



LETTERS TO THE MAYOR

Project Erasmus+ «Learning@school»

**Class 2[^]D – Scuola Secondaria di I grado – a.s. 2020/2021
I.C. «Cecrope Barilli» di Montechiarugolo (PR) Italy**



The students with their teacher Marisa Orsi, the mayor Daniele Friggeri and the councilor Laura Scalvenzi.



The meeting with the mayor

On April 20, 2021 as part of the "Week of Civic Education", the students of class 2[^]D meet the mayor of Montechiarugolo, Daniele Friggeri, and the councilor for culture, Laura Scalvenzi.

The students tell the mayor and the councilor about the civic education topics they treated during this school year:

- Italian state and its Constitution
- Human rights,
- International institutions (UN and EU)
- Civic engagement and volunteering
- Legality education
- 2030 agenda
- Gender equality

They also show the comics they created on the story of the judges Falcone and Borsellino who fought against the Mafia.

At the end of the presentation, the mayor and the councilor tell the students about their personal experience and the importance of commitment and civic participation.

**The
presentation
and
discussion on
topics of civic
education**

Traversetolo Montechiarugolo Val d'Enza

Montechiarugolo | ragazzi della 2^a D impegnati su diritti umani e strage di Capaci

Settimana civica, sindaco e vicesindaco a «lezione» dagli studenti del Barilli

» **Montechiarugolo** Le istituzioni vanno a scuola. E stavolta non è un modo di dire visto che, in occasione della Settimana civica il sindaco di Montechiarugolo Daniele Friggeri e il vicesindaco Laura Scalvenzi sono entrati nelle aule dell'istituto Barilli per incontrare gli alunni della classe 2^a D.

All'incontro era presente la docente Marisa Orsi, referente di educazione civica. «È stato davvero molto bello - commenta il vicesindaco Scalvenzi - perché diversi ragazzi sono intervenuti e ci hanno raccontato cosa avevano fatto quest'anno per educazione civica. È emerso che hanno lavorato tanto su diversi temi. Anzitutto i diritti, anche quelli negati, partendo dalla dichiarazione universale dei diritti umani. Poi si sono concentrati sulle disuguaglianze, inclusa quella di genere. E hanno affrontato gli obiettivi dell'agenda 2030».

Durante l'incontro si è parlato anche di legalità.

«La scuola - prosegue il vicesindaco - ha partecipato ad un progetto sulla legalità.

Comune e giovani
Friggeri e Scalvenzi hanno interloquito con i ragazzi e i docenti.



A questo proposito, dopo la lettura di "Per questo mi chiamo Giovanni", i ragazzi della seconda hanno realizzato un fumetto sulla storia di Giovanni Falcone, incentrato sull'episodio della strage di Capaci. Gli studenti sono inoltre parte di un progetto Erasmus di mobilità virtuale, che li porterà a con-

frontarsi con le scuole di Francia e Portogallo».

Dopo il racconto degli studenti, il sindaco Daniele Friggeri e il vicesindaco Laura Scalvenzi hanno preso la parola per un breve intervento.

Le loro parole hanno sottolineato come le istituzioni siano vicine ai ragazzi e co-

me sia possibile, per ciascun giovane, raggiungere i propri obiettivi contando esclusivamente sull'impegno e sulle capacità personali. A prescindere dalle differenze sociali.

Infine Friggeri e Scalvenzi hanno invitato gli studenti ad un nuovo incontro, il prossimo anno, da tenersi possibilmente in municipio.

«La settimana civica - dichiara la dirigente scolastica Marianna Rusciano - è stata l'occasione per gli alunni della scuola secondaria di approfondire temi importanti per la loro formazione da futuri cittadini. Temi già trattati con i docenti durante le ore di educazione civica». In particolare, quest'incontro è servito ai ragazzi «per sentire la vicinanza delle istituzioni, per dar voce alle loro richieste di giovani cittadini e per vivere la normalità della partecipazione alla vita della comunità, fatta di piccoli gesti che, però, rappresentano un importante contributo per il benessere di tutti».

Riccardo Zinelli

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The article that the newspaper "La Gazzetta di Parma" dedicated to the meeting ...

➤ « Civic week, the mayor and the deputy mayor "take lesson" from Barilli students »

1. FIRST STEP:

Students learn the characteristics of the letter and how (and why) to write an open letter to a political authority.

Clarifying Your Argument for the Open Letter

What exactly are you trying to do here in terms of your implicit (real) audience? What point do you want to make to them? What do you want them to know, feel, or do as a result of reading your letter?

- Convince them that a problem exists? (fact)
- Convince them that the way they've been thinking about something is faulty or flawed, or that they've misunderstood something? (definition)
- Convince them that something is good or bad, or better or worse than something else (when they thought otherwise)? (evaluation)
- Convince them that they need to DO something? (proposal)

FORMAT: OPEN LETTER

Your Title Goes Here:
Help us find your entry by beginning with '#Period03:' followed by your title

Enter Title

5th January, 2020

Your Letter Goes Here
It should include:

To:
Ms. [name of the addressee] → Name and subject line

Sub: [a short subject line stating your demand] → Name and subject line

Respected Sir/Madam. → Salutation

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua. → A body with a clear introduction to the issue, your solution and ask

Ut enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exercitation ullamco laboris nisi ut aliquip ex ea commodo consequat. → A body with a clear introduction to the issue, your solution and ask

Enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exercitation ullamco laboris nisi ut aliquip ex ea commodo consequat. → A body with a clear introduction to the issue, your solution and ask

Sincerely,
[Name] → Signature

Choose featured image → You can choose to add a featured image

Hit 'publish' → Hit 'publish'

The letter

How (and why) to write an open letter to a political authority



Formal and Informal Letters

- A letter is, most importantly, a way of communicating with another person.
- Letters have many different functions and can be written in many different ways.
- The two main types of letter are formal and informal and although the two types of letter look the same they are different in terms of content (the stuff you write about) and the type of language used.



The Formal Letter...

- ✓ You make the reason why you are writing the letter clear
- ✓ Clear topic paragraphs
- ✓ A concluding paragraph which lets the reader know what your opinion is and what you would like to happen
- ✓ Appropriate and formal language
- ✓ Quotations from people with authority.
- ✓ Use of facts and figures to support your opinions

The Informal Letter...

- ✓ You start the letter with a friendly tone - asking the reader how they are
- ✓ Paragraphs are used to discuss different topics
- ✓ A concluding paragraph which ends the letter on a positive note
- ✓ Informal and colloquial language

Why might you write a letter?

Reasons why you would write a formal letter...

1. To complain
2. To offer your opinion or comments to an issue or event
3. To apply for a job

Reasons why you would write an informal letter...

1. To communicate with friends or family
2. To thank someone
3. To update friends or family with news about your life

2. SECOND STEP:

The students, divided into groups, think about the things they would like to change or improve or what initiatives and/or new structures and services they would like to add in their town/ village.

3. THIRD STEP:

The students, divided into groups, write some letters to the mayor of Montechiarugolo

- asking him to implement some services and structures that they consider important for their school
- proposing to him possible interventions / initiatives (in social, environmental, cultural and sporting areas) useful for the territory of Montechiarugolo.

Here you are two of their letters!



Dear Mr. Mayor,

we are the students of the class 2D of the secondary school of Basilicagoiano.

We were very enthusiastic and satisfied with the meeting we had with you and the councillor Laura Scalvenzi. We were particularly fascinated by your speech because we understood that if we engage ourselves, we can achieve our goals.

Seen your availability, we have a proposal to make you as to improve the villages of Montechiarugolo's municipality.

As for Monticelli Terme, Basilicanova and Basilicagoiano, we kindly ask you the arrangement of the green areas, assigning them for us with the installation of gazebos and volleyball nets. Furthermore, again for these villages, we ask you to build fenced green areas for dogs, because in our municipality are living many four-legs friends, who need safe walking areas.

Finally, regarding our school, we ask you to be able to take advantage of the platform in concrete, built next to the indoor gym, installing a volleyball net and two basketball hoops. In this way, that platform would have a usefulness and a purpose and for us it would be one more way fun to practice physical education outdoors.

Certain of your feedback, we thank you in advance for yours availability.

Yours sincerely,

2^D students

Letter 1



Dear Mr. Mayor,

we are the students of the class 2^AD of the Secondary School of Basilicagoiano.

First of all we want to thank you for the beautiful and important words you said to us on Tuesday 20 April, at the meeting we had with you.

Your words made us reflect a lot and made us understand how important civic engagement is. Another thing that made us reflect a lot is the equality between people: everyone can achieve goals, no matter the color of their skin, sex, religion or sexual orientation.

We were very pleased to chat with you for a while and we hope to do it again, perhaps in a better period, without a COVID pandemic.

During the meeting you also offered us to contact you and make you proposals related to something that we would like to have in our city.

We kindly ask you to renovate the theater in the Polyvalent Center of Monticelli Terme. So we can use it for school plays, concerts and other events for young people.

The theater is very important space for a city, and we have one but it is unfortunately not accessible. It is really a pity that there is a structure that cannot be used.

Certain of your feedback, we thank you in advance for yours availability.

Yours sincerely,

2^AD students

Letter 2

