Visit to CEIP do Foxo

Welcome! We are honored to welcome you to our center and to share with you some of the activities that we develop with our students. We hope you have a good time and that this contact with us will be profitable.

Who we are

This is a primary school in a small village. We have 114 students between 3 and 12 years and 18 teachers. The average class size is 15 students.

All students come to class by bus. They live in parishes near the school within a distance of 18 to 20 km.

We have mixed schedule: Every day in the morning from 9.20 to 13.40; Wednesday and Monday afternoon from 15.35 to 17.15. Staff meetings every Monday from 17.15 to 18.15. All Wednesdays from 17.15 to 18.15: meetings with families.

The cultural level of the families is quite variable. Most of the parents have only got primary studies and have few books. Most of the students are only child or have just one brother/sister. The main professions are qualified workers, carpenters, farmers, etc. Mothers usually work at home and farm. It should be noted that a high percentage of the families are living with their grandparents.

18 teachers

3 teachers of Kindergarten and 1 Support teacher. 6 Primary School teachers + 1 who is also the school principal. 1 Music teacher. 1 Physical Education teacher. 1 English teacher. 1 Hearing and Speech teacher. 1 Counselor. 1 Special Education teacher. 1 Religion teacher.

The counsellor and hearing and speech teacher are shared with another primary school (CEIP de Oca) in the nearby. The average age of the teachers is 45 years old. Most of them belong to the permanent school staff. Although during this course there were important changes in teachers, the new ones follow the school project.

Linguistic context

Galician (Gallego) is the most commonly used language: 90% of our students speak Galician in their daily lives; 90% of native Galician teachers; 99% of native Galician families. Galician is present in all the administrative and school documents.

3-6: we use the students mother tongue (Gallego), but also paying special attention to the acquisition of their Spanish speaking skills. Primary Education: the language subjects will be taught in the reference language. Mathematics, Religion and Education for Citizenship (in 6º) are in Spanish. The rest of the subjects in Galician. They also study English since the age of 3 and French as extracurricular subject (6º, 1 h/week).
Program

10'00 h: Welcome and planting a boj tree (15 min.)

10'15 h: Activities at the auditorium (30 min.)

10'45h: Visit to the playground of the school. Activity: “Artista na súa obra” (Artist in his work) (10 min)

10'55h: Visit to the library. Activities: “Escritor na súa terra” (Writer in his home land), “O Pereirinos” and “Bosque e Arte” (Forest and Art)

11'15: WebQuest (Kinder - 4 years old- and Primary School –1º and 2º, 6 and 7 years old-)

11'45h: Break. Pause-coffee

12'45h: Interview with teachers and students

Poetry garden

Whenever people come to our school we have this type of reception.

We decorate the garden with poems hanging from the branches of plants. They are poems of writers who have come to our school or important personalities of our culture. We call this garden “Xardín da Poesía” (Poetry Garden) and there we celebrate, among other activities, our Poetry Workshops “Facendo torres no ar” (Making towers in the air), where students post these poems, read or attend lectures.

You will plant a boj in the Poetry Garden and so we will have a memory of your presence in our school. Almost all of our guests plant a tree, but this shrub we will plant today has a special meaning for us, as part of the emblem of the school, which for us is a symbol of endurance and perseverance.

Small performances

The youngest students will dramatize the story “Dona Carme” and 5-years-old students will recite the poem “Crocodilo”.

Our students of 6º will perform “O violinista” (The violinist), adapted by our Art teacher and based on a American newspaper article about a very famous violinist who played in the subway entrance in New York without being noticed by anyone.

The artist in his work

From the Art workshop we choose a local artist. Students look for information about his/her life and work. The artist is invited to our school and participate in students activities. Finally, the artist makes a mural helped by the students on a wall of our school. With a photo of this mural we make a picture for our art gallery, at the library, that will be used for the poster of our big party “Festa dos Pereirinos”, for the cover of the school magazine and for the school Christmas greeting.
The United Nations General Assembly declared 2011 as the *International Year of Forests* to raise awareness on sustainable management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests.

In our school we are developing a beautiful *Project* around this topic. During your visit you will find information regarding events being organised throughout the International Year as well as materials and resources to promote dialogue on forest.

### WebQuest “Os Bosques” (*The forests*)

**kinder and 6-7-years-old students**

We believe that a WebQuest would be an innovative and interesting strategy to promote group work, inclusion through the use of technology, review some information and acquire new ICT skills. Using **Interactive Digital Boards** we will review the characteristics of 7 elements of our flora and fauna in groups of 5 children. These groups are mixed: 4 and 7-years-old students working together, cooperating to solve and submit a work sheet and an artistic work and expose them to their classmates orally. All the students will form a mural “pooling their pieces of the puzzle”.

### The violinist

Not long ago, a music player stood by the Washington D.C. underground entrance. It was a very cold morning. He played for as long as 45 minutes. He started with Bach, followed by the “Ave Maria” by Schubert and he continued with Puccini ...

It was 8 in the evening. Hundreds of people passed him by... A few minutes later, an old man looked at him. He slowed down, stopped and stared for a few seconds and then went on. A few minutes later the violin player received his first dollar: a woman passing by and without even stopping herself, threw a bill to the violin case... A while later, a man stopped to listen to him playing... but once he looked at his watch, he started to walk pretty fast...

The one who really paid attention to him was a 4-years-old girl ... but her mother grabbed her... the girl was still astonished listening to the violin player. Finally, her mother took her and they continued their walk. The girl, while walking, kept on looking at the music player.

45 minutes and only 7 people stopped to listen to him carefully. Altogether he raised 32 dollars. No one looked when he stopped playing. No one applauded. No one realised that the music player was J. Bell, one of the best violin players worldwide who was playing his Stradivarius from 1713 worth 4 million dollars. Two days earlier all the tickets for his concert had been sold out at the Boston Theatre although the price was 100 dollars each ticket.

**Take about this for a while, please.** If we do not stop to listen to one of the best music players in the world when he is playing one of most beautiful scores, how many other extraordinary things are we missing daily as we not able to appreciate them.

The most important things in life are priceless... such as the music, the smile, the “coitada lua” (*poor moon*), kindness, humility, simplicity ... the truth ... the “memorias dun neno labrego” (*memories of a Galician peasant boy*), love ... PEACE.
The writer in his/her home land

The library and language standardization groups program this activity in which students look into the work of the chosen writer.

It consists of two parts:

First the students visit the writer’s home and work place to understand his/her sources of inspiration (home, working place, childhood memories...).

After that, the writer visits our school again and has a look at a sample of activities undertaken by the students.

The writer usually makes a donation to the library, it can be either a piece of his/her work or a personal item. This person will also be the conductor of the “Festa dos Pereiriños”.

"O Pereiriños"

Is the newsletter of the library, published to disseminate the news occurred in our school. We chose this name in reference to the School Party, “Festa dos Pereiriños”, which has been held in Curantes since its recovery from June 14, 1998.

This bulletin is possible thanks to the intervention of many people in this school that are constantly planning activities to promote Reading, book cataloging, selecting materials, publication design... in short, that make the school library a place of leisure.

The primary driver of this bulletin is Xosé Luna Sanmartín.

Pereiriños Party

Is a country festival (“romería”) that is held in the parish of Curantes in the oak of Pousada.

For our school has a special meaning to participate in the organization of this festival, as this event was an important school event, where children of 5 rural schools belonging to the demarcation of the union (Pardemarín, Lamas, Rubín, Olives and Curantes) met together in a party day. Today children of these parishes come to CEIP do Foxo.

We expect that at this event come together all elements that were present in those school competitions: the real protagonists, the children with their speeches, teachers, families, neighbors and all people who want to bring, to make possible the survival of the party as it is for us a pride that is of historical recovery.
Síntoo... (I feel sorry)

But I do not wish to be an emperor. That is not my job...I would like to help everyone if possible. White and black people. Help the Jews and people of all races and religions. We have to help one another, human beings are that way. We like to please the others, not to be unhappy. We do not wish to hate anyone. In this world there is place for everyone, the mother Earth is rich and able to feed everybody.

The path of life, the road of life, can be free and gorgeous. We have advanced too fast. It is true. But we incarcerate ourselves. Our own knowledge made us cynical. Our intelligence, tough and aloof. We think things over and our feelings are weaker. More than out-of-the-state technology we need humanity. More than intelligence we need goodness and sweetness. Without all these qualities life would be violent, and all the values would be lost. Mobile phones and the Internet make us feel closer... but the real self of these inventions require human goodness, it claims universal brotherhood that gathers every single man and woman.

Right now, my voice reaches millions of people worldwide, millions of desperate men, women and children, victims of a system that tortures the humankind and sends innocent people to prison.

Videos for inclusion

Last year we decided to begin a video – creation activity with the participation of all the educational community.

At the moment we have made 3 videos: “Promoting reading”, “Peace” and “Galician language”. In two cases we involved all students, teachers and families in preparing the script. To commemorate the Day of Peace LIP DUB was chosen to represent the methodology of cooperative learning.

Bridges and handmade bridges

All students (second cycle) must take 2 pictures: one of the bridge near his/her home and another of the river or stream. The student must also record information about each bridge.

For this activity we need the cooperation of the families to move the children to the river and collecting information.

We do not have so many digital cameras, so one of the difficulties we encountered was that with the traditional camera this work is too long.

When the photos are revealed, we scan then and print a single work sheet that students must complete. With all the printouts we will edit a book which (we hope) will be supplemented by information in later years with data from other informants. The last part of the activity is to ensure that each student take this book to home for showing the family the completed work.

In this activity we received the support of the Special Education teacher.
Activity with all the family

**Castiñeir o**
*Castanea sativa*
Familia: Porto García

**Toxo**
*Ulex europaeus*
Familia: Gañete Vidal

**Freixo**
*Fraxinus excelsior*
Familia: Míguez Baltar

**Bidueiro**
*Betula celtibérica*
Familia: Iglesias Casal

Exposition.