

OUR TRIP TO POLAND

By Erika Le Rose (2G)

Hi! I'm Erika and I went to Poland in March. Our plane took off from Linate airport and we got to Frankfurt in about an hour and half. We finally got to Gdańsk at about 6 p.m. where I met my host family. There were four of them in their family, and they were all really kind and helpful.

Their house is really different from ours. When I got in I saw quite a long corridor with rooms on each side. At the end of the corridor there was the kitchen and the bathroom, turning left there was quite a small living room with a big wardrobe. I slept with my host, Hania, in her bedroom.

Polish people usually have a lot of pets. Hania had two dogs, one cat and a hamster. Hania's house was close to a sort of field where we had a walk with her dogs and where I saw one of the most important bridges in Gdansk.

During our stay, we went to school. Hania attends Gdańskie Gimnazjum "Lingwista" school. It took us thirty minutes by car to get there. The school is not very big and there aren't many classrooms, but surely it was lovely and welcoming. We had a lot of art workshops during the week.



In the afternoon we visited the wonderful "Old Town", with the Neptune Fountain. The local legend says that Neptune contributed to the development of the recipe for the famous Gdańsk liquor, the Goldwasser. We got into the "Old Town" through the amazing Golden Gate, built in the early 17th century. Its facade tops are adorned with stones statues symbolising peace, freedom, wealth, fame, concord, justice, piety and reason. In the middle of the arch there is the official city coat of arms, a crown with two crosses. We also had a look at the Gothic church of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This fantastic Basilica has got



beautiful crystal vaults and it's adorned with many exquisite works of Medieval and Baroque art. We walked along St. Mary's street, whose romantic air has attracted artists for centuries. The lane is an exquisite example of the old Gdańsk architecture.



On Wednesday we visited the "Solidarność" exhibition located in the basement of the seat of National Commission, which presents turbulent historical events of the last three decades. I also had the opportunity to visit "Sopot" (both during the day and at night), a place at the seaside with beautiful hotels and a wonderful beach. We took a lot of pictures during that day. We visited a lot of shopping malls always using trams.

Since all good things have to come to an end, this experience finished with tears running along our faces. We swore to each other that we are going to meet somewhere in the future, maybe in Italy. In my opinion, this bridge with Poland worked beautifully, because it helped us to build strong relationships with all the students involved in the project.

