

ERASMUS WEBS

3rd Mobility

Katowice 18.11-22.11

REPORT

By BC Broekhin, Roermond

Attendants: 3 teachers and 9 students

The Dutch group of nine pupils was accompanied by three teachers. All teachers are bilingual teachers in respective arts, music and philosophy of life. The pupils are from year 3 ranging from age 13 to 15. In Katowice we also met students and teachers of Berlin and Luebeck.

We were picked up at the airport by a Polish teacher who accompanied us to Katowice. The pupils were met at a bus station nearby the train station in Katowice by their Polish exchange partner and host family. One student met her exchange partner at the airport. It took her by surprise so she had to adjust. This was the first switch over, belonging to the delights of travelling, one of us had to make.

The week before the exchange, the Dutch pupils got in touch with their Polish exchange partner. They knew already where they were going to stay, how they had to travel to school and at what time they had to get up. But still it was an experience for some of them, because they had to take a train or bus, instead of cycling to school. After school the pupils went to the city centre to hang out and eat something or went to a shopping mall. After dinner they sometimes came together to do board games. Some of them went roller skating or went to the cinema. Some went to a classical music concert or visited a mine. Two students even went to Auschwitz. They were very impressed by the visit and thankful this opportunity was given to them. All students were taken care of with warmth and hospitality.

The programme was diverse. We started with warming up activities. There were trips to a park in the mountains, to a museum, to the city centre to learn about the sights and to learn about the German, Spanish and Dutch traces in Katowice. During the trips the students had to answer questions on paper. At school we were informed about the bilingualism at Copernicus High, we attended classes, there was a language team game and a workshop on film making. The students enjoyed the programme. They worked hard on the language team game and they learned a lot about film making. The lessons were interesting, although they couldn't follow the French during the psychology lesson, although the films used were quite understandable. English and Physics used different ways of teaching and in both classes the students had to work together a lot. The week was ended with making a video per country about their experiences in Katowice and with a beautiful lunch for all the students and teachers involved. More than in Luebeck and Berlin, our students mixed with all nationalities. On our way back home, they got in a kind of 'fight' because there were different opinions about which country had the friendliest pupils. At the end they concluded they liked them all.

We were able to get a good impression of the bilingual system in Poland and at Copernicus High. The lecture was given by a teacher who was originally from France, so he was a native

speaker. In comparison with The Netherlands there are many schools in Poland with bilingual sections.

All of us truly enjoyed the week in Katowice. We speak with appreciation about the program and about the hospitality we encountered. Thanks to the teachers and Copernicus High for the great week in Katowice in which they gave us, teachers and pupils, a great learning and cultural experience. Especially our students went home wiser because of these experiences.