



# THE READER

# 35

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Exchanges at II LO  
and More

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## ERASMUS+



Students of Baczyński High School have been taking part in an exchange within Erasmus+ project. Our partners are the high schools from Paimio, Finland and Brochon, France. We have already been to Brochon (we went there in April 2017) and our partners have just visited Radomsko (they arrived in October 2017). In April 2018 we are looking forward to visiting Paimio. A month ago, each of the Polish students hosted one French

and one Finnish person in their houses. We're inviting you to read the opinions of Polish Erasmus+ students about the project.

## Accounts

### Ida Szataniak II B

I think it was a great experience. My English skills have improved. I met a lot of nice people. Moreover, I learned how to communicate in English even if I don't know the words. I showed my friends Polish food and I could see their reaction. I learned how to present myself at a job interview. My girls told me what their life at school looks like. I know a lot of information about their educational systems. We had such great fun in our free time when I could get to know them more. I've found my pluses and minuses. I've made some international friendships which I hope will last forever.



### **Iga Dygudaj II E**

I was so excited about their coming here and I couldn't wait when I finally would be able to talk to my girls face to face. I felt more comfortable this time than in France because we had already known each other so our conversations were more relaxed and we weren't scared of



the other person. We all got closer to each other and it was an amazing feeling to spend this whole week with our 'international friends'. We had a lot of activities during which we had to work together so that was time to get to know something more about each of us. Besides, during educational courses, when we needed to focus to do our job best as we could, we had a lot of fun, too. After each day of work and fun I was exhausted

but now, when they aren't here anymore, I would do everything to wake up and see my girls and all of these people again and spend one more day with them. I'm so happy when I'm thinking about that time we spent together in Poland and I can't wait to see them in Finland again.

### **Iza Soncińska IIc**

A month ago I was taking part in an exchange within Erasmus + programme with Finland and France. It was great time! French and Finnish people are wonderful. During our meetings we could improve our languages skills, meet new people from other countries and just learn new things and get to know the culture. It is great experience. I recommend exchanges!



### **Karolina Klekowska III B**

Erasmus + has been an amazing opportunity to be a part of something bigger. It's given not only probably the best experience in my life or let me improve my language skills but

mostly it's taught me to be an open person to others. This project's shown me that even if we are so different, we have so many things in common. I have been enjoying it since the very

beginning. I wish the time when we are together in each country were longer, maybe even 10 days. I am looking forward to seeing everyone again soon. I recommend everyone to join Erasmus+ if they have this possibility. You will never regret it.

### **Natalia Piasecka II B**

Erasmus+ is my first exchange and I think this was one of the best decisions in my life. I'm happy that I can take part in this project. I've met wonderful people who are very close to me. I've made a lot of friends from France and Finland. In our Polish team there are the most amazing people I've ever met. I saw France and I will see Finland, which was my dream. Our meetings in France and Poland were very interesting, funny and I had great time there. I'm looking forward to our next meeting in Finland and seeing my friends again.

### **Ola Borowiecka II B**

I think the week spent in Poland within Erasmus+ project was very hard-working and efficient. I think we did a lot of work with really good effects. We had both a lot of work and a moment of rest and some fun, which was very much needed. I loved it. I think we got a lot of experience from it. It was a nice experience that I would like to repeat more than once because what I gained would be useful in the future.

### **Ula Ścisłowska IID**

Erasmus + is a very interesting adventure in my life. I love it very much. In this project I've learned how to solve problems. We've worked in groups and developed social skills. I've met very nice people from France and Finland. I mean the project helps me open to others. But I also think our Polish group is very integrated. Together we learn to help and understand each other. I've got to know what studying in France or Finland looks like. This project is amazing and I recommend it to everyone who wants to know different people, different culture and gain a lot of skills



## Żaneta Zakrzewska II E

Have you ever thought about taking part in a school exchange? If you don't know what it could look like, I want to resolve your experience.

I take part in an international exchange. In April I was in France, which was stunning for me. To start with, I think that I experienced a really amazing adventure. I could get to know other people and make new friends. I saw what a French family and their normal day look like. I could check my English. I learned how to deal with language problems because the family who took care of me spoke only English or French. Actions speak louder than words. I think that a better way to learn other language is try to speak than boringly sit at school and learn vocabulary and grammar. And international exchange gives us something new about ourselves.

You shouldn't be afraid that you don't understand everything somebody says. What you can't say, you can show. I think that body language is really helpful and understandable for foreigners.



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## Life with the Internet



unlimited possibilities. We can provide false names and other information about ourselves. It is not dangerous as long as it is only for fun, but some people cannot tell virtual reality and the real one apart. There are more and more such people. Recently, during one of my walks, I

Could you imagine the modern world without the Internet? Certainly it would be awkward or – especially for the youth – impossible. We have to realize that the history of the Internet goes back only 50 years, but it became popular 30 years later. And for the last 20 years it has had a large influence on our life. The Internet gives us

saw graffiti "Human, but in reality". It is the best expression of the need to meet a human, but a human who is down-to-earth and real.

There is another thing connected to this topic. Our life is going faster and faster. We have no time for ordinary meeting for tea or coffee. It is substituted by conversations via Facebook or things like that. We think we know someone well, but behind chats and emoticons there are often hidden emotions, feelings and true problems, which are left unseen. New technologies are developing quickly and we should accept this, but at the same time we have to retain our social life in reality.

**Adam Klekowski, IID**

## **Is a school exchange a good way to improve language skills?**

I have been at Polish-German exchange and it seems to me that my English skills are much better. Now, I'm not afraid to talk to each other in a different language and I know that I can be abroad alone.

I have been to Germany for a week and this week has changed a lot in my life. For me, it was difficult to break the language barrier, because before the exchange, I hadn't been abroad for a long time. After a few days, I didn't pay attention to the mistakes in grammar and I just spoke. I understood everything what people told me and it's making me proud now. My exchange partner, who is Sophie, knows English very well and it's good for me, because thanks to her my English improves with all our talks.

In my opinion school exchanges are the best way for students to improve their language skills. My experience is a proof of that and I only want to say to all students in our school that if you have a chance to take part in an exchange, don't even hesitate and just take part in it

**Paulina Krupska II A**



## German Memories

As you can see – this edition of "The Reader" is full of articles about student exchanges. It's because our high school has participated in 2 international projects this year. One of those trips was sponsored and organised with the help from EU. Of course, this aid



was only in cash, because our teachers – Ms. Smendowska, Ms. Król, Ms. Latała and Ms. Krawczyk-Broszkowska had a lot of work with which they had to figure out alone. The main goal of this is to connect students from Poland, France and Finland.

The second international adventure is with the youth from Germany. I'm glad because I could write much more about this venture, because I took part in this. We had our flight to Frankfurt at the end of September and I must add here that we couldn't wait for this!

When we came to the Dietzenbach (the city of our hosts), we were shocked. The quality of Germans' streets and the loveliness of their houses were unbelievable. At this exchange we visited a lot of great places, met a lot of magnificent people and practiced our English.

However, I have to say that Germans have a different culture and the cultural differences were quite apparent. On the one hand, they were kind but on the other hand, also very plain-spoken.

Those wonderful German students are coming to Poland in April so if you see a few new people in our school – don't be afraid, you are not mentally ill. It's just our friends from Germany. If you want to come up and talk to them, they are pretty friendly. :)

**Joanna Kempa kl. IIb**

## Why is it worth taking part in teenagers' international exchanges?

Everyone has probably heard about a different types of UE projects which allow young people to take part in youth exchanges. The youth derives many benefits from these projects but a lot of them are still not convinced to doing it. And I'm still wondering „why?”.

The main destination of international exchanges is a reinforcement of European education and promotion of international cooperation. As a result, both young students and teacher staff have great opportunity to learn new ways of working, and they also develop the quality of learning by creating new content of teaching and upbringing.

Motivating students to learn foreign languages is very important. Nowadays, their knowledge is necessary on the labor market and in everyday life. Active use of different languages during projects causes language barrier to break and fear of contact with people from another countries disappears. The member of an exchange becomes more opened and gets used to living in international environment. These projects are a chance not only for educational development but personal, too. Students become more self-confident, determined, they can make a risk and set a destination of their life. Moreover, foreign travel opens people to a variety of environments. It allows them to get to know with local customs, the region and with people who live there. The growing cultural awareness is one of the main benefits of teenager exchanges. They may change a point of view about a lot of countries and they also help fighting with stereotypes, racism and xenophobia.

And the main aspect of international exchanges are definitely people. These departures are great bargain to integration,

making new friendships with people from other countries, exchanging correspondence and private visits.

In my opinion, teenage international

exchanges are the best opportunity to experience extraordinary adventure, get to know history and culture of other countries and gain new unforgettable experiences.



Karolina Derwisz, kl. IIB

## 9 BENEFITS OF LEARNING FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Here are some reasons why you should learn a foreign language:

### **1. You will be able to communicate confidently with more people**

This may be very useful at work if you work in an international company or during your travels.

### **2. You can expand your vocabulary**

When you learn vocabulary in a foreign language you will checking new words in a dictionary.



### ***3.You know the culture of people from another country***

Talking with someone from another country, you will be able to learn about its culture, traditions and history of this country

### ***4.Multilinguality makes you better at multi-tasking and improves your memory***

For the brain, switching between two languages is like switching between two tasks and therefore language learning can improve your multitasking abilities.

### ***5.Variety of entertainment***

*You can watch movies without subtitles and really understand the lyrics of your favourite songs*

### ***6.Travel will be much easier for you***

*The ability to speak in another language makes travel easier even if the language you know is not the language of the country you're visiting.*

### ***7.New friendships***

*It is much easier to meet new people when they speak their own language. You can make friends with people from all over the world.*

### ***8.This can be your hobby***

*Language learning can be your hobby. School, work and acquaintances, it is also worth finding time for yourself.*

### ***9. Prevent dementia***

*Researchers have found that people learning a foreign language were able to delay the development of dementia by up to 5 years.*

[Angelika Sobon](#)

## A foreign exchange

Have you ever wondered why exchanges organised by schools are so useful and important for us? If not, I'll try to tell you about it because one of my friends has participated in the exchange between Poland and Germany. During the exchange, which lasts usually a few days, students have to live with foreigners for a while. During this time they must communicate with them using a foreign language. It means that students improve their language skills after a short time spent



with friends from another country. They realise that speaking a foreign language may be natural and give satisfaction. Another advantage is that, because of talking to a foreigner, we can get to know about cultural differences and overcome stereotypes. For example, Polish people attitude towards German nation used to be negative after the Second World War and after the exchange, young people's thinking is changing. They are becoming more cooperative and open to the other nations nowadays. Apart from that, some people are in touch with their partners after the exchange. They write emails and communicate with each other. So it goes without saying that this is a great way for people who want to improve the language and what's more, it will be very helpful before preparing to the matura exam. All in all, the idea of the exchange has a lot of advantages. It improves international communication in modern Europe. I hope my arguments are convincing to you.

**Natalia Kukiela IIIB**

## Apple pie

- 2 hours and 30 minutes baking and cooling
- Preparation: easy
- Cheap dish
- 16 serves

### Dough ingredients:

- 4 cups of flour
- 1 teaspoon of baking powder
- cup of caster sugar
- ½ packet of butter

- 6 eggs with yolk
- spoon of sour cream

### **For the filling:**

- 8 peeled and chopped apples
- ½ glass of water
- cup of sugar
- 1 teaspoon of cinnamon
- spoons of potato flour
- spoons of lemon juice
- 2 spoons of breadcrumbs

### **Preparation**

#### **Cake**

Put the flour, caster sugar and baking powder into a big bowl. Cut butter and add it to the bowl, then beat. Next put the eggs with yolk, then the sour cream and mix everything well. Divide the dough into 2 parts, wrap it in foil and cool it for about 1 hour.

#### **Filling**

For the filling peel, core and thinly slice the apples, then squeeze the lemon juice over the fruit to stop them turning brown. Put the apples in a saucepan and add water and cinnamon. Cover it and cook for 15 minutes. Don't mix it. After cooking add the sugar, mix gently. Next put the potato flour to the rest of apple mass and simmer it for about two minutes. Heat the oven to 180° C.

Grease the butter on the form (34 cmx23 cm) and put one part of the cake. Bake it for about 8 minutes. Get the cake out of the oven, allow it to cool in the roasting pan for 15 minutes and then sprinkle the cake with breadcrumbs, then put the apple mass and cover the second part of the cake. Bake this for about 1 hour. Cool it down.

Your dream cake is ready! **Enjoy!**

**Martyna Iwanowicz kl. IIb**