REPORT FROM 5TH PROJECT MEETING IN LIPNIK, POLAND THURSDAY 19th MAY 2022

Thursday 19th May



A programme for Thursday was to visit a Nazi concentration camp in Auschwitz. We were learning about European history which is very important now when there is war in Ukraine so close to our countries. At 8:15 we got on a bus outside the

school and picked up the others who stayed at hotels or rented houses. We drove for about two hours and then we had a short break at a petrol station. At around 11:30 we arrived in Auschwitz and went to a restaurant called "Smaki dziencinstwa" for lunch. We all had a tomato soup and chicken with mashed potatoes.

After lunch we had an opportunity to chat with students from other international teams and then headed back to the bus. At 1:30 pm we arrived at the concentration camp called Auschwitz-Birkenau camp. Exploration of the first part of the camp took us an hour and half. We were in a group with Swedish and Italian team and we saw the original buildings and railroads.

We were taken into old cells and saw many rooms that were reconstructed to look how they used to be before. The most shocking thing was to see all the realia: photos, shoes, suitcases and other personal belongings. It was really heart breaking.

The second part of the camp is called Birkenau and we got there by local bus. The tour in Birkenau took about 45 minutes. We saw the old chimneys that were the last thing still standing from the original buildings used for cremations. There were also



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barracks where people used to sleep with bunk beds in three levels.

We learned about the poor conditions that prisoners had to stay in. We also visited the building that served as a bathroom and toilets. It was all made of concrete with a lot of holes



really close to each other. People had only around 5-15 seconds to use the toilet and they were allowed to use it only twice a day, in the morning and in the evening.

On the way back we were thinking about the horrors of Nazi ideology and about suffering of all the Auschwitz victims. It was a very strong experience for us all.



Some students stayed in Polish families but my friend Adriana and I were hosted with a Polish teacher. After dinner we had a nice talk with her son so we had another opportunity to practice some English.

ADRIANA FOTLÝNOVÁ 7.A