The Modern School Movement

The modern school movement arranges pairings and wider partnerships on a worldwide basis between classes of teachers and their students in dozens of nations. The first such pairing was between two ad Rene Daniel from the coastal village of Tregunc inn Breton. The technologies employed by Freinet and Daniel in their first long-distance collaborations centered on classroom printing and journalism; the two classes produced books and newsletters of student writings to share both locally with students, family and friendsm and with their distant partner class as well. To make the exchanges more meaningful and less abstract the two teachers also worked with their students putting together “cultural packages” that they exchanged weekly by mail. Freinet wrote in his diary about how he and his student s felt on the day they received their first cultural package from Breton, filled with fruits, dried flowers, perfumes, fossils, seashells, photographs figurines, lace and folk costumes: “Maintenant, nous ne sommes plus seus” (Now we are not longer alone) (Frienet, 1969/1975, pg 45)