



ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΔΗΜΟΚΡΑΤΙΑ
Υπουργείο Παιδείας και Θρησκευμάτων,
Πολιτισμού και Αθλητισμού



Education and Culture DG

Lifelong Learning Programme

Directorate of Primary Education in North Attica Prefecture
Primary School of Polydendri
Comenius Regio Study Visit in Kaunas, Lithuania

The Primary School of Polydendri participates in a biennial European Comenius Regio Program entitled "**Social Integration Through Sport**". The program will be monitored by the Directorate of Primary Education in Eastern Attica. Comenius Regio Partnerships are part of the Lifelong Learning Programme of the EU, designed to support collaboration among education authorities in different European regions and help educators and students to better understand the cultural diversity and the values of Europe. During the program the Primary School of Polydendri will cooperate with schools in the region of Kaunas (Lithuania), focusing on sharing best practices in education and physical education. Note that the submitted application for participation in the program received the highest score among the approved programs (see <http://www.iky.gr/IKY/content/gr/socrates/results/REGIO.pdf>).

Within the framework of this Comenius Regio Programme teachers from the Primary School of Polydendri, together with the Director of the Directorate of Primary Education in Eastern Attica Ms Vasiliki Xythali and the School Counselor Dr Maria Pardali visited Kaunas from 16 to 20 November 2012. They were all welcome by the representatives of the coordinator in Lithuania, namely the Department of Culture, Education and Sport in the Region of Kaunas. During their stay, the teachers had the opportunity to visit schools of all levels in the area and be guided around classrooms, school labs and sports facilities, becoming acquainted with the conditions of education, learning and sport in Lithuania. Moreover, they attended educational, cultural and sports activities of students, which focused on Greece and the upcoming collaboration between the two educational regions (Eastern Attica - Kaunas). The Greek education team participated in a scheduled seminar and a round table, where they had the chance to present the structure and function of education and school physical education in Greece, to communicate with fellow teachers from the partner schools, talk with them, exchange ideas and opinions about the educational reality in both countries and define future joint actions within the project framework. These actions include inter alia Olympic Education seminars and outdoor activities in Greece, eTwinning partnerships between the participating schools, usage of the web to achieve the objectives of the program and disseminate the results of the cooperation in educational partner regions.

Finally, the charming European study trip ended with a tour in the castle of Trakai and the historic center of Vilnius, the capital of Lithuania. All participants returned with the best impressions, full of positive experiences and new ideas, looking forward to the next partner meeting, which will take place in our country in Spring 2013.