

February 2020

The Open Schools for Open Societies project

Newsletter

The start of a movement

Innovation is not conceived as an isolated event, rather as a process, which can turn into a “movement”. Innovation is the word we use when an idea, usually about a change is so well received that it becomes valuable to those involved. The consortium partners of the OSOS project believe that the project may end in a month, but the Open Schools movement will continue! Currently, over 1168 schools participate in our project.

The OSOS-project will enable schools to:

- Reach out to members of their community and build lasting relations
- Offer students the unique possibility to learn from real life projects
- Develop students’ competences such as team work, problem solving, presentation and entrepreneurial skills
- Improve students’ motivation and self-esteem
- Build a network of stakeholders and benefit from their knowledge and resources

OSOS conference in Lisbon

A celebration of OSOS student-led projects in Portugal marked a hugely successful implementation in Portugal. Over 150 students and teachers from all corners of the country assembled in the Pavilhao Do Conhecimento on Friday the 14th of February 2020 to showcase their exciting work and share their experiences with the OSOS consortium, national policy makers, university professors and 35 representatives of school leaders associations from 21 European countries. The highlight of the event included inspiring talks

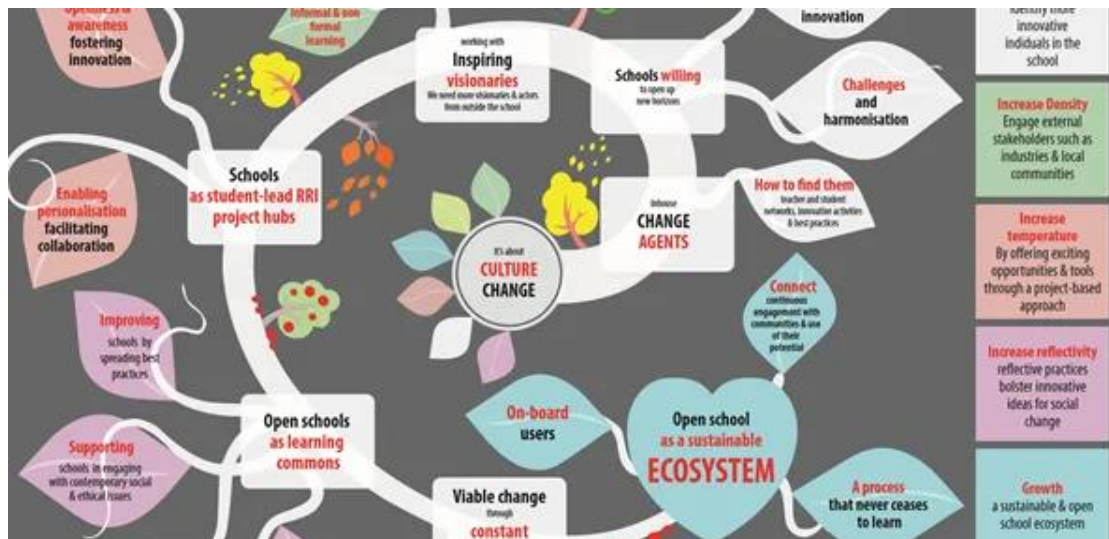




by the students on their work and on what they think are the real challenges in education and a stimulating poster session with over 30 school projects, addressing climate change, local environmental issues, democracy, participation, inclusion, engagement, sciences, the threat of misinformation, outdoor education and other contemporary ideas.

Learn about the OSOS Open Schooling Model

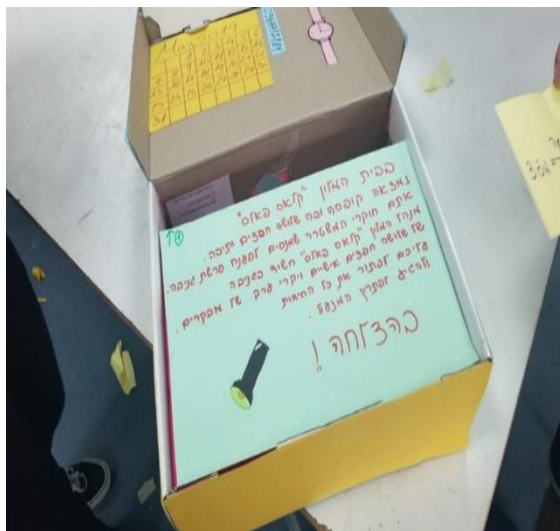
The OSOS Open Schooling Model provides a powerful framework for school leaders to engage, discuss and explore how their schools need to evolve, transform and reinvent with the objective to facilitate open, more effective and efficient co-design, co-creation, and use of educational content tools and services for personalized science learning and teaching; how schools can become innovation incubators and accelerators. More information about the model can be found here: <https://www.openschools.eu/open-school-model/>



Escape boxes project in Israel

As part of their math studies, 8th and 9th grade students at ORT Dafna Middle School in Kiryat Bialik, Israel, created "Escape Boxes" focused on geometry. Escape Box is a game designed to crack the code for opening the box by struggling with tasks, puzzles and clues. In this way, the students, who work in teams, practice the subjects taught in geometry in an experiential way that increases motivation for mathematics studies. At the same time, they also develop skills that are particularly relevant to 21st century life: communication, teamwork collaboration, critical thinking, creativity and innovative thinking.

After the students had created and experimented with Escape Boxes, the unique phase of the OSOS project began. During a few weeks period, the project went through 4 main stages during which 9th graders from the local Elementary Schools were enthused to create their version of the Escape boxes. The kids reacted enthusiastically: "It was really fun. We solved exercises in math, but it didn't feel like a lesson, it was more like a game." Another student stressed, "It was really nice that the people who gave the activity were the students and not the teachers."



The project has led to the creation of a learning community in their town, which consists of several schools that can now collaborate with each other. This unique interpretation for the OSOS approach, in which older students teach young students, offered a great opportunity for older students to step into their teachers' shoes, take on responsibility and teach other children - and on the way to learn for themselves more significantly! Indeed, all Middle School students agreed that it was an empowering and growth experience for them.

OSOS Summer School 2020 / Marathon, Greece, 5-10 July



Join us this summer in Attica, Greece, to create and sustain openness in your school

Are you a school head, a teacher, a policy maker, a researcher in education seeking to bring innovation to schools? Do you want to see schools opening-up to local communities and become inspiring knowledge hubs? The Open Schools for Open Societies Summer School aims to offer a high-impact and transformative experience, both in personal and organizational levels, through a series of inimitable workshops, best practices and challenges.

Join the OSOS Summer School 2020 and set the path for your school to achieve the higher levels of openness through innovation and systemic change by acting as innovation centres in your communities.

Visit the OSOS Summer School website for more information! <http://osos.ea.gr>




The Open Schools Journal for Open Science is the first European peer review scientific journal which accepts papers written by school students from Primary to Secondary schools across Europe under the mentoring of their teachers on all aspects of Science, Engineering and Technology. Students and Teachers produce scientific data that are invited to be published in this journal. The Journal publishes articles on a regular basis. Publication is free of charge and the Journal carries articles in English.


<https://ejournals.epublishing.ekt.gr/index.php/openschoolsjournal/index>



Contact

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