



## *Jean-Marie André – Erasmus+*

Rob: And I'm with Jean-Marie André who is the head teacher at the school, Sainte-Anne in Étables-Sur-Mer ... Now you are a great fan of Erasmus Plus

Jean-Marie: Yes

Rob: Why is that?

Jean-Marie: Erasmus Plus is a European programme, that makes people sharing different products or different actions to develop the European idea, so, thanks to that, you can have a connection with university to another university . You can have, um, one student year in a university abroad but you can also work, you can work in a factory abroad and, for the schools you can also have different kind of projects, like we have. We have two kind of projects, one is to work on students from Greece and the other is to work on one subject with six other schools in the whole of Europe.

Rob: And at the moment you have two ladies from Greece. What do they do in your school?

Jean-Marie: In the morning they are working in, uh, nursery classes, so they work with pupils aged from two to five and six and they are like a helper of the teacher, so they, um, are making some products with younger pupils. They also help the, the teachers and, um, they, they do all the work with, with the little kids. That's for the morning and in the afternoon they are doing more work with pupils aged from five to eleven. So they make English lessons because we have partners in Europe so they, they, work on the, on the flag, on the culture and the capital etcetera etcetera and they also make lessons on the Greece culture, mythology etcetera etcetera.

Rob: Your school, Saint Anne's in Étables-Sur-Mer is one of the very few schools in Brittany to be involved with Erasmus, why do you think that is?

Jean-Marie: It's because it is not very well known. Um, the image of the Erasmus Plus is, you know, a student who go to another university abroad; that's it, and they don't know all the possibilities of Erasmus Plus, because Erasmus Plus is like a window; you open the window and you can go everywhere , you can do many things and in Brittany they still believe that it's just for university; it's just for big cities like Rennes or Brest or Lorient. When I had the first project, um, National Agency in Bordeaux, the French National agency phoned me and said 'Oh, Étables -Sur- Mer, is that neighbourhood of Brest?' 'No, why?' Because, they were thinking at that moment that its impossible for a little city to get an Erasmus Plus. I said 'No, we just have the school in one thousand three hundred inhabitants. They say 'Wow, very good, congratulations!' I think the, the real problem is because nobody know the possibilities of Erasmus, that's it; if people knew they would have more and more projects , because people from Brittany are very open-minded abroad. They, they want.... they like to go abroad, they like to welcome people from other counties and normally we are people from an area which is very European-friendly so I think. that the main reason is because nobody knows what we can do with that; with the programme.



Rob: Thank you very much for the time you have taken to explain to us, because you are clearly a great enthusiast for this.

Jean-Marie: Thank you very much .....! And please forgive my mistakes!