**Some original ways to say goodbye.**

There are several ways to say goodbye to each other at the end of an exchange week. We suggest three possibilities here:

1. **Compliments on cake boards.**

A formula that works well with a group of students who are very attached to each other is that of cake boards. When you have something to celebrate, you eat a piece of cake. In Belgium, cakes and other pastries are placed on these cake boards at the bakery. Well, what exactly are we planning to do with them now?

The students stand up. Everyone gets a cake board on their back using a safety pin. When everyone managed to do this, the pupils each take a pen (or other writing utensil). The idea is that everyone now walks around while the others write something sympathetic, sweet or nice on that cake board.

It takes some time getting used to at first, but after a while, people walk around and enjoy writing compliments to others. And for the recipient, it all remains exciting, because all kinds of things are written, but he/she does not yet know, what is written on it.

Keep an eye on how smoothly it goes and give the students the time they need to write.



1. **Puzzle piece of a joint drawing.**

At the start of a longer get-together (such as class reflection days or an exchange week), a large drawing sheet is laid out on a table with lots of colored pencils. Participants are instructed to draw as much as possible on this, each according to their own ability/interest. The aim is to eventually have no white left on the sheet. At the end of the get-together, the drawing is cut into several pieces, think of it as puzzle pieces. Each participant gets a piece. At the next get-together, the idea is to put the pieces together again and get the original drawing.

You can also apply a similar method to these puzzle pieces as described under 1 above, but then keep in mind that one can only write down a word and not sentences.

1. **The tree.**

In a circle discussion, one can ask to indicate his/her position on the tree (see appendix). Each one can tell, how s/he feels within the group. You can allow pupils to "pass", i.e. not answer, if they don't want to share their feelings. Then engage in a conversation with them afterwards to know what's wrong, but usually everyone will participate in this.

**If you have any other great ideas, be sure to let us know:** **werner.desmet@olvcplus.be**