

## **Diverse Cultures, Unified Play: A happy European playground**

### **Goal**

That our school playground will become a more inclusive, safer and happier space, enhancing our pupils' well-being while fostering a European dimension of citizenship. We start with the P3, P4 and P5 levels.

### **Why do we want to do it?**

- to create an environment where children learn and play creatively and every child feels happy, valued and respected during playtime
- to support our pupils in becoming active and responsible citizens
- to strengthen social bonds among pupils and prevent bullying and conflicts in the playground
- to foster the eight key competences including cultural awareness and expression.

### **How will the happy playground work?**

The following structure is proposed for the happy playground: It will take place in the playground of P3, 4 and 5 every first Thursday of each month. Monthly themes should be chosen by each section and teachers should consult with their pupils to select the themes and the specific activities. Some examples of activities are: traditional or popular games, exercise (sport, dance), storytelling or language related activities, gardening, an arts corner, etc. So many possibilities ... The pupils will be actively engaged in all the stages of the process. Costs for equipment or materials will have to be approved and covered by the school. The adventure begins in February 2024.

### **Materials used**

A number of boxes (baskets) will be available to store the materials used during the breaktime activities. The aim is to create "multigaming" boxes with games and materials collected from each of the sections so our students can continue to use them during the rest of the month.

### **Passport**

Students will get a passport file to fill in with stamps from each country they "visited" during this project. Students with the passport completed will get a prize by the end of the year. Stamps will be provided for each event.

### **Get Involved**

All school staff and students are encouraged to actively participate in the happy playground. Whether it's contributing ideas, volunteering time in the playground during that day, or simply joining in the activities, everyone has a role to play in making our school playground a vibrant and inclusive space.

### **Conclusion**

The Happy Playground is not just a fun project; it's teaching pupils to take responsibility for themselves and their community. By fostering a sense of unity through play, we foster children's sense of belonging to the school and we ensure that they feel happy and satisfied with their school life.

