

REPORT FROM 4th PROJECT MEETING IN ZABRZE, POLAND TUESDAY 10th MAY 2022



In the morning we all met at the school. Teachers presented us the plan of the day and the tasks to be done. At 8.30 a.m. **the guided tour of Zabrze** started.

We got on the bus at school. There was a

guide with us explaining all in English. The city of Zabrze was formed from two words frog and eat = frog eaters according to an old legend. **The Bytomka River** flows through the city which has 192,000 inhabitants. During the tour we were to visit several interesting places. We walked above the city and the guide told us something from the history.

The first place we visited was **the Iron House**. There are 5 iron houses in Europe. In Zabrze there are 4. The disadvantage of steel houses is that more lightnings strike them during a storm. The American actor Arnold Schwarzenegger mentioned 5 years ago that he would like to visit this iron house.



The other interesting thing was **the Jewish cemetery**, which was all covered with ivy. But people buried there were not Polish Jews but **German Jews** because this part of Silesia used to be part of Germany before the Second World War.

The third attraction was **St. Joseph's Church-a functionalist building built in 1931**. What I liked best about the church were the **stained glass windows**, through which interesting light shone. The best part was the huge organ. Their pipes were



arranged in interesting shapes. In the crypt there was **an altar made from one piece of coal**. It was very big and all shiny black.

On the way, we stopped briefly at **the**

REPORT FROM 4th PROJECT MEETING IN ZABRZE, POLAND TUESDAY 10th MAY 2022

botanical gardens where we were able to see a large number of interesting plants. The fourth attraction was **the Górnik Zabrze stadium** which was built in 1936 and renovated in 2016.



Later we went to the school for lunch. After lunch we did group work **about advertising a travel**

company which lasted until 1.30 p.m. Then we went by bus to the **former Sztolnia mines**, where we divided into groups. There was a guided tour. I was in the first group. We put on our helmets and took the elevator 46 m down. It was pleasantly cold in the **Sztolnia**. I learned that there was a special **coal mined** there.



In this mine, the coal was hauled by horses that lived underground for that purpose. In the second half we **went by boat underground** on the boat which transported the coal. The length of the tunnels we

went through was interesting. The tunnel was dug through half the town. Another interesting feature associated with the local mines are the **hills called heaps**, which were created by exporting soil from the mines.

After the programme, a bus arrived to take us to our families. Half an hour later, my friend Martin, with whom I was staying, came to pick me up and we went to **a lovely restaurant together with his parents**. In the restaurant I had **chicken schnitzel with potatoes**. After dinner at the restaurant we drove home and went to **play basketball**. In the evening we **played computer games** together, which was great fun. I also learned how to put together **a Rubik's cube**. I wasn't very good at it, so we laughed a lot.



KRYŠTOF SMĚTÁK 7.B