

ZPRAVODAJ la ngonpo

www.la-ngonpo.org

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Editorial

Dear Readers,

We are pleased to present to you the third issue of the La Ngonpo Newsletter, and the first one of 2013! Although the financial support from the European Union ended in December 2012, We still have some exciting news for you! We believe that La Ngonpo function as an independent project that will become a useful tool supporting cross-curricular links between subjects in the education system and beyond.



In this issue, you will learn more about the new publications related to La Ngonpo, what's new at the participating schools, and you can also find more information about what our plans for this year are. Don't forget that you are more than welcome to send us your story or your experience from the project

and we encourage you to share it with others. You can find inspiration in the articles from Nový Rychnov Elementary School and Pečky Elementary School published in this issue.

It is the beginning of the second term for the Czech schools, but did you know that it is winter holidays in most of the Ladakhi schools and that the term is almost over in Nepal? Despite differences in semesters, all schools expect the project to continue until June 2013. And as we can judge from the lively discussions on the La Ngonpo website, we certainly still have much to look forward to!

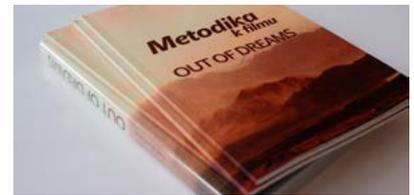
We wish you all the best in 2013 full of many interesting encounters in the La Ngonpo Blue Pass and beyond.

Sincerely,

Your La Ngonpo Team

Content:

What happened
information about last events



Contact us
Experience



Czech. Rep. talks about education
campaign



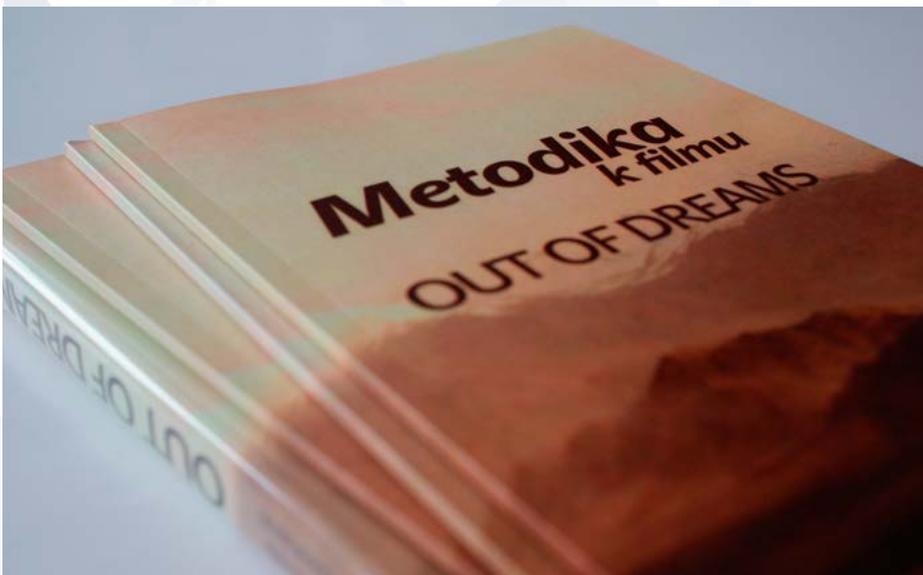
Did you know ...?
interesting facts about the project



What happened

Lesson Plans to the Film *Out of Dreams*

A methodology manual, which contains three lesson plans to the film *Out of Dreams*, is intended for primary and secondary school teachers as supplementary material to the La Ngonpo Project, or it can be used individually. The film takes a close look at the lives of two teenage boys, Rinchen from India and Honza from the Czech Republic, and compares their dreams, desires and wishes in culturally different contexts. This methodology handbook is focused on an active use of the film material at school with the emphasis on different aspects of the film - dreams, desires and wishes, the role of education in our lives and a critical analysis of the film and of the documentary genre in general. You can easily [download the manual in English](#) for free on the Multicultural Center Prague website.



La Ngonpo Diary or Who We've Met in the Blue Pass

While the three-year Czech-Indian educational project La Ngonpo (2010-2012) supported by the EU might be officially finished, you can still learn about interesting experiences of the project's participants thanks to the La Ngonpo Diary. Teachers from Czech and Ladakhi schools, volunteers, partners of the project, experts on GDE and organizers will share their perspectives and views. In addition, this publication serves as a universal planning diary. You can download [the diary in English](#) for free on the Multicultural Center Prague website.

La Ngonpo: Outputs Database

*While the partner cooperation is a mutually enriching and enabling direct interaction between students and teachers and their counterparts from a different cultural context, it requires a great deal of commitment but with no certain outcomes. Sometimes the partner cooperation might not, for various reasons, turn out in line with one's expectations. The most common reasons are insufficient technical equipment on the part of the partner; difficulties in matching the school's curriculum with the project's requirements, or different timing when it comes to the terms and holidays. Some schools do not get their partner's outputs in time so that they could use them in a particular lesson. Other schools would prefer to take part in the project without the partnership commitment; however, they do not want to miss the opportunity to compare outcomes and different points of view. And that is where the Outputs Database comes in handy. During the three years of the La Ngonpo project duration, the participating schools have collected a great amount of very interesting outputs on the La Ngonpo website www.la-ngonpo.org. With this material, we would like to present some of the inspiring outputs with a clear reference to their place in the methodology manual *La Ngonpo: A Meeting Point*. *La Ngonpo: Outputs Database*, therefore, serves as a complementary material to the *La Ngonpo Project* presenting outputs of Czech, Ladakhi and Nepali partner schools; it's available for teachers to use in *La Ngonpo* lessons or for whoever is interested in what has been created by children from different cultural environments.*

La Ngonpo Notice Board Contest

Some of the classes enjoyed cool La Ngonpo Christmas presents. These were the classes that had taken part in the contest held by Multicultural Center Prague and had sent us a photo of their La Ngonpo notice board. Many photos were sent to our office and it was very difficult to pick our favorite. In the end, we decided to award several schools in different categories. And the winners were ... Pečky Elementary School, Sedlčany Elementary School and TRIVIS Secondary School in Prostějov. We also awarded Jablonné nad Orlicí Elementary School and Nový Rychnov Elementary School for their active approach and they got 10 T-shirts each. See how good they look in the T-shirts!



SŠV TRIVIS, PROSTĚJOV



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, SEDLČANY



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, NOVÝ RYCHNOV



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, GENERÁLA FRANTIŠKA FAJTLA, PRAGUE

“Czech Republic Talks about Education” Campaign

“We believe that the lack of a clear and shared strategy to education policy is one of the reasons for decline of education in the Czech Republic. Therefore we want to spark off a society-wide debate which will define the meaning and the goals of an education system clear for everybody” declared the organizers of the “Czech Republic Talks about Education” campaign from the EDUin organization. At the same time they invited the general public and experts to “devote the following six months to discussing what education should be about”.

During this 6-month campaign everybody in the Czech Republic can join the debates about the current state of the Czech education system. More information, various views, experience and current themes can be found on www.ceskomluvi.cz. The current theme is “How to raise children’s interest in learning new things?” and the following one will concern a claim “Is it true that at our schools we divide children according to their abilities into “competent” and “less competent” too early? Get engaged in the discussion!



Contact us

EXPERIENCE

The Indian Cooking

It was the Christmas time; there was a scent of cinnamon in the air and the whole school was full of excitement for Christmas expectations and good deeds. It was also the time when our La Ngonpo group decided to change radically the school's "aroma". We only needed 2 hours to fill the building with the beautiful smell of curry and cardamom. We decided to taste India! Mrs. Dvořáková prepared all the basic ingredients which she had tasted in India herself and was convinced that we should have the chance to taste them too. The first dish to be served was DAHL – red lentils, curry powder and other spices; the second one was a traditional kind of bread called NAAN which we washed down afterwards with TCHAI – black tea with milk, honey and cardamom.



the coconut and curry flavour, and we were ready to go to our Czech homes with full bellies and full of happiness. We enjoyed the cooking very much and we are planning on sending congratulations to India.



It was quite easy to prepare all three of them; we had a lot of fun, and it also became apparent who would one day feel like home in the kitchen and who should, on the other hand, avoid cooking. When everything was ready, we sat at the table and started to taste the dishes. Naan was gone first – it was a great culinary success and so delicious. When it came to dahl, we weren't so excited anymore because we had made too much of it. There was also a sort of dislike for lentils in general because it's not exactly our favourite dish on the school cafeteria menu; unlike tchai, which was the icing on the cake. It was simply delightful even though a bit too sweet. At the end we were awarded by Bollywood-style chips with

Students from Nový Rychnov Elementary School

La Ngonpo in Pečky Elementary School

Since September 2012 fourteen students from the 9th grade have been involved in the Czech-Indian cooperation project La Ngonpo during their English classes. Until then, the international cooperation (e.g. Comenius) had always concerned only European countries with a very similar life style of teenagers. However, the cooperation with Ladakh Public School and SECMOL in Leh, Northern India, opened up new possibilities of multicultural education. A single methodology makes it possible to offer an interesting experience, to learn more about oneself, share ideas and debate. All that is complemented by the opportunity to improve one's English and computer skills while using the La Ngonpo website.

The internet is unfortunately not as easily accessible in India as it is in the Czech Republic and that's why we compare our outputs more often with those from another Czech school – Vsetín-Rokytnice Elementary School. This partnership strengthens the mutual correspondence with our Indian partners. I would like to thank teachers from Ladakh, Chozang Namgial (SECMOL) and Sonam Wangdu (Ladakh Public School), for sending us lots of photos and letters.

Additionally, students had a chance to meet one of the La Ngonpo volunteers, Jiří Benda, who patiently answered all the student's questions regarding the Out of Dreams documentary film. It was a valuable experience for everybody.

As multicultural education is one of the cross-curricular links in Pečky Elementary School, all the teachers attended a one-day course "Intercultural Class and School". I would like to thank Multicultural Center Prague and both lecturers, Martin Hak and Martina Holcová, who spent the whole day with us.

We are planning to present the La Ngonpo project to other students as well as parents on the occasion of the 111th school founding anniversary.

Věra Křížová, 5th February 2013



Did you know that ...?

- you can download [the La Ngonpo Diary](#) which summarizes the international educational project through the eyes of its participants, includes a series of complementing photos from the Czech Republic and Ladakh, and serves, in addition, as a universal planning diary?
- you can share your experience of using the La Ngonpo methodology and communicating with the Indian schools with us and the others through the La Ngonpo Newsletter and Facebook?
- if you would like to carry on the project even when your partner school is falling behind with its outputs, you do not have to miss the opportunity of comparing them thanks to the section Community – Pictures, where teachers can find all the outputs uploaded to the La Ngonpo website? You can filter the pictures according to the individual activities or schools. You can also use [the La Ngonpo: Outputs Database](#) which can be now downloaded on the Multicultural Center Prague website.

*Haven't you found you were looking for?
Send us an e-mail and help us improve the newsletter!
Contact: global.edu@mkc.cz*



Thank you for reading!