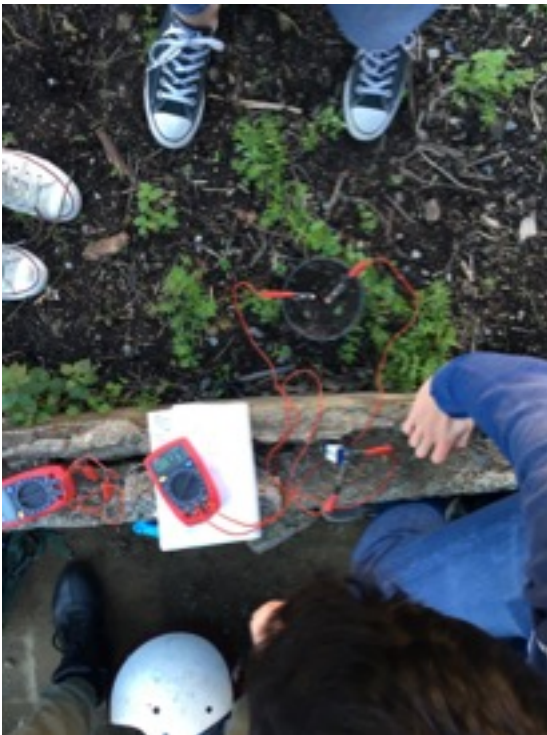


Group 4 project

The group 4 project is an interdisciplinary activity done once every two year and it involves both DP1 and DP2. It is a collaboration in which students design and perform several experiments using the knowledge of all the Group 4 subjects offered by the school (Design, Physics, Biology and Chemistry). Students who study a specific scientific subject are exposed to all scientific tracks and are able to interact with each other. In this way they accomplish the beauty of other branches of science and technology and increase their knowledge about the scientific method and its application in everyday life.



This year classes conducted the experiments at the St. Nicola's greenhouse in order to collaborate within the disciplines and analyze results from different scientific perspectives. Before the association was founded, the greenhouses were in awful conditions due to vandalic acts. Now both university students and volunteers passionated in botanics started to take care of them and restored the environmental ecosystem.



Our aim was to examine a common topic or problem involving the greenhouse itself. As an example of a chemistry experiment, a group took samples of soil and calculated each pH level, while for biology another group observed the germination of plants depending on the soil. For physics instead many measured the electrical conductivity of soil. Even if design is not a scientific subject it was also useful in this project as the design students were concerned about the external structures of the greenhouses.

Thanks to the group 4 project we have been able to promote cooperation within sciences but also between students. It has been a wonderful experience and we are sure the next classes will appreciate it.

By Chiara Vigneri and Ester Ottonello, DP1

