

Jelgava Secondary School welcome Comenius guests in Latvia

From 5th to 12th of April Comenius partners from Slovenia, Poland, Portugal and Germany visited our school. We tried to prepare for this meeting carefully and thought about all things to make our guests feel comfortable and happily.

On the first day of our meeting the teachers and students explored our hometown Jelgava. The first place we visited was Jelgava Palace- former residence of Courland and Zemgale dukes, now- the house of Latvia University of Agriculture. Jelgava Palace is the largest Baroque style palace in the Baltic states, the greatest work of famous Russian court architect Bartolomeo Rastrelli and one of the few cultural monuments remained in Jelgava.

Later in the afternoon our guest visited the museum, known by its historical name Academia Petrina, and were acquainted with the most important historical events of Jelgava and its region from ancient times to the present day. The building of the museum was built in 1775 on the initiative of the last duke of Courland and Zemgale- Peter Biron. The first University in Latvia was located here earlier.

Then we invited our guest to get acquainted with the most impressive tourism novelty in Jelgava – renovated Holy Trinity Church of Jelgava where they had possibility to see the panorama of Jelgava from the 9th floor sightseeing platform. We finished our first day in Tavern Istaba .

The second day of our project meeting was spent at school where we had concert prepared by all the partners of the project, had excursion around the school and latter were trying Jelgava special dish "Charlotte's kiss". In the afternoon we visited "Children and Youth centre". We saw the place where students of our city spend their free time after lessons at school.

On Wednesday we visited our capital Riga and walked along the narrow streets of Old Riga. Latter in the afternoon we visited The Latvian Ethnographic Open Air Museum. Our guest could see the monuments of traditional life and get information about the cultural heritage, work and

daily life traditions and aesthetics of folks who have lived in the territory of Latvia. We finished our day and had dinner in a rest center Lido.

Thursday was very busy day for the participants of the project- there were organised workshops for teachers and students at school. Our guests made soap of different colours themselves.

In the afternoon teachers visited Rundale Palace but students watched films and had disco at school.

Thursday it was our "Chocolate Day." It was an opportunity to experience chocolate making traditions in Pūre chocolate museum. We watched the film about the history of the chocolate, made chocolates ourselves and of course tasted them. In the evening both teachers and students played bowling.

Friday was the last day for our guests in Latvia. We hope that our partners and friends liked their visit in Latvia and in our school.