

The Crocus Project 2018/19 Report



Co-funded by the Europe for Citizens Programme of the European Union.

The Crocus Project is an Irish initiative whereby HETI provides yellow Crocus bulbs for young people aged 11 years and older to plant in memory of the 1.5 million Jewish children who perished in the Holocaust and thousands of other children who were victims of Nazi atrocities. The yellow flowers recall the yellow Star of David that Jews were forced to wear under Nazi rule. The Crocus blooms around the end of January, in time for Holocaust Memorial Day (27 January).

The Crocus Project is a tangible way to introduce young people to the subject of the Holocaust and to raise awareness about the dangers of racism and discrimination. The children's involvement in learning about the Holocaust, planting the bulbs and watching the flowers grow, encourages learning about tolerance and respect. HETI provides an Information pack to assist teachers in educating about the Holocaust.

The Crocus Project has grown since 2005 when 6,000 Irish pupils participated. In 2018/19, 1,398 schools and 93,616 students from 12 European countries (Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Hungary, Malta, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia), participated in The Crocus Project. Over 14 years, a total of 638,000 individual students have planted crocus bulbs. We hope increasing numbers of countries will join The Crocus Project each year until the whole of Europe participates in it and more than 1.5 million crocuses will bloom.

Schools participating in The Crocus Project can use the Facebook Crocus Club group to post messages, share photographs and swap stories of their experiences of involvement in The Crocus Project. This platform connects students, teachers and communities across Europe. Many wonderful projects are shared through this platform.



OS Skurinia Rijeka, Croatia

Students planted yellow crocus bulbs at the Zidovska cemetery in Rijeka in cooperation with Zidovska Municipality.



Nelle Scuole dell' Istituto Comprensivo Borgomanero, Italy

Teacher Maria Teresa Erbetta and her students carried our readings, reflections and group projects in memory of the victims of the Holocaust as part of The Crocus Project.



1st Vocational High School Kilkis, Greece

ΙΩΑΝΝΑ ΠΡΟΔΡΟΜΙΔΟΥ and her students planted crocuses in memory of Greek victims of the Holocaust.



I.C. Casa del Fanciullo di Partinico, Italy

Silvana Lodato and her students built a special flower bed to plant crocus bulbs.



Kalocsai Nebulo EGYMI, Hungary

The students of Dóri Csupor created artistic responses to learning about the Holocaust.



Students of Scuola Primaria "d.Savio" di Villareggia, Italy

Teacher Mariella Pissardo and her students planted crocus bulbs and yellow stars with the names of victims of Nazi atrocities.

The Crocus Project and the lessons it inspired:

"We are a school for pupils with special needs. The most important rights the children have agreed upon are the right to life and freedom. These rights should be respected not only in the EU but throughout the world. We could talk and show by example that human life has an unmistakable value that should not be forgotten."

Elementary School Hořovice, Czech Republic

"This project is part of my annual program of history, philosophy and social studies, which is mainly focuses on the topic of human rights."

Liceo Ettore Majorana, Italy

"Students talked about tolerance and human rights in the modern world. They participated in lessons about these topics and engaged in discussions. The students also prepared a presentation."

Podstawowa Nr 1 z Oddziałami Ginnazjalnymi w Kamieńcu Żąbkowickim, Poland

"Several lesson were held on the values of the European Union through the use of slides and an online platform "Europa-Noi!"

ICS Leonardo Sciascia, Italy

"Pupils learn about the basic principles of the EU in several subjects (history, geography, citizenship education. The discussion was followed by the Equality and Tolerance project."

ZŠ Dubí 2, Tovární 110 Czech Republic

"We learn about European, about history of the Union and main principles diversity, tolerance, peace, freedom, inclusion."

Elementary school Hreljin, Croatia



Holocaust Education Trust Ireland