between classes and outside school. Students use ICT for preparing lessons, communicating with others, taking part in international projects. Teachers give lessons (maths, language lessons, history and others) in computer class. ICT has supporting role in the learning process.

The Calibrate Project and the participating teachers



We participate because we want to broaden our students' minds, help students find information and use it. The teaching technology has to be modern and interesting for students. The learning culture in schools is more teacher-centred. Students' learning activities are listening, independent work, group-work, discussion, sometimes role-plays, video-training, finding information on the internet. Generally, the use of ICT in schools helps students to become more confident in presenting their ideas. The learning activities with ICT are both small- one-lesson tasks-and process activities conducted during several lessons.