Information technology for the common good

Friday 30th October the awards ceremony of the Programma il Futuro (Program the Future) competition

The time has come for the Programma il Futuro awards, a project implemented by the MIUR (Ministry of Education, University and Research) and by CINI (National Interuniversity Consortium for Informatics) with the aim of disseminating the scientific bases of information technology in schools.

On Friday 30 October, the 10 classes (of both primary and secondary schools) will receive their award online as winners of the competition Information technology for the common good created to stimulate students on the theme “Sustainable development and digital technologies”.

There are 3 areas in which students and teachers were called upon to issue their opinion, collaborating remotely because of the critical issues determined by the health situation: health and well-being, quality education, decent work and economic growth.

The project partners will directly reward the winning classes with several IT kits: Eni (philanthropist), Engineering (benefactor) and SeeWeb (donor).

The initiative also benefits from the patronage of ANDINF (IT teachers’ Association), ANP (Principals’ and Deans’ Association), ConfArtigianato and Confindustria Digitale (Industry Associations).

The next goal of the project, launched in December 2014, is to reach 3 million students. At present almost 40,000 teachers are registered on the platform, which thus reaches 85% of Italian schools. There is also an increase in the number of parents and trainers interested in studying the subject of information technology and its implications. Numbers that will certainly rise in view of the International Week of the Hour of Code, the most popular educational event in the world which will take place from 7 to 13 December 2020 and which Program the Future will take part in with a series of events.

There are two innovations for the school year 2020-2021: firstly the new courses for primary schools on the essentials of information technology, based on materials from the American organization Code.org. The second innovation is the release of further guides on responsible digital citizenship, which have already reached 60,000 downloads with 150,000 views of the related videos. We report the guide made available in recent days "My digital activities" https://programmafuturo.it/come/cittadinanza-digitale/cittadinanza-digitale-secondaria/le-mie-attivita-digitali aimed at lower secondary schools and at an effective management of social media and digital activities.

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