

# INTOUCH

ISSUE 61 - October 2023



## Foreword

It's been a busy and fulfilling month at FES, with numerous activities and partnerships that reflect our commitment to growth and education.

This October, we proudly supported Pink October, a global breast cancer awareness campaign. Our Head Office, Klabb 3-16 and Childcare Centres were adorned in pink and organized a range of fund-raising activities. These initiatives showcased our strong sense of community, as all employees and students came together to make a meaningful contribution to important causes.

In collaboration with the Ministry for Education, Youth, Research and Innovation (MEYR) and the Ministry for Social Policy and Children's Rights (MSPC), we proudly hosted the second edition of the Childcare Seminar, with the participation of the Committee for Positive Parenting and the Strengthening of the Family, for all our Childcare Educators and Coordinators. The theme revolved around strengthening relationships with parents to help the child (more info in the coming pages of this newsletter).

In addition to the wonderful events and initiatives in October, it was also a month of mixed emotions as we bid farewell to the children who graduated from our Childcare Centres. It was a proud moment for us to see them take this important step in their educational journey. As we celebrated their achievements, October also marked the beginning of a new chapter as we welcomed new babies and toddlers into our care. The cycle of learning and growth continues, and we are excited to nurture the potential of these young minds as they embark on their educational journey with us.

We are pleased to announce that we received 5389 registrations for Klabb 3-16 for the current scholastic year. This enthusiastic response demonstrates the strong interest and engagement of our community in our programs and services.



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# PART -TIME JOB OPPORTUNITIES @ KLABB 3-16

Għandek aktar minn **17 -il sena?**

Lest li taħdem wara nofsinhar **bejn is-2pm u s-6pm**, fuq bażi part-time, mat-tfal?

**Klabb 3-16** għandu post għalik!

**Applika issa:**

<https://recruitment.fes.gov.mt>



22586835



hr.fes@gov.mt



Do you have a School Leaving Certificate and are 17 years of age?

Do you wish to work **part-time** with children?

Apply for the role of **Playworker with FES**, and we will provide the course and the job opportunity.

We have vacancies specifically in these centres....**and also in other localities.**

For more details and to apply, click here:

<https://recruitment.fes.gov.mt/Home/Profile?eq=RlrFNmELAQ0%3d>

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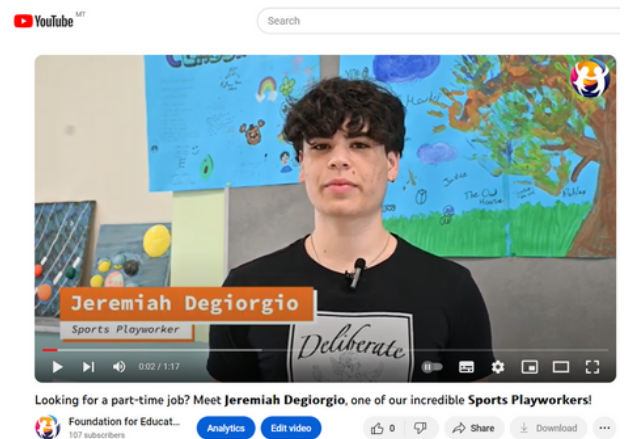
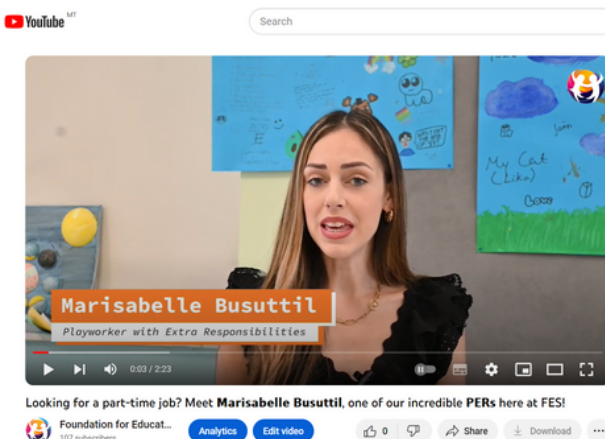
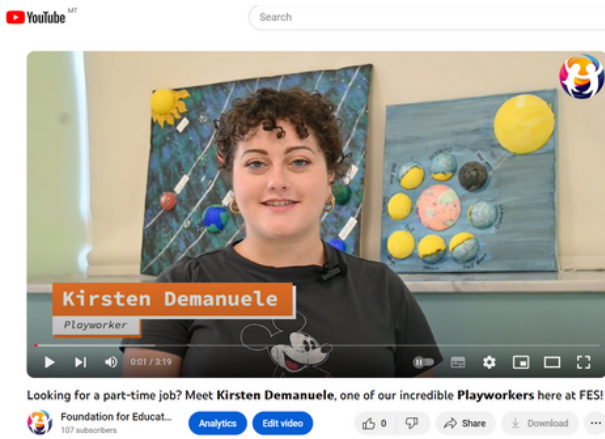
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# WATCH: THE ROLES AVAILABLE AT KLABB 3-16

These videos aim to inform prospective applicants about the job opportunities at FES, offering a clear understanding of the responsibilities involved.

Click this link to view the videos and to learn about the different roles at Klabb 3-16/Skolasajf:  
<https://www.youtube.com/@foundationforeducationalse7973>



# CHILDCARE SEMINAR

The FES Childcare Seminar was organized through a collaboration between FES and the Ministry for Education, Youth, Research and Innovation (MEYR), and the Ministry for Social Policy and Children's Rights (MSPC), through the participation of the Committee for Positive Parenting and the Strengthening of the Family.

The participants were addressed by **Minister Dr. Clifton Grima** (MYER), by **Minister Dr. Michael Falzon** (MSPC), by **Mr Michael Bondin** (CEO, FES), by **Ms Ruth Sciberras** (Chairperson of the committee), by **Prof. Angela Abela** (Vice Chairperson of the committee), **Ms Claire Abela** (senior lecturer at MCAST), **Dr Clarissa Sammut Scerri** (Senior lecturer at the Child and Family Department, Faculty for Social Wellbeing), and **Ms Georgina Fardoe** (Specialist in Early Years).

This collaboration was based on the common denominator of education, care and protection of children in an early years setting, and how helping the family is another way of helping the child.



# FRENCH LANGUAGE AWARENESS PROGRAMME

*s'il vous plaît*  
*merci*  
*merci beaucoup*  
*bonjour*  
*bonne nuit*

These few words relating to social good manners, have marked the first steps in a journey of foreign language awareness, for students at the Pembroke Klabb 3-16 Centre.

Kindly sponsored by the French Embassy in Malta, and delivered by a tutor from Alliance Française de Malte, the course is proving to be a rewarding and fascinating experience. The French language is known for its beauty and elegance, and the students are eagerly discovering the nuances of its pronunciation. The different games and activities are all helping the students to increase their vocabulary, which some are even supplementing with further research at home.

Well done to all the students and special thanks to the French Embassy in Malta, Alliance Française de Malte, Ms Delphine, and the Centre Coordinator Ms M'Grace.

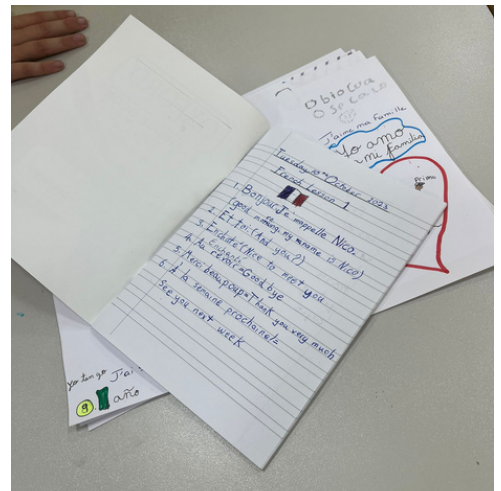
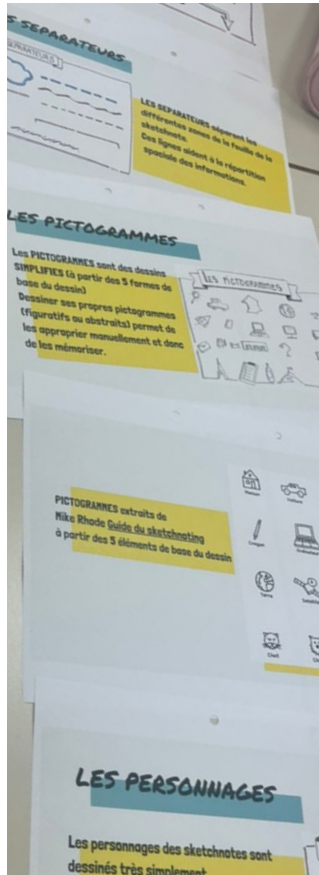


**AMBASSADE DE FRANCE À MALTE**

Liberté  
Égalité  
Fraternité



**Alliance Française**  
Malte-Méditerranée



# FES AT MCAST FRESHERS' WEEK

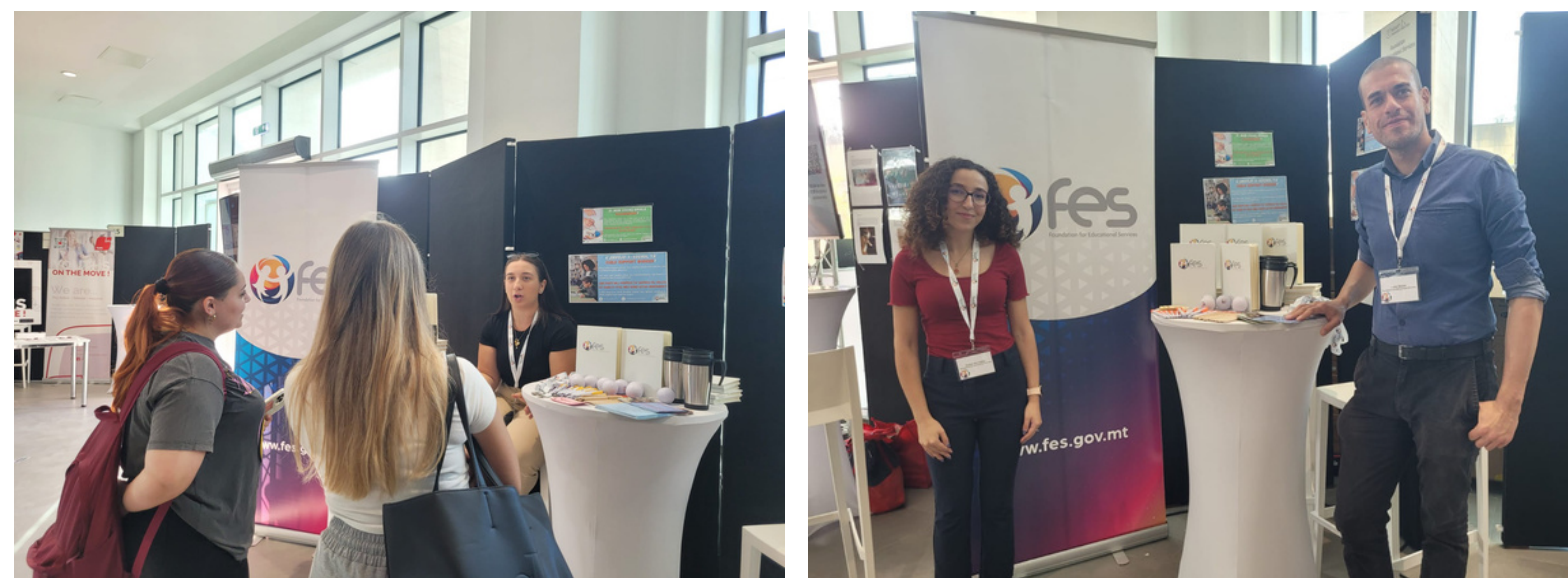


We had an incredible time at the MCAST Freshers' Week in MCAST Paola, Mosta and Gozo campuses. Take a look at our amazing stand!

During the event, we handed out freebies and flyers, offered insights into the current job opportunities FES has to offer, explained the roles at Klabb 3-16 and were on hand to answer any questions, especially regarding Klabb 3-16 recruitment and childcare placements for students.

We hope that everyone who joined us feels informed and inspired.

Thank you for being a part of it!



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www.fes.gov.mt

# PINK OCTOBER AT HEAD OFFICE




FES Head Office goes Pink for Breast Cancer Awareness

*October is not just a month; it's a feeling. It's the colour pink in every heart, the hope in every survivor, and the strength in every warrior.*



At head office, we wholeheartedly embraced the spirit of Pink October. We donned our favorite shades of pink, ate timpana and lamingtons, all while coming together to raise donations for the incredible cause of supporting Hospice Malta.

Our Pink October initiative was small, but a meaningful step towards a world where no one has to face this disease alone.

Thanks to the generosity of everyone at head office, we proudly collected a total of €175! 



# PINK OCTOBER AT OUR CENTRES

## Klabb 3-16 Centres

The **Imqabba Klabb 3-16 Centre** organized a fundraiser named 'Waffles along a Milkshake Day' in support of Hospice Malta. They enjoyed freshly made waffles and sweet milkshakes while contributing to a vital cause.

The staff and students at the **Fgura Klabb 3-16 Centre** collected 200 euros to support Smile with Jerome and the Karl Vella Foundation.



Imqabba Klabb 3-16 Centre



Fgura Klabb 3-16 Centre



Il-Ferrovija Childcare Centre

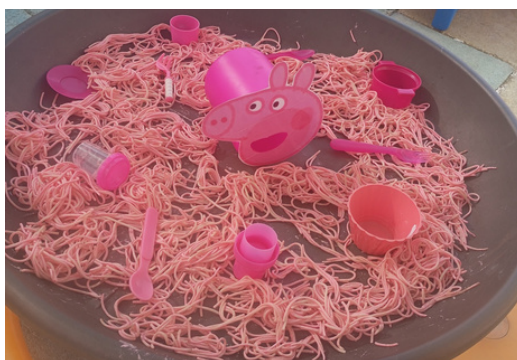


## Childcare Centres

The children at **Il-Ferrovija Childcare Centre**, embraced Pink October. They wore pink outfits, made healthy pizzas, engaged in pink-themed sensory play, danced with joy, and ate their delicious creations together.



Id-Denfil Childcare Centre



At **Id-Denfil Childcare Centre**, the childcare educators thoughtfully prepared a tuff tray filled with engaging pink sensory activities for the babies and toddlers.



# KLABB 3-16 ACTIVITIES



## Tarxien Klabb 3-16 Centre

The **Tarxien Klabb 3-16 Centre** organised an energetic session of physical exercises as part of their after-school activities. Led by the Centre Coordinator Mr Steve Grima, the staff jumped, ran, and rolled around, with the kids following their example.

Engaging in physical activity with children is a wonderful way to promote their physical health and well-being, while making positive memories together.

Well done for this initiative that also served to continue fostering a strong bond between the children and the staff.



## Birżebbuġa Klabb 3-16 Centre

Education is a magical journey where creativity and learning go hand in hand.

Whether we're drawing inspiration from the enchanting world of Harry Potter, practicing spells and playing quidditch, or exploring timeless fairy tales that engage our imagination, Klabb 3-16 is a place where imagination and learning come together.

Well done to all the staff at **Birżebbuġa Klabb 3-16 centre** for preparing these wonderful activities for the children.



# CHILDCARE ACTIVITIES

At **Ix-Xemx Childcare Centre**, the toddlers engaged in imaginative play as they enthusiastically played doctors, performing check-ups on their beloved baby dolls. Armed with stethoscopes, syringes, thermometers, gauze, plasters, eye patches, and triangular bandages, they lovingly cared for their "patients" and even created cozy beds to ensure their baby dolls' well-being.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to all the dedicated staff for preparing these engaging activities that nurture our children's creativity and imagination. Your dedication and passion make a world of difference in our little ones' lives.



# CHILDCARE

## REGISTRATIONS AND EXTENDED HOURS

### Extended Childcare Hours

Monday - Friday  
06:00-18:00

Birgu	Tel: +356 2180 9285
Birkirkara	Tel: +356 2598 5561
Naxxar	Tel: +356 2598 6820
Pembroke	Tel: +356 2137 6644
Haż-Żebbuġ	Tel: +356 2598 7681
Qawra	Tel: +356 2598 6996

FES Head Office TEL: +356 22586829



The FES Childcare Centres are offering the service **over a longer period of hours** in six centres.

The centers at **Birgu, Birkirkara, Naxxar, Pembroke, Haż-Żebbuġ** and **Qawra**, are now accepting children between **6am and 6pm, from Monday to Friday**.

Parents interested in using this service are encouraged to contact FES, or any of the chosen centres, or visit the **service.gov hubs**, for more information.

**Registrations are also open** for the remaining FES Childcare Centres at:  
**Bormla, Siggiewi, St Venera, San Gwann, Marsa, and Floriana.**

A full list of the FES centres with all the contact details can be found at:  
<https://fes.gov.mt/childcare-centres/>

Queries to FES can be asked on telephone **22586829** or via email to [fes@gov.mt](mailto:fes@gov.mt)

# HOW TO APPLY FOR OUR CHILDCARE SERVICES

**1. Choose your preferred centre from the list found at:**

<https://fes.gov.mt/childcare-centres/>

You can also have a look inside of the centres, by watching the videos at:

<https://fes.gov.mt/en/Pages/Child%20Care/Videos.aspx>.

**2. You can download an application form from:**

<https://fes.gov.mt/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/Childcare-Registration-Form.pdf>

You can also contact the chosen centre directly, ask for a tour of the place, and get the application directly from there.



Children can be registered at the centre by handing over to the Centre Coordinator, the filled-in application form together with the necessary documents. Only one application per child is to be submitted.

The Centre Coordinators and the FES FB Messenger service are always available to answer your queries. The Centre Coordinators will also be available to help you fill in the application form.

The childcare service is offered to children until they are eligible to move on to the government Kindergarten on the 1st of February, while children who are three years of age by the end of December are eligible for Kindergarten on the 1st of October, of that same calendar year.

# MEET OUR EMPLOYEES

Name: **Claudianne Mifsud Dimech**  
Role: **Childcare Centre Coordinator**  
**at Il-Merill Childcare**



## **How long have you been working as a Childcare Centre Coordinator with FES?**

I have been working as a Childcare Centre Coordinator with FES since December 2022. It has been quite a journey so far and though it was certainly an uphill climb it was a very rewarding one nonetheless.

## **What inspired you to pursue this career?**

After working as a Childcare Educator for 8 years, working as a centre coordinator felt like a natural step for me. My inspiration was also to be able to lead my own team. I am a firm believer of climbing the ladder one step at a time and I feel that having worked as a childcare educator gives me insight into the role of those employees that I now lead. Having that perspective better enables me to provide the right conditions where together we work towards providing the highest quality care and education for all children who make use of our service.

## **Do you have any interesting or funny work-related stories to share?**

Where do I start 😊. In our line of work, we obviously come across many children who arrive for their first day with us. Some handle it like little champs while others need a bit more attention until they build an attachment with us. I remember one child who's settling-in was quite a journey. She was very resistant to the new environment and people she was meeting. It was a very difficult time for us. However, after giving her lots of caring attention, working closely with her parents to facilitate her transition and endless patience, she finally came around. She became one of the most confident children I ever crossed paths with in my career. This goes to show that no matter how difficult a situation might be, perseverance, care and patience will always yield positive results.

## **Have you gone on any trips recently? What was the most memorable moment from your trip?**

The most recent trip was with my colleagues. We went to Catania for the weekend. The thing I appreciated the most out of all the trip was that we could relax and get to know each other away from the pressures of a demanding job. It helped us to bond and grow together as a team.

## **Looking ahead, what are your aspirations and goals for the future, in terms of your career and personal life?**

Looking ahead, I inspire to share my expertise by training and mentoring new childcare professionals.

# MEET OUR EMPLOYEES

Name: **Mikael Bezzina**

Role: **Programme Secretary - HR**



## How long have you been working as a Programme Secretary - HR with FES?

I have held the position of Programme Secretary within the Human Resources Department for a duration of nearly two years. Despite the relatively short duration of two years, the diligent efforts undertaken within the Human Resources Department have resulted in a swift passage of time. Nevertheless, in addition to the tasks we undertake, I derive immense satisfaction from fully immersing myself in this endeavour, exerting my utmost effort with great enthusiasm for this organisation.

## What inspired you to pursue this career?

Prior to embarking on my current career path, I held a position as a Learning Support educator at Marsa Primary School for a duration of around two and a half years. Despite having studied and worked in a job that I was passionate about, I desired a change. I sought to gain exposure to office work, and since at the time I was working as a Playworker with FES, when the internal job opportunity for a Programme Secretary within the Human Resources Department became available, I promptly submitted my application without hesitation. Since taking this position, I have gained valuable knowledge and found it to be a pleasurable endeavour. Since the beginning of my employment, I have consistently approached this job with unwavering enthusiasm. What further enhances my passion for this occupation is our proficient handling of adversities and our wholehearted dedication to recruiting competent individuals who can provide excellent and holistic education to our students while ensuring their safety.

## Do you have any interesting or funny work-related stories to share?

In the Human Resources department, stories of interest or laughter are a regular occurrence, however among these, a notable incident stands out in my memory. On a particular day, my manager Martina, and I were occupied with a series of telephone inquiries, necessitating our complete attention. Following the conclusion of these calls, I posed a question to Martina regarding an email I had recently perused. In an unexpected turn of events, Martina, after providing her response, unexpectedly said to me "Good-Bye" as if our conversation had taken place solely through telephonic means. Upon her realisation of what she said, both of us erupted into fits of laughter.

## Have you gone on any trips recently? What was the most memorable moment from your trip?

Recently, I had the opportunity to participate in an Erasmus programme in Lithuania, during which I engaged in the study of business economy. Throughout the course, we were exposed to a diverse range of educational experiences, including both virtual and physical lectures. Additionally, we were fortunate enough to have the chance to visit some sustainable Lithuanian enterprises, such as Teletonika. Particularly, Teletonika is a prominent organisation that specialises in providing an extensive selection of networking solutions. The most memorable experience of the excursion was the visit to Genys Brewing, an independent Lithuanian craft brewery. During this visit, we had the opportunity to try a variety of beers while indulging in a delectable platter, which proved to be exceptionally enjoyable. Despite my personal preference for beer, I found pleasure in sampling the various beer varieties, savouring their delectable platters, and mingling with students from diverse cultural backgrounds.

## Looking ahead, what are your aspirations and goals for the future, in terms of your career and personal life?

My future aspirations and goals encompass a successful completion of my studies. By doing so, I aim to position myself for potential advancement within the HR department, which will ultimately contribute to the attainment of my personal objectives in the long run.

# KLABB 3-16 VACANCIES

Click on <https://recruitment.fes.gov.mt/> for the **FULL LIST of vacancies**, to apply, and get more information, including salary rates, eligibility criteria and job descriptions. For any queries, call **22586835**, or write an email to [hr.fes@gov.mt](mailto:hr.fes@gov.mt).

## **CHILD SUPPORT WORKER COURSE - REF. NO:1063**

### **KLABB 3-16 - CENTRE COORDINATOR (PART-TIME) - REF. NO:1064**

Jobsplus Permit Number: 53/2021

### **INTERNAL CALL - KLABB 3-16 - PER (PART-TIME) - REF. NO:- 1077**

Expires On: 09/11/2023

### **KLABB 3-16 - CHILD SUPPORT WORKER (PART-TIME) - REF. NO: 1065**

Jobsplus Permit no: 251/2022

### **KLABB 3-16 - PLAYWORKER (PART-TIME) - REF. NO: 1066**

Jobsplus Permit Number:451/2021

### **KLABB 3-16 - TUTOR (PART-TIME) - REF. NO: 1067**

Jobsplus Permit: 248/2022



# Photo of the month



Photo by: Mikael Bezzina

Lithuania







**Zentrum Business Centre**  
**Level 1, Mdina Road**  
**Qormi**

Opening hours: 8:00 am - 3:15 pm



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