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Where is Zefyri in Greece?



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Challenge

Our school is the **second high school in Zefyri, Greece.**

It is a new school that has opened 4 years ago. We are situated in a very difficult region with not too much help for education.

On our 1st year, we did not have any computers. We sent out mails to families, friends and some companies to try to get old computers.

This year is similar but we managed to buy a few computers but without monitors to save money. Since we do not have much support, we have to do a lot by ourselves.

But despite that I am very happy when I see the students enjoying to work on computers. And when they complain about their slowness, I joke with them telling them to bring back their personal computers from home.

Solution

We found out about the **e-Learning Awards** when surfing on the web last year. We really took it as an exercise, a joke between ourselves. **We did not think we could win.**

I want to congratulate once again the students who worked on that project. They stayed after school hours, enjoying themselves working on it, without even thinking of complaining.

When we won the 2nd place, it was not only about winning those great products; it was also **a boost of self confidence.** Out of 366 projects we were second!

The Interwrite products are a great asset for us. To succeed in this contest and win an **Interwrite MOBI** and a kit of **32 Interwrite Crickets** is going to open new horizons for us.

Winning the Interwrite product at the E-learning awards will make our lives easier.

eInstruction™ offers educators a family of software, student response systems, interactive boards, wireless slates and panels, that integrate with high-quality content, aligned to state standards. These solutions have been proven to increase student engagement while providing real-time feedback to educators to assess comprehension and customize lessons. Millions of students, teachers and professors use eInstruction™ technology in 400,000 K-12 classrooms and more than 1,000 higher education institutions around the world. Available in 40 languages, eInstruction™ technology is enhancing education in over 90 countries worldwide. eInstruction™ is headquartered in Denton, Texas, with offices in Columbia, MD, Scottsdale, AZ, Cincinnati, OH, and Paris, France.

Since 2000, **European Schoolnet** has been running the eLearning Awards to recognise the people and schools that provide some of the finest examples of ICT innovation and impact on children's learning.

The objective of this competition is to identify and highlight best practice examples in schools that make good pedagogical use of ICT. The eLearning Awards provide a platform to share successes and learn from each other. Here teachers can show to a wider audience how ICT helps improve their methodology, makes their daily life in teaching easier and also enriches their work in the classroom. All entries are visible through the eLearning Awards portal, arranged country by country, so it is easy to look at inspiring work from around Europe.



ZEFYRI 2nd HGH SCHOOL

Benefit and Results



Thanasis Tsagatakis using the Mobi

The students who were part of the project team have not seen the Interwrite Mobi and the Interwrite Crickets because they left the *Gymnasio* (lower secondary school) to start *Lykeio* (upper secondary school). They will come to see them when they are done with their exams.

I already started using the Interwrite Mobi and the Interwrite Crickets with another class.

With the **Interwrite Crickets**, I love the fact that **all students can participate all together**, it is the 1st time ever and I really enjoy it.

I haven't had the time to really go too deep on how to use these products at their full capacity, but the first few uses in class make me decide **to organize myself so that next year every class in this school can use them**.

The **Response systems** (the Crickets) are a **different way of teaching** but very enjoyable. It seems to be more work to prepare the course but then it is great to see students participate all together.

And see students enjoy themselves is what make a teacher happy.

The **Mobi** allows me to **move around in the class and keep helping students** while moving around. The Mobi gets me away from the board and **I can look at my students while talking**.

For now it is too new for the students to use yet, I see it more as a teacher tool for now.

I haven't had enough time to use the relation between Mobi pad and the response systems but it seems great to be able to see the results of survey while still being among the students and being able to help them, It seems very useful.

The Interwrite Mobi uses the Interwrite Workspace software and the Interwrite Crickets use the Response software.

The great advantage of the **Interwrite software is that they integrate themselves into the software** we are using daily, and **can be used with any media regardless of format**.

In Workspace, the Multi user mode helps me see how 2 students can work different ways on a same problem.

Conclusion

I have just started to using these tools, so next year it will be much clearer how important the use of such tool are in education.

I want to thank eInstruction because winning products is one thing but knowing that some companies do care for Education is another and gives me courage to keep looking for innovations in teaching.

