

## **The Image of the other emailing activity Evaluation of the project-year 2009-2010**

During the assembly on 26<sup>th</sup> April 2010 in Waltershausen, an evaluation took place of the emailing activity "*The Image of the Other*". The seven countries participated in three languages, English, German and Spanish.

It was established that all teachers involved encountered the same kinds of problems, i.e. too short letters, (causing) loss of motivation, too personal questions in the questionnaires as pupils failed to understand the cultural differences between the various countries, failure to meet deadlines, and the fact that some pupils received presents with their Christmas cards whereas others did not. A more annoying problem was that one partner stopped writing half-way through the project which left their pen pals in waiting for letters that did not arrive.

However, the activity in itself was a great success. It is one of the largest activities, involving hundreds of pupils in seven countries! It is safe to state that at least 80% of these pupils really enjoyed writing with a foreign pen pal, establishing friendships for life which are being continued by MSN, Facebook, Hyves, etc.

The assembly therefore agreed to continue the activity next year. Letters 1 and 2 will remain unaltered, a letter of introduction and the Christmas cards. Teachers will ask their pupils to choose topics they would like to write about and from these topics, three will be selected for letters 3, 4, and 5.

Before the start of the next project period, teachers will gather the suggestions for the letters, decide with which pupils they will work, send the names and the language in which the pupils will write to the coordinators, Eva for German and Spanish (and may be Italian and French as well), Menke for English.

During the project meeting in October, the teachers will decide about the size of the letters, type, and whether or not presents will be included in the Christmas cards.

Waltershausen, April 2010

Menke Helder, Dutch coordinator English of "*The Image of the other*" emailing activity