

Living in my city, improving my city



Lexby Skola



Publiczne Liceum Ogólnokształcące
Politechniki Łódzkiej



Mosaik-Gymnasium Oberhavel



INSTITUT TARRAGONA



Istituto. "A. Olivetti"

Education and Culture Lifelong
Learning programme
COMENIUS

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Living in my city

This guide is the result of the Comenius project “Living in my city, Improving my city”, which has been coordinated by the Institut Tarragona and in which they participated as partner institutions: Lexby Skola (Partille/Göteborg), Mosaik-Gymnasium Oberhavel (Oranienburg/Berlin), Publiczne Liceum Ogólnokształcące Politechniki Łódzkiej (Łódź) and Istituto A. Olivetti (Fano).

Throughout the project we have conducted a set of collaborative activities and study visits between the associated schools, which have enabled us to work with a pro-European vision of a teaching and learning process.

“Living in my city, Improving my city” is a project focused on the teenagers’ point of view of their cities, with the clear goals of presenting, exploring and improving these spaces according to their unique

“Living in my city, Improving my city”
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Improving my city

perspectives. Students have showed each other their favourite “hanging out” places and leisure activities and also their main difficulties and most relevant concerns caused by their urban lifestyles. We have tried to enhance social and cultural development of our students by creating the opportunity of comparing their different living realities / lifestyles and challenging them to give back to their communities with a practical improvement project related to environmental issues. In this sharing process, they have obviously discovered and integrated their diverse experiences and solutions for some of their problems. They have had the opportunity of travelling and interacting with some students, teachers and the different local communities of our rich multicultural European society, thus becoming aware of their European citizenship status.



Presentation

Institut Tarragona is located in a touristic city called Tarragona, about 90 kilometers from Barcelona on the Mediterranean coast. Our city has a very interesting history because it was a very important city in the Roman imperium. Institut Tarragona is a state secondary school, it was established in the school year 2009-2010. The high school is located in the city centre in the old university of Arts.

The school has initiated this school year with a staff of 46 teachers and currently there are approximately 450 students on roll. The school hasn't got many students from other countries: it has about

5% of students from South America and China. We have a special classroom in the school to integrate the students who have just arrived from another country and they don't know the local language. We also have a special classroom to teach the students who have learning problems

As a secondary school it provides a compulsory curriculum up to 4th of ESO, students from age 12 to age 14, however, in the future the school has been designed to offer education up to 2nd of Batxillerat (up to the age of 17).

The main school objective is to provide the students with an integral education based on the personal autonomy of the student which provides the student with a sense of responsibility in solidarity, responsibility, participation and also the capability of achieving a commitment both individual and corporative to learn how to participate actively in a democratic society.

The educational work of this school is based on five main aims that cannot be waived:

1. The presence in the city.

2. Coordination with the Primary school of reference.

3. Open School: Participation of the families involved.

4. Technologies for the learning and for the knowledge.

5. Promoting the learning of the foreign languages.

Related with this, our school promotes the offer of a first foreign language, on the one hand, and a second foreign language as an optional subject, without renouncing the introduction of a third foreign language and ending up with international exchanges and projects in the second cycle of ESO. In this



Tarragona



sense, our school is also involved in several projects regarding foreign languages and computers: "PELE", Comenius and international exchanges. In the third year the school arranged a Comenius project to involve the educational community in the European citizenship and working together with other European.

"PELE" is an experimental project of foreign languages aimed at students in the 3rd of ESO, which provides an integrated teaching and learning of contents and foreign languages. In this case teaching includes: Natural Sciences, Physics, Chemistry and Technology in English.

The Comenius project is also directed to students in their 2nd Cycle of ESO, there are 4 European high schools involved in this project called "Living in my city, improving my city".

By using this methodology based on projects in different areas, and focusing on the English as a global language, we are able to engage our students with widely different interests. Furthermore, they also learn how to use English as a tool for learning. Therefore, they can be more motivated as they see the relevance of English to their lives.

Presentation

Our school is located in Partille which is a suburb of Gothenburg. Partille is located about 10 km outside Gothenburgs citycentral, and it's a 10 minutes drive by car. But if you take the train, then you reach Gothenburg center in just 7 minutes. Partille has nearly 36,000 inhabitants compared to the 550,000 residents of Gothenburg.

Lexby school was built in the 1970's and then rebuild in the late 1990's. On the second floor we have our regular classrooms, rooms for group activities, a library and staff rooms. On the ground floor we have our dining room, the sports auditorium and also a cafeteria for the students where they sell sandwiches, yoghurt, fruit, tea, buns and cakes.



Every day lunch is served for students and teachers. The students don't have to pay anything but the teachers have to pay about 1,5 Euro to eat. You always have several dishes to choose from: fish/meat, soup or vegetarian and there is always a salad buffé and if you'd like you can have hard bread with butter as well. To drink there are water and milk.

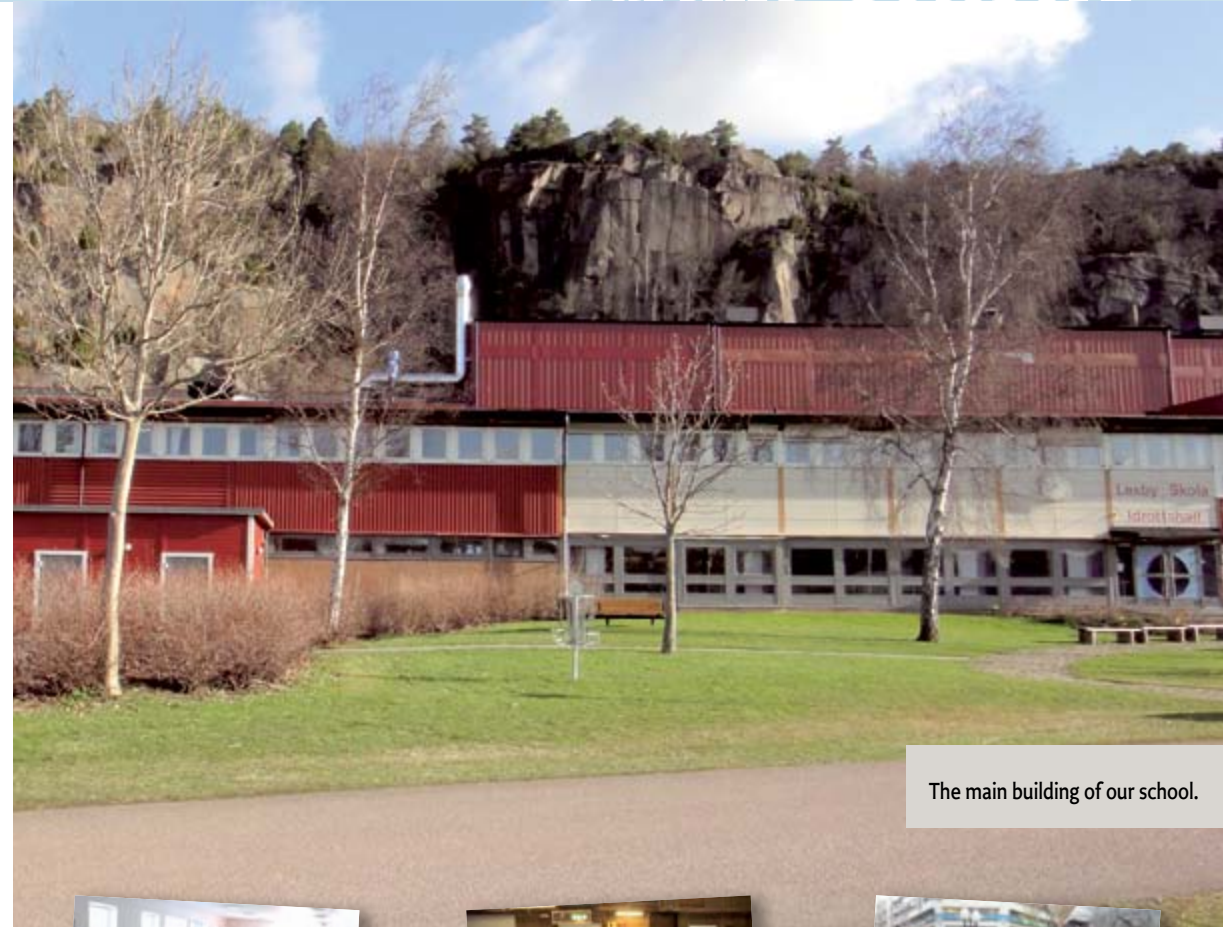
This year we have about 450 students and approximately 45 teachers. Six persons are cooking the food. Three cleaners are working every day to clean our classrooms and the corridors. We have one principal and an administrator. A few people also work with 'taking care' of the students during the breaks.

We have four teams in the school: East, West, South and North. We work with the same things but when the schedule for the year is done, they try to make the teachers working in the same team teach mostly the students in that team. It means you don't teach all 6th graders throughout the school but you teach those in your team. Two of the teams, South and West, have 7th and 9th graders this year and North and East have the 6th and 8th graders.

Our school has a good reputation and we have students from both Partille and Gothenburg. The years we teach are from grade 6 till 9. When the students begin 6th grade they are 12 years old and when they leave in 9th grade they are 16. We don't have any special orientations, all students study the same classes during their time at Lexby school.



Partille-Göteborg



The main building of our school.

Presentation

Our school, the Mosaik-Gymnasium, is a private secondary school. In each year there are only two classes of max. 18 students. At the moment we have classes from Years 7 to 11. Usually students finish school at our type of school in Year 12 but we are a new school, so only next year are we going to be a “complete” school with classes from Years 7 to 12. There are 25 teachers working at our school. We have to wear school uniforms but only upper body clothes such as T-shirts, shirts, sweatshirts and jackets. In Years 7 and 10 we have to wear the colours green,



Our teachers and students have a very personal relationship, we can always approach them if we have any problems.

yellow and orange, in Years 11 and 12 the colours are navy blue and white. When students start to learn their second foreign language in Year 7 they have the choice between Russian, French and Spanish. On Wednesdays we are offered a large variety of activities in the fields of music, art, languages and natural sciences. Our normal school day ends at 15:35. Years 7 to 10 have two or more “homework lessons” where students can do their homework under the supervision and/or the help of a teacher. What is special about our school is that we not only have lunch together but also break-fast. Our teachers and students have a very personal relationship, we can always approach them if we have any problems.



Oranienburg - Berlin



Mosaik-Gymnasium-Main building, gym and cafeteria.

We are a high school which is a part of Technical University in a big city in central Poland. The age of students in our school is from 16 to 19. Main subjects are maths, physics, chemistry and English, because our students prepare to study at technical university in order to become engineers in the future. We are a highly selective school and one must have very good results at end-of-middle school exam in order to be accepted here. At the end of the third year students take a final exam which is at the same time an entrance exam to the technical university. Our students achieve very high scores at

this exam and we are considered to be the best high school in our city and region.

The school is situated on the technical university campus in the center of Lodz and it is very well-equipped and modern- every classroom has a computer with the Internet connection, interactive whiteboards, multimedia projectors. We also have two computer classrooms and students can use the computers in the corridors during the break to relax and play computer games, watch films or do homework. Some of our classes, especially physics

and chemistry take place in the technical university laboratories. Students in our school have to wear uniforms.

However, they do not only learn hard but they also find time to pursue their hobbies (mostly sport, music, art) and have fun during parties and school events (most popular of them are talent shows and fancy-dress competitions).



Little picture: A group of students who took part in the visit in Sweden in October 2012 and their teachers. Big picture: The school building of High School of Technical University of Lodz.

Our school is included in the Polo Scolastico 3 – Fano, which is composed of three different Institutes: The Vocational and Technical Institute “Adriano Olivetti”, the Vocational and Technical Institute “Alessandro Volta” and the Art Institute “Apolloni”.

Our Vocational school “Adriano Olivetti” includes two different sections: the economic and the graphic design sections.

Our school lasts 5 years, the first two years are compulsory and the subjects are the same. Starting from the third year the students choose the vocational area. Vocational Schools like ours offer the opportunity to finish school in the third year, with a “qualification” test, in order to get a certificate of the skills and competences.

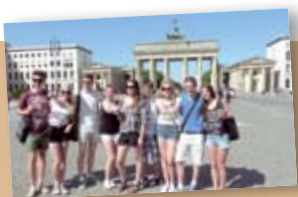
Our Vocational school “Adriano Olivetti” includes two different sections: the economic and the graphic design sections.

Our school is rich in laboratories with high technology computers and devices and offer the students of the graphic course the possibility to take part in real school competitions with other schools of the region.

Students generally have lessons from 8.10 to 13.20, having more homework to do in the afternoon/evening. Each lesson lasts 50 minutes and there’s a break in the morning at 10.40

for just 10 minutes. Classes take place from Monday to Saturday.

At the end of the fifth year students have to pass a final examination (Esame di Stato) in order to obtain a qualification called Diploma which corresponds to the General Certificate of Secondary Education (GCSE). After this qualification they can go to university or enter the working world.



Italian students and teachers of “A. Olivetti” High School involved in the Comenius Project



Tarragona is full of interesting places, squares or Roman monuments and ruins such as the Amphitheatre, the Roman Circus or the Wall, which encloses the entire ancient city. All this places receive thousands of tourists every year and many famous companies have recorded TV advertisements there. The weather is quite warm all the year round and that is why tourists come to our city.

Santa Tecla

We celebrate different festivities. Some of them are international like Carnival, Christmas, Easter... but we also have our own local festivities, being the most important Santa Tecla. On the 23th of September, we celebrate it doing a big parade of papier-mâché animal sculptures which dance along the streets at the sound of popular instrumental music. Some of them throw fire. We also have “Els gegants”, that are huge human figures. Under every figure, there is a person who directs it. Finally, we also have different dance groups and instrument bands. It’s great to see them with your own family and friends and young kids love them. But what teenagers like most about this day, is the night. When thousands of people come to have fun in our city. That’s when you can see the dark side of Tarragona, we mean, the night. There are lots of different bars with good music to dance and where you can meet new people. But, unfortunately, we do not have big discos here, because there is no space inside the city. If you want that, you will have to take a train and go to Salou for example. It’s not far from here, and there you can choose between many big and crowded discos. Anyway, if you want to relax there are also lots of lovely places where you can have a drink, talk with your friends or enjoy the sights of the city.

“Els castellers”

During Santa Tecla there are also big exhibitions of what we call “Castellers”, this term has been translated into “The human towers”, they are very popular in Tarragona and its nearby area. Tourists get impressed by these big human towers which are built by joining a group of people all together and forming a sort of big building of many different stores levels. Some of them can reach very high and can be formed by up to 8 or 9 levels. The person at the top of the human tower is normally a child of a very early age.



During Santa Tecla there are big exhibition of what we call “castellers”



Food

The Swedish culture involves food, music, art, theatre and much more. The food of the Swedish kitchen is the culture and traditions that have been in the country for a long time. The food of Sweden has been influenced from foreign countries like the French and Italian cuisine. Other influences that has been a supplement to the Swedish food culture is falafel and kebab that has arisen in the last decade. Since Sweden is a country that bring in so many new dishes the width of the food culture will extend.

Music

The Swedish music culture has changed a lot throughout the years. One of our most famous groups is ABBA. The group is famous all around the world and they have also made a movie that is based on the music that they have done. In this current decade Swedish House Mafia and Avicii are our biggest artists and groups. They produce house music and are very famous DJ's worldwide. The Swedish music culture is easily influenced by music from other countries.

Museum/theatre

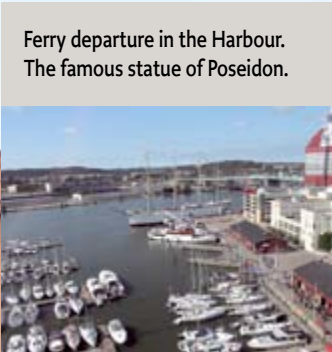
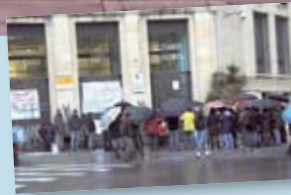
In Gothenburg we have a lot of museums and theatres, like Nature-history museum and the big Opera next to the harbour. But not to many teenagers go to the museums, they are directed for the older generation or the younger.

Statues

Kungälvsgatan is Gothenburg's main street with a lot of shops and restaurants. The famous statue of Poseidon is located at the top of the street. In the summer there are concerts here. These events are not customized for the people under-age. Its important to try to maintain the statues because they represents the Swedish history and culture.

Archipelagos

In the summer the archipelagos are a perfect place to spend a sunny day. There are many islands there. You can take the ferry and go to one of them, there you can swim, bath and have fun with family and friends. Though to bring more tourists to the islands we could add more guided tours around the islands. Also purchase more transport with boats to all the islands. We could also make more accommodations like hotels on the islands.



Ferry departure in the Harbour. The famous statue of Poseidon.

Oranienburg: Oranienburg Palace

is the oldest Baroque palace complex in Brandenburg. It was built after 1651 for Louise Henriette von Oranien, the wife of Frederick William I, the elector of Brandenburg and Duke of Prussia.

Oranienburg: Sachsenhausen

The former Nazi Concentration Camp was mainly used for political prisoners in the Third Reich for over 9 years until 1945. Today the area and its buildings are open for the public as a museum.

Berlin: Brandenburg Gate (Ger.: *Brandenburger Tor*)

is one of Berlin's most important symbols within a history of over 200 years. It divided Berlin geographically and politically into East and West during the Cold War.

Berlin: TV Tower (Ger.: *Fernsehturm*)

Built between 1965 and 1969 by the former East German administration as a symbol for Berlin it is with its height of 368 meters the tallest structure in Germany.



Berlin: Kurfürstendamm

The Ku'damm with its hotels, shopping malls and restaurants is one of the most famous avenues in Berlin. Many designers have their showrooms and boutiques there.

Berlin: Potsdamer Platz

is undoubtedly one of Berlin's great attractions. Before the WWII it was a place for artists and individualists, during the Berlin Wall a no-man's-land. After reunification many new buildings were constructed.



The Brandenburger Gate in Berlin and the Oranienburg Palace in Oranienburg are two of the major touristic attractions in this part of Germany.



Polish people love celebrating various holidays, especially those connected with the Catholic religion like Christmas or Easter. Then the whole family gathers at the table and they rejoice together eating a lot. Most people also participate in the Mass in church on those special days since about 90% of Polish people are Catholics. One of Polish unique traditions is pouring each other with water on Easter Monday which brings a lot of fun. On the day before Lent children and youngsters dress up in fancy costumes and go to parties.

We also celebrate other holidays not connected with religion, like St. Andrew's Day

Polish people are also very dedicated to the history of their nation because in the past we had to fight for our independence.

Days like the Independence Day or the Constitution Day are free from work and school and some official ceremonies commemorating those events are held.

However, especially young people also celebrate western holidays like Halloween or St. Valentine's Day.

We also celebrate other holidays not connected with religion, like St. Andrew's Day when people try to foretell their future using different funny ways, for example pouring hot liquid wax on water and guessing what its shape means. Another custom is drowning a doll called Marzanna at the beginning of spring, which stands for forcing away the cold and winter. For Polish people family is very important so we also celebrate Mother's Day, Grandmother's and Grandfather's Day, Child's Day when we wish our nearest and dearest much happiness and give them little gifts. Polish people are also very dedicated to the history of their nation because in the past we had to fight for our independence.



Little picture: A Polish family celebrating supper at Christmas Eve.

Big picture: A Christmas play called the Nativity performed by children before Christmas.



Fano has got a long history. It was founded during the Roman empire and it is rich of monuments from 4 main ages: Roman time, Middle age, Renaissance time, Baroque age.

Arch of Augustus

The first thing to visit in the Roman Fano is the Arch of Augustus, built during the Roman empire.

Augustan Walls

Near the Arch of Augustus there are the Augustan Walls, built for order of the Emperor in the 9 A.D. The walls were rescued from demolition in 1920 and today preserve two thirds of the original circuit.

The Malatesta fortress

Projected by the famous architect Matteo Nuti, it is famous for its tunnels and secret passages connected to the town.

Porta Maggiore

This is the first monument of The Middle age, built in the

1227 and restructured in the 15th century after the assault of troops of Duke Federico da Montefeltro.

Cathedral

The Cathedral is dedicated to the Assumption. It was rebuilt in 1140 after a fire had destroyed it. Inside the Cathedral there are sculptures and paintings about the Virgin Mary.

Palace of Podestà

The Palace of Podestà was built in 1299 because the rivalries between local families required the presence of a mayor. Inside this building there is the Neoclassical "Theatre of Fortune".

The Malatesta Palace

The Malatesta Palace was built by Galeotto Malatesta when he

became the Lord of Fano. Today it hosts the main bank offices, a museum and a picture gallery.

Sangallo Bastion

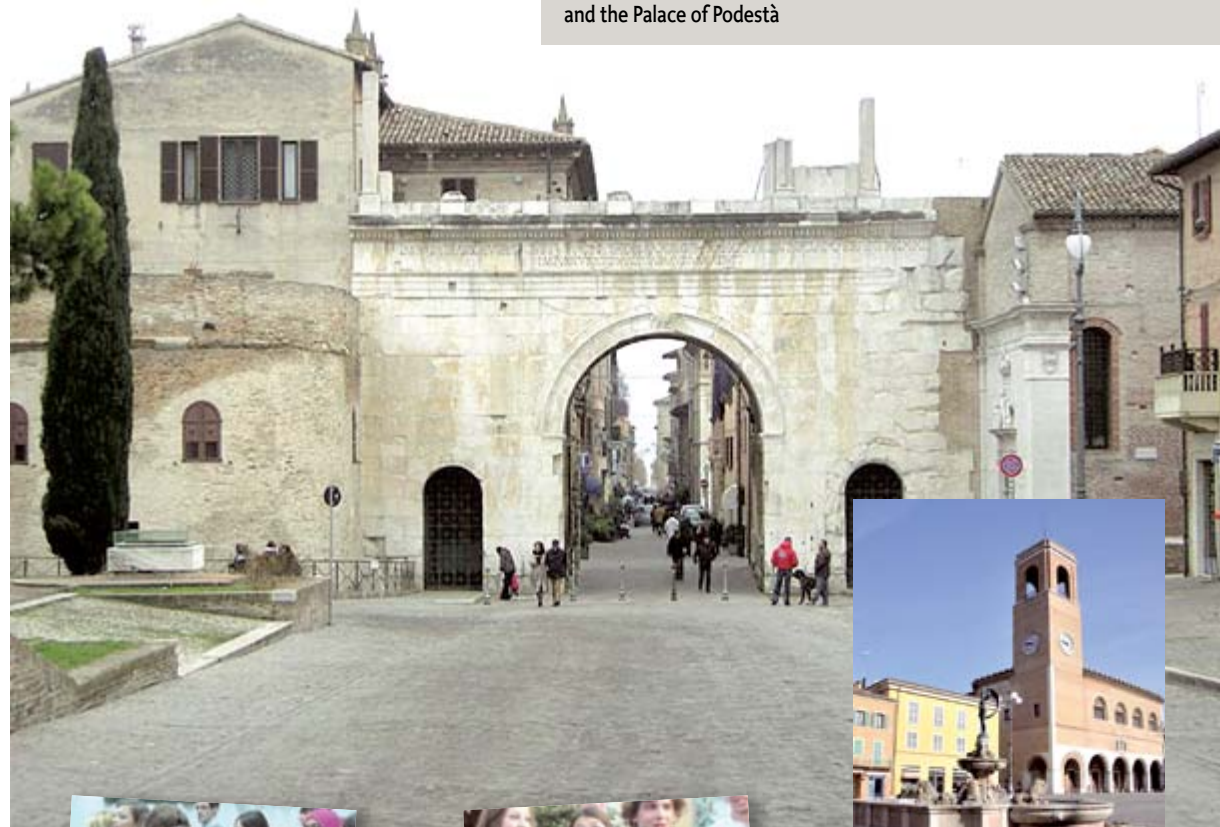
In the past Sangallo bastion surrounded the town. It was built in 1552 to protect the coast and the town from Saracen pirates. Church of San Paterniano It is dedicated to the Patron Saint of the town. Inside the church there is a sarcophagus with the Saint's remains.

Fountain of Fortune

It is situated in the main square of Fano and is one of the symbols of the town. Fano is also important for its beautiful coast with wonderful sunset view in the evening and quiet down in the morning!

Big picture: Fano historical centre with the Arch of Augustus

Little picture: The town square XX Settembre with the Fountain of Fortune and the Palace of Podestà



Although Tarragona is a small town there are several ways for the young people to have fun in their spare time. The beach is one of the best attractions in the city. There are nine beautiful beaches in Tarragona where you can walk, run, have fun... They are very interesting especially in summer time when teenagers can spend the night, go to discos or even go for a nice walk under the moonlight.

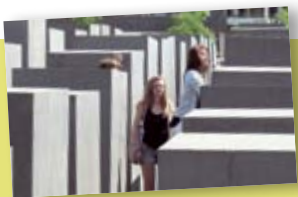
There are many parks where you can play sports, or meet friends. We have also a big skate park. During the weekend a lot of teenagers go to the skate park to practise skating or ride a bike. Now, it is a good place to meet friends and do any kind of sport and have fun .

The beach is one of the best attractions in the city. There are nine beautiful beaches in Tarragona where you can walk, run, have fun...

The main problem is that Tarragona doesn't have a cinema inside the town .

people go there. It's great fun , and a lot of popular Djs like David Guetta or Dj Tiestö perform at the weekends.

We also have a shopping center called Eroski. There are well-known clothes shops and restaurants. The main problem is that Tarragona doesn't have a cinema inside the town. But next year, Eroski will get one inside the shopping centre.



Big picture: Port Aventura is only about 10 kilometers from Tarragona. Little picture: we have a shopping centre called Eroski inside town.



Slottskogen

In the summer you can go to Slottskogen and look at animals, be with your friends, have picnics and if you feel bored you can also play in the playground. It's a regular park where many people spend their summerdays.

To make the park Slottskogen more famous and a major tourist destination it needs more publicity to attract more people. Since the park has got animals, there are a lot of people who want to see them but if the park imports more rare kinds of animals, more people would come to the park to see them.

Shopping

In Partille and Gothenburg there are many options if you want to go shopping or eat. In Partille we have a shopping mall called Allum where you can buy clothes, food, electronics, shoes etc. In Allum we also have a bus station, from where you can go to all different areas in Partille and also to Gothenburg. To improve the shopping in Partille and Gothenburg they could bring more international brands in to the city, for example: PULL&BEAR, Abercrombie and Fitch and Hollister. A way to make the city and the residents more healthy could be to sell more cheap fruit in the kiosks, so instead of buying a cheese-burger it would be easier to buy a fruit.

Festivals and events

There aren't a lot of festivals and events for people younger than 18 and there should be more for younger people to experience. In summer there is more for the teenagers, there is Partille cup and Gothia cup, the world's biggest handball and football tournament. There are young people from all around the world invited to participate so its a great thing for Gothenburg's economy. The sportclubs have to pay for participating.

Liseberg

Liseberg is a themepark in Gothenburg. Many people go there to ride rollercoasters, play casino's or just have fun. The amusement park is very popular in Gothenburg and therefor the park makes a lot of money. That is also a disadvantage because of the high price. If they bring the prices down, more people will come to Liseberg and Gothenburg will have more for people to experience.



Big picture: the Handballs tournament Partille cup.
Little picture: the amusement park Liseberg.



Entertainment in Germany

In Oranienburg we mostly hang out with friends. We go to the café Milchbar or small self-service restaurants. When it is cold outside, we can go to the cinema or browse the small shops in town.

In summer we meet at the beach of one of the 3 lakes in and around our town.

In winter we can go to the T.U.R.M. which is a leisure centre with a lot of swimming pools, whirlpools for wellness or one with a water slide. The T.U.R.M. offers a lot of activities such as a climbing wall, different types of sauna, a solarium, billiard or bowling. Afterwards you can chill out in its bar or have dinner in its restaurant.

Next to our castle there is a little river, called «Havel» on which you can go by boat or ship through Oranienburg and see its sights. Every summer the dragon boat race takes place on this river. Students, parents and teachers from different schools take part in it.

Spain

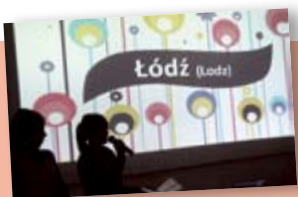
We noticed, that the teenagers do not often watch TV but spend their time meeting friends at the beach, playing volleyball or just walking through the streets and listening to music.

Italy

We are very jealous of the beautiful beach and the sea. We think it is great free time activity to hang out with friend there.

Sweden

Göteborg has many big and beautiful shopping centers but at high prices. We liked the leisure park and it would be great to have such a big one in Oranienburg, too.



Oranienburg: T.U.R.M. and cinema- places where German students like to spend their free time.



A very popular place among teenagers in Lodz is a place called Manufaktura. It is much more than just a shopping center- you can find there many restaurants, a museum of art, a bowling alley, a fitness club and gym, a climbing wall, a few discos and a hotel. In summer it even has an artificial sandy beach on which you can sunbathe or play beach volleyball, and in winter it offers a skating-rink. It used to be a textile factory but it has been transformed into a state-of-the-art entertainment center. You can travel around the place in an old-fashioned

tram.

In summer it even has an artificial sandy beach on which you can sunbathe

If you get hungry, you can visit Manekin restaurant which serves delicious crepes both sweet and spicy or In Centro Restaurant

If you get hungry, you can visit Manekin restaurant which serves delicious crepes both sweet and spicy or In Centro Restaurant with its mouth-watering pizza. For a dessert pop into the Blue Almond Tea Room which has charming old-fashioned decorations and peaceful atmosphere. On Friday or Saturday nights adolescents have fun in one of the clubs dancing and socializing.

Another place popular with young people and foreigners is Piotrkowska street- the main street in our city. Along this street you can admire unique secession tenement houses which in the past belonged to rich factory owners and visit its numerous open-air cafes, restaurants and pubs. This street is very long so if you don't feel like walking you can take one of the bicycle-vehicles called rikshas which will take you to your destination. Along this street there are also statues of famous artists who lived and worked in Lodz like Tuwim (a poet) or Rubinstein (a pianist).



Big picture: The Manufaktura shopping and entertainment centre.

Little picture: The statue of the famous Polish poet called Julian Tuwim on the main street in Lodz.



We live in a small town on the Adriatic coast in Italy called Fano.

At the weekend all the teenagers go to the same places. We usually meet in the town square and stay on a bench to talk and make jokes!

In autumn and in winter, we go to the town center, usually from 16.00 to 19.30 and we walk back and forth and watch shop windows or we stop in a café called “Pino Bar” to have an ice cream. In the center there are a lot of shops of various kinds: cloths stores, cosmetics shops, cafés, pubs, supermarkets, a cinema and many others. On Wednesday and Saturday morning the central Square XX September is very crowded because there’s the town market where you can find everything you need at a low cost.

By night we always go to the town center and we usually stay in a pub called “Green Pub” or in “Tropical Café”. This café is always full of young people.

At the end of spring and in summer all the teenagers go to the two Fano beaches called “Lido” and “Sassonia”, the first with sand and the second with stones!

At night we usually go walking on the promenade of Lido beach. It has got 2 games rooms and a lot of cafés like “Green Café” and “J lounge Café” where you can drink and dance all the night long.

In some periods of the year there are various types of fairs and festivals: the town fair, the Quad Show festival, the Sea festival or the antiques fair.

At the end of the evening all the teenagers usually go to a bakery called “Dolce Notte” to eat delicious croissants with custard or chocolate. It’s the best way to end the day and it is opened during the night too!

During the week end some teenagers go to the disco «Mjù j’adore», in Marotta or to the disco «Verve» in Calcinelli (10 km far from Fano) to dance and have fun together.

If you want to relax and read something, you can go to the “Memoteca Montanari”, a new library in the town centre where you can find many interesting books, cds or dvds and use computers too.



Little picture: The “Quad Festival” at Lido beach by night
Big picture: Sassonia beach with sun-umbrellas and the beach volley ground.



Our city is not very big, therefore, most of the people who live in the center are used to go everywhere walking, the rest of people may use public transport such as buses to move between different places or districts. Although public transport is better for the environment than using the own car, I

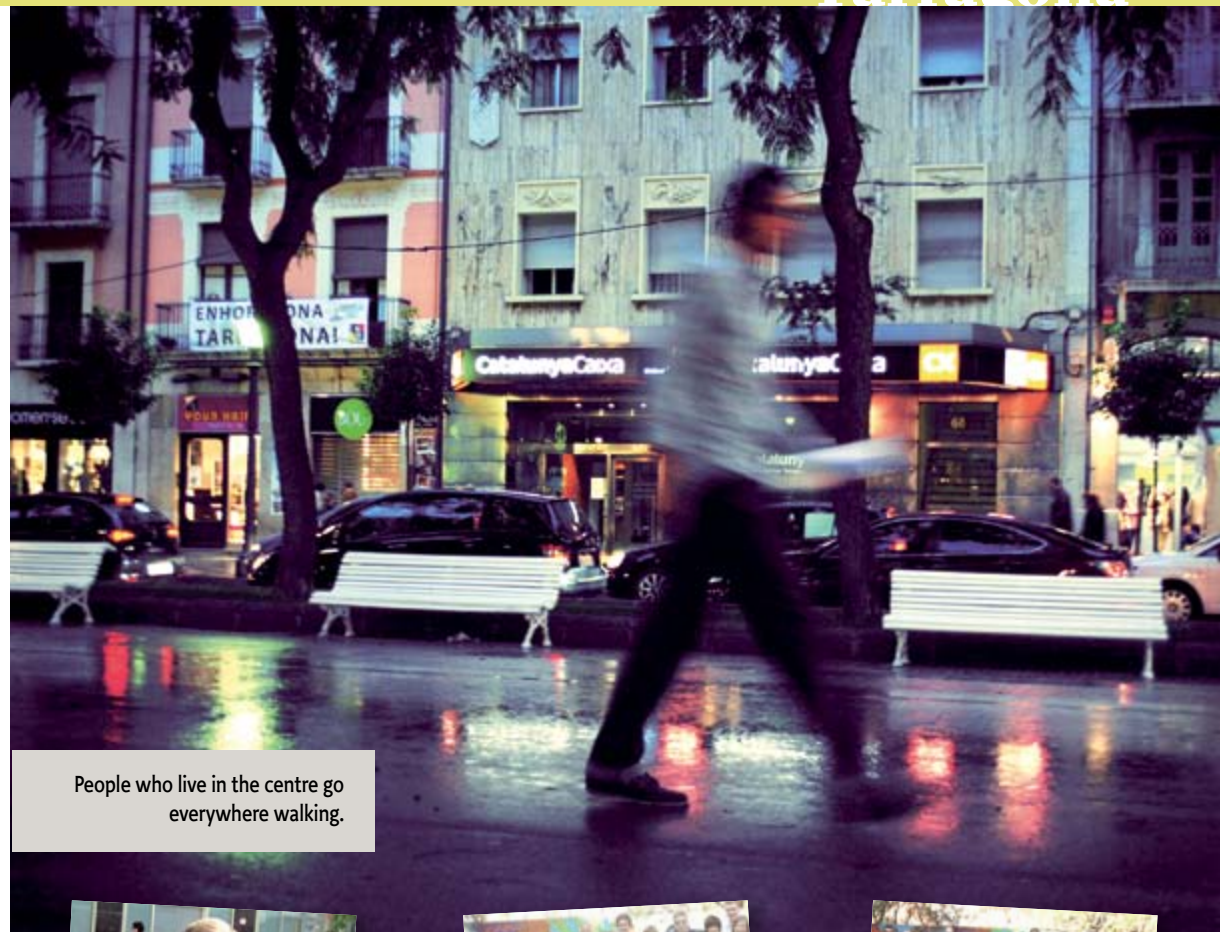


think, the best option would be using the bike more often but the city needs more cycling paths to make it possible. Tarragona is not the best place to go by bicycle because it's not a flat city and the people using it haven't got enough place to move around and it is dangerous, so I think the local government should help us with the problem of the bikes or skates and think what they could do for the people that want to go by bike.

In Tarragona there are 10 districts. Each district has its bus line, even though many lines run through different places and different districts. Public transport is not very good and it is very expensive. Sometimes buses are delayed during the holidays or

during summer time due to the amount of people using it at rush hours. Usually buses run every 15-30 minutes. A good thing about it is that at weekends people can use it at night, and it's a good option for young people if they want to go out at night.

We have a bus station too, where we can take the coach to go to other nearby towns and cities. We also have a train, which travels across the country.



People who live in the centre go everywhere walking.

Transport to school

How you arrive to school depends on where you live in the city. The people who live far from school usually go by bus, and the people who live near often walk or take their bikes. And if you have the privilege to have parents who drive you, there are lots of parking lots next to the school. There are also special parking lots for bikes and mopeds. It is very easy to go by bike in Gothenburg. The bicycle paths are very good. In the summer, spring and autumn you can pay a small amount of money to rent a bike for a day, or just a few hours.

How to transport outside school

If we go to the city, to a friend's house or the mall it's often by the bus or train. The bus usually goes every 15 minutes and the train twice an hour. If the whole family goes we usually go by car. Many people are lazy and choose to not go by bicycle, even if they could.

A bus ticket costs from 18 crowns for students and for adults it costs from 24 crowns.

The easiest way to transport in Gothenburg is to take the trams and trains from the Central station and Drottningtorget. From there, you can transport anywhere in the city.

Zone taxes

A new thing is that the government has decided that the people who have a car need to pay 8-18 kronor if they pass some different zones. Many people don't like this but they say it's important for the environment because it's order to reduce carbon emissions. It is also a contribute to the financing of public transport. Many adults prefer to take the car. But except for the taxes it is also hard to get parking lots. The city have big parkingspaces, but depending on which time it is during the day, the prices differ.

Improve our transport

It should be schoolbuses. The buses should be free of charge. They should go every quarter around eight in the morning and two in the afternoon. At that time the school usually start and end.

The transport to the city is good and the buses go often. But you should be able to pay in the buses and there shouldn't be any zones. They could maybe lower the price for people over 18, so they could go by bus instead of car.



Little picture: The student take the bus to our school. Big picture: In Göteborg you can take the tram almost any where.



Mobility in Germany

There are many types of public transport. Especially in big cities you can take the bus, the subway, the tram and different kinds of trains. There are mainly 3 types of trains. The first one is a smaller train, called S-Bahn. It is used within big cities, such as Berlin, for short distances. These trains leave every 5-20min. The local trains which take you from cities to villages are called “Regional- Express”. They leave mostly every hour. If you want to travel from one big city to another (for example from Berlin to Munich) you can use an express train which is called ICE. In bigger cities busses run more frequently than in smaller towns, in Berlin for example every 5 minutes and in Oranienburg from every 20 minutes to every hour. The prices are between 2-7 euros, except the ICE which is more expensive. But like in every country you can travel go by car, motorcycle and bicycle.

Italy

Most people use bicycles or motorcycles. That’s why it’s not so loud and the air quality is good because the CO₂ emission is lower. But they also use buses.

Spain

Many people walk instead of taking a car or other vehicles. We think that’s good for your body and your fitness. But also in Spain they use means of public transport, e.g. buses.

Mobility in Sweden

People use different means of public transport. They have a very good traffic system even in smaller towns. The buses and trains run frequently.



Overland metro connecting Oranienburg with Berlin.

The cheapest way of moving around the city is public transport. It consists of buses and trams. Outside the rush hour (7-9 a.m, 15-18 p.m.) it is quite efficient and runs on time. During the rush hour and in winter be prepared for delays and overcrowding. As soon as you enter the bus or train you have to validate the ticket which you can buy in a newsagent's or from a machine placed in the vehicle. Buses are more modern than trams and almost all of

Buses are more modern than trams and almost all of them are easily accessible low-floor vehicles.

Rechargeable plastic tickets are a good eco-friendly alternative to paper ones which we have in Poland.

Taxis are another option but they are quite expensive. On Piotrkowska Street you can travel by rickshaws for a small fee.

What Polish students liked most about Swedish buses was the fact that they are always punctual and not overcrowded. Rechargeable plastic tickets are a good eco-friendly alternative to paper ones which we have in Poland.

them are easily accessible low-floor vehicles. During the journey names of stops are read out loud so that a traveler knows where to get off.

Some people travel around the city by bikes- there are quite a few good bike paths connecting main points of the city. However, if you have your own bike be careful to chain it if you are not using it! Driving in Lodz might not be a very pleasant experience, especially during the rush hour when there are huge traffic jams on the main roads. When parking in the city centre you must make sure you pay the parking fee- there are meters placed on every car



Big picture: Tram lines in Lodz.
Little picture: A bicycle path in Lodz.



In our town the most frequently used means of transport are: car, bus, bike and moped (scooter). People with a driving licence use cars, but many drive scooters (mopeds), ride bikes, or use public transport.

A historical centre like Fano presents different problems concerning mobility.

Pollution is a problem, because adults usually move by car to go to work, to do the shopping, to collect their children and to go anywhere. But our town actually has got a “Blue Flag” which means that Fano is one of the towns with the cleanest sea in Italy. The best thing to do to reduce this negative factor of pollution is to introduce more ecological means of transport like bikes, electrical cars, solar panels, cycling tracks and so on.

The town of Fano offers also the possibility to move by bus and it connects the historical centre to the other surrounding areas, although sometimes the means of transport aren't very efficient because of late arrivals and departures.

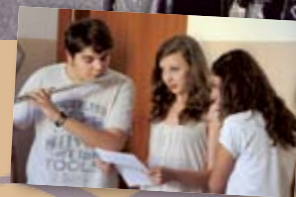
In Fano there is also a train station and a taxi stand, and there is also a little airport, where people can get a licence to fly.

In order to have more data about mobility, we have prepared a list of questions about transport habits and we have put this questionnaire to the students of different classes of our school.

Analysing these data we can underline that in our town most families use cars to move or to go to work, but students go to school by bus, by bike, by moped or on foot. As a matter of fact 3 is the average number of bikes per family (composed of 4 people), that is almost one bike per person.

The train is not used by the students or families of our school, because the surrounding areas of our town are not connected with a railway service.

Nevertheless Fano is connected to the main Italian towns or cities by train (Fano-Bologna, Fano-Ancona, Fano – Firenze, etc.) which is used mostly by University students and workers.



Little picture: Peculiar and traditional Italian scooters called “Vespa”

Big picture: Bikes are one of the favourite means of transport in Fano as you can reach every place by bike.



The educational system is the way in which education is organized in its different levels. Our educational system is based upon respect for fundamental rights and freedoms, and in equality of opportunities.

In Spain, the educational system is decentralized. That is, the Generalitat, the Government of Catalonia, has a say on the matter too. As Institut Tarragona is located in Catalonia, it depends on the Government of Catalonia.

Catalan is the native language of Catalonia. It is an official language just like Spanish, which is official in all of Spain. Catalan is the language commonly used as a vehicular and learning language in the educational system. At the end of compulsory education, students are fluent in both Catalan and Spanish and have an adequate knowledge of a foreign language, usually English.

The education system is divided into the next levels

- Pre-school education (0-6 years)
- Basic primary school (6-12 years)
- Compulsory secondary education (12-16 years)
- Batxillerat
- Professional certificates
- University

Both primary education and secondary education are compulsory. Education between 6 and 16 is not only a right, but also an obligation.

In Catalonia there are both public and private schools. Public schools are supported with public funds.

Among private schools, on the one hand there is a network of schools that receive public funds and they are called 'charter schools'. On the other hand, there are schools that have no agreement with the Administration, which are private centers.

The compulsory basic education given in schools is free and it is supported with public funds (public and charter schools). However, there are costs associated with education that need to be carried out by families, such as textbooks, kid's camps, the school meal service or extracurricular activities. Families with fewer resources may be eligible for grants covering textbooks and school supplies or access to services such as school meals. (Check grants and scholarships in different sections.) In the case of charter schools, they are allowed to charge a fee to families for activities of up to one hour of school time per day.



At the end of compulsory education students are fluent in both Catalan and Spanish.



The school in Sweden is compulsory between the ages of 7 and 16. The grade scale we use in Sweden are based on the letters A to F. A is the best and F stands for fail. In the 6th and 9th grade you make national tests in Sweden. The subjects you're tested in are Math, English, Swedish, Nature science and Social science. Everyone that's going in 3rd, 6th and 9th grade in Sweden have to take the tests. All students in Sweden make the tests at the same day. Because of these tests the school board can compare the results with other students in other parts of Sweden. They can also see which schools that have the highest level of knowledge. The national school board use the tests to check the education standard throughout the country.

After the compulsory school, you can choose if you want to go to senior high school. You go there for three years. It's not compulsory to go to senior high school but if you choose not to, it will be harder to get a job.

After senior high school you can choose if you want to keep on studying at a university to get a well educated job or to finish school and try to get a job.

In high school you can choose an orientation to study for three years. The most common orientations are social science, economy and nature science. But you can also study orientations like music, technology, art, media, dance or theater.

Education improvement

The teachers shouldn't only depend our grades on the tests. It also depends on what we're doing during the lessons. Teachers should be more specific about what we students should do because we all want to get higher grades but we don't know how to get them. To improve the education to each student you should make the subject more interesting. You can do that by showing a movie or talk about pictures instead of reading a book about facts. If the subject gets more entertaining the students will spend more time studying at home because they think it's amusing. It's also important to make the courses in every subject longer to learn more. Usually the course is very short and it's very hard to remember what you have learned after it's done.



One of our classrooms.



After “Grundschule” (primary school) you start secondary education. In Brandenburg you begin in year 7, in other federal states you start in year 5. You can choose between different types of schools. Which school you go to depends on your grades and the job you dream of. In Brandenburg there are 3 types of secondary school.

1. “Oberschule” prepares students who want to get a vocational training. It finishes in Year 10, at the age of 16.
2. “Gymnasium” prepares students for university and ends after Year 12, at the age of 18. There are 2 exams that you have to pass: one in year 10 (GCSE in Britain) and the final exam in year 12 (British A-level). In German it is called the “Abitur”. Our school is a “Gymnasium”.
3. “Gesamtschule”, is like “Gymnasium” and “Oberschule” under one roof.



Mosaik-Gymnasium: Building for natural sciences and JT lessons

We have six grades. Six is the worst grade and one is the best. We have holidays at Christmas, Easter, in February, in summer and fall. The beginning of the holidays differs between the federal states.

In Spain and Italy school days are shorter than here. So the students have more free time. The students leave school for having lunch with the family. The students are also allowed to use their mobiles in lessons.

At Lexby school we were amazed at the big and modern building with a lot of windows. We liked the material trolleys of the teachers. Nice idea!



“Homework lesson” at Mosaik-Gymnasium. Students do their homework at school and do not take their books and folders home but have them on the shelves.



Education in Poland is compulsory and starts at the age of five or six for the 0 class of kindergarten and six to seven years in the 1st grade of primary school. It is obligatory that children do one year of formal education before entering 1st grade at no later than 7 years of age. At the end of 6th grade when the students are 13 years old, they take a compulsory exam that will determine to which lower secondary school (Middle School/Junior High) they will be accepted. Pupils will attend this school for three years. They then take another compulsory exam to determine the upper secondary level school they will attend. There are several alternatives from then on, the most common being the three years in a high school or four years in technical college. Both end with a maturity examination

Pupils will attend this school for three years. They then take another compulsory exam to determine the upper secondary level school they will attend

and may be followed by several forms of upper education, leading to Bachelor, Master, and eventually PhD. The assessment in Polish schools is numerical- from 1 to 6 (six being the best grade, one the failing grade) Pupils in primary schools start learning English as a foreign language in the first form, at the age of seven. In high schools students learn two foreign languages. Lessons in Polish schools last for 45 minutes and are separated by 10 or 15 minute breaks. We do not have a lunch break so most students bring packed lunch to school (most often sandwiches) and they

eat a hot meal when they come back home.

What Polish students liked most about the school in Germany is the fact that youngsters eat cooked lunch at school and have a longer break during the lessons. In Sweden we were impressed by the fact that teenagers have cooking classes at school and can learn this useful skill.



Little picture: Children from primary school playing games during a PE lesson.
Big picture: High school students relaxing during the break on the school corridor.



Education

Education in Italy is compulsory from 6 to 16 years of age and it is divided into five stages: Nursery school, Primary school, Lower secondary school, Upper secondary school and University. In Italy there are both public and private schools.

The Italian school system offers the opportunity to the children to attend non-compulsory nursery school from 3 up to 6 years of age.

Primary school lasts five years, from 6 up to 11 years of age.

Secondary education is divided in two stages: Lower secondary school and Upper secondary school.

Lower secondary school corresponds to the Middle School and lasts three years, from 12 to 14 years.

At the end of the third year students have to pass an examination and they receive a state certificate to go to higher education.

There are three types of High school: the “Liceo” High School , the Technical Institute and the Vocational Institute.

At 16 years old students may decide to interrupt their studies without getting a certificate. Vocational schools like ours, on the contrary, offer the opportunity to finish school in the third year, with an examination, that is a “qualification”, in order to get a certificate of the skills and competences.

In most schools students generally have lessons from 8.00 to 13.00, having more homework to do in the afternoon. Each lesson lasts one hour or 50 minutes and there’s a break at about 10.45 for 10-15 minutes. Classes normally take place from Monday to Saturday.

In Italy students start school at half of September and finish on the first week of June

In December we have 2 weeks Christmas holidays. For Easter we have one week of holidays.

At the end of the fifth year of High school students have to pass a final examination (Esame di Stato) in order to obtain a Diploma which corresponds to General Certificate of Secondary Education (GCSE). (After this qualification they can go to university or enter the working world.



Fano



Big picture: A wall image painted inside “A. Olivetti” High School by the students of the graphic section representing the division of our Institute into different sections: economics, graphic design and tourism. The touristic section is not existing anymore in our school.
Little picture: Children with uniform at lunch time at Nursery school.





There is a very important petrochemical industry in Tarragona very near the city centre which produces lots of residual gases and particles that are released into the atmosphere.

Pollution

There is a very important petrochemical industry in Tarragona very near the city centre which produces lots of residual gases and particles that are released into the atmosphere. This air isn't pure at all and the streets smell really bad when it rains, but neither the factories nor the Town hall complain or do anything about it. It would be convenient that this industry found a way to filter its waste a bit better or to produce less. This city is quite big and that's why there are so many cars and buses. People use their own car too much and they also pollute a lot. If there were alternative ways to travel around, such as good bicycle paths or a cheaper and better public transport, people would use them more often and pollution would decrease. In recent years, recycling has become more and more popular among the citizens and in almost every home there are three recycling bins which allow and make easier the recycling tasks.

A part from all that, schools have started "green" education strategies and programmes to teach their students how to keep the planet safer and how to pollute less.



Schools have started «green» education strategies and programmes to teach their students how to keep the planet safer and how to pollute less.

Our environment is really important to our city. We have recycling places and we are really environmentally conscious. At our school we have a group of students that are working with environmental issues. They now try to get an environment certificate, a "Green flag". In Sweden more than 2500 schools are connected to this project. The "Green flag"-project is about sustainable development and our school will focus on:

- energy (e.g. remind each other of turning off lights in our classrooms)
- recycling (e.g. recycle paper)
- consumption (e.g. try to reduce our leftovers in the cafeteria)

Recently Gothenburg has got congestion taxes to lower the traffic and pollution and make people go by bus, train and tram to their jobs. That means that if you want to drive your car, and when you pass different toll stations that are placed near the city center you have to pay a fee. The fee differs depending on what time of the day it is. It's more expensive between 7am-9am and 3pm-6pm. Weekends are free and it's also free for foreign cars.

The things that causes the most pollution are the ships that arrives and departs at Gothenburg harbour. The ships stand for 48% of Gothenburgs pollution. So we have a lot of emission in the sea too.

Improvements

That's not really much improvement we can do to affect the ships because it's not Gothenburg's properties. But we can make taxes for every ship that doesn't use environment friendly fuel. We could also make cars from other countries, that has got foreign registered number plates pay the taxes too, because there are many Norwegian trucks that uses the driveway from Oslo through Gothenburg and then go down through Europe. The trucks destroy our roads but they also cause pollution in our city. Another improvement could be that all public transports lower their fees so it would be more profitable to use them than going by car.

In the center of Gothenburg there are bikes you can rent at one place and return at another. This could also be used in Partille at places like the train- and bus station. These bikes are very cheap to use, only 1 Euro for three days rent.



Little picture: recycling station.
Big picture: toll station

Environment

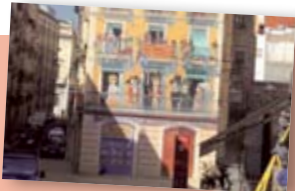
Since the nuclear disaster in Fukushima (2011), environment has been a much discussed topic all over the world. Because of that, Germany is focusing on a phase-out of nuclear power. The target is to close down all the nuclear power plants by 2022. To replace nuclear power the government is thinking about implementing more alternative “green” energy like solar-energy and wind power. Germany has many national parks and biosphere reserves. Since 1994 nature protection has been an aim that Germany wants to reach. Concerning groceries, Germany has set new standards. We have specifically marked food that is called BIO. This stands for products from controlled ecological farming from German regions.

Moreover German citizens separate their rubbish according to the materials it is made of e.g. paper and plastic. Like in many other countries Germany sells also beverages in plastic bottles. These we

To replace nuclear power the government is thinking about implementing more alternative “green” energy like solar-energy and wind power.

can bring back to the shops and get money for them, between 8 and 20 cents for each bottle. Compared to other countries in Europe and all over the world, Germany is in the 3rd position in the world ranking for management of natural resources (May 2012). Furthermore, our cars get a pollution badge in one of the following colours: red, yellow and green. Red is the worst and green the best.

One thing that we found quite remarkable during our stay in Sweden was that the bus-ticket that you get in Sweden. It’s made out of plastic and is rechargeable, so that you can use it again. In Germany we have only paper tickets. We think that it would be a good idea to launch these tickets here, so we wouldn’t waste so much paper.



Environment sticker on Berlin cars that shows gas emission is within legally accepted levels. The small picture shows a badge on almost all bottles in Germany which indicates that you receive money back when you take them to the shops. This promotes recycling.



Oranienburg - Berlin

Our country faces many environmental problems nowadays. One of them is deforestation. Wooded areas are damaged due to airborne contaminants and acid rains. Forests are also cut down in order to gain areas to build new towns and roads and to grow crops.

Another major problem in Poland is air pollution which can be especially noticed in big cities like Lodz. It is connected with numerous cars, factories and power plants. Rivers that flow in the vicinity of Lodz are contaminated with sewage and fertilizer run-offs from crop fields. Household waste is also a big problem in Poland because only a small part of it is recycled.

However, the authorities of our city are trying to change this situation. They organise special campaigns to raise environmental awareness among the residents, for example “The Earth Day” when people are encouraged to clean the town from rubbish or “Day without a Car”. The inhabitants of

Children and teenagers in schools participate in ecology classes during which they learn about alternative sources of energy,

Lodz select rubbish. Children and teenagers in schools participate in ecology classes during which they learn about alternative sources of energy, endangered species of plants and animals.

More and more people use bikes to get to school or work instead of using a car, but we still have too few bike routes. Lodz also has the biggest in Europe wooded area within city borders- it is called

Lagiewniki Forest where you can relax in the fresh air.

Some environmentally friendly solutions which we observed in Spain should also be introduced in Poland like solar panels which supply hot water.



Big picture: Containers for plastic and paper on a housing estate in Lodz.
Little picture: A power plant producing electricity for the city of Lodz.

Fano is an Italian town on the Adriatic coast. It has never been a very polluted town but in recent years pollution has increased a lot: air, water and soil pollution, caused by everyday human activities, industrial and commercial waste, agriculture activities and ways of transportation. The vast industrial area and the huge quantity of cars that circulate every day in our town make the air dirty and harmful to health: factories and companies release a big volume of industrial chemical discharges and increasing gas emissions which give rise to environmental pollution. There are many cases of people feeling bad for pollution and people are more and more affected by tumors. For many years our river Metauro has transported debris and factories situated near the river release harmful substances that pollute our river and the Adriatic sea.

We cannot solve the problem of pollution but probably we can contribute to improve it a little by following some simple rules:

by making the separate collection of waste. Every family has become aware of recycling using the different types of containers (separated glass, paper, organic, plastic); by reducing or even eliminating waste in our everyday life; by reducing the use of cars or motorbikes: our town has got bike tracks and you can reach any place using the bicycle or on foot; by using alternative energy resources (such as water, geothermal, wind and solar heat).

If we follow these simple rules, we can hope to live in a better world!

The Graphic Design section of our school every year takes part in the “Festival of Trees”: the citizens have to plant a tree for every new born baby and students created the advertising for this special environmental event.

Improving our environment is improving our life. If we don't respect and protect our environment we will be destroyed by it!



Big picture: The Industrial Area and the countryside of Fano. Little picture: The rush hour in Fano.

To be European means... more freedom!

Unfortunately, Spain used to be a close-minded country because during the dictatorship, the Span-
ish lived away from the influence of the other European countries. To join the European community
meant a very big step further for our society.



Nowadays, we have the chance to feel part of a bigger place where you can easily move from a country to another without any restrictions. There are many projects going on among many European countries which involve people from any nationality. That gives us the opportunity to learn about different work systems and makes ourselves more productive.

At present, Europeans can be wherever they want just by taking a plane or a train, therefore tourism has increased a lot. Thanks to that many tourists come to Spain every year and help our economy to get better. Besides, English allows us to understand anybody and that makes travelling much easier.

For young people being European means a bigger amount of chances when it comes to studying abroad or getting a job. Students can take part in exchanges such as Comenius or Erasmus where we can take advantage of other universities and schools around Europe. As well, it is also a great

chance to have fun meeting new people, which actually is the best point of these exchanges.

As the Spanish economy isn't in its best moment, now this opportunity to move freely around European countries give us hopes of getting a better life.



To join the European community
meant a big step for our society.

To be a European for us means to have access to clean water for drinking and also for the animals in lakes, rivers and seas. To be a European also means having somewhere to live and to feel safe. Since we've been Europeans all our life, we don't know how it feels to be from somewhere else, but we can imagine that there is a big difference between living in Europe and for example living in Africa. In Africa the welfare is much lower than in Europe. It's hard to live on the streets in any parts of the world but if you don't have a place to live and if you are sick, it's still better to live here in Europe than in African countries for example, because of national assistance that we have and they don't. But there are still poor countries in Europe, for example there are huge crisis in Greece at the moment while the most northern countries are significantly better off at the moment. And there's of course people and countries in Africa that are rich too. But the majority in Europe are better off than the majority in Africa.

We think it's important to help others and give to those who don't have as much resources.

There are many organisations where they focus on helping other countries where they don't have clean water or enough food to feed themselves. We think it's important to help others and give to those who don't have as much resources.

We feel more like Scandinavians then we feel like Europeans.

Although we don't think about how and where we live, but the

people in USA probably see us here in Europe more like one whole country rather than a continent. Because the people in Europe have so much in common with each other, and so many differences with the USA.

Here in Sweden we could improve our social commitment by participate in European projects, like take part in an Erasmus exchange or a Comeniusproject. That could help us expand our abilities in a good way. In that case, we can also take advantage of each other's languages which can make us feel more connected to other countries, which Swedes usually are pretty bad at. We think that one of the reasons why we maybe don't feel like Europeans as much as we maybe should depends on our different languages.



Clear water, we take our drinking water from this lake.



European citizenship

After our observations during our travels to Sweden, Spain and Italy, we have come to the conclusion that the privilege to have the freedom to travel without needing a visa is definitely one of the advantages of being a European Citizen. We noticed during the dinner conversations with our host families how they used this advantage to get to know different countries in the European Community. Moreover, we asked some people in Sweden what it meant to them to be a European Citizen and what advantages they saw in having a Union. One person told us that Europeans Citizenship meant that one can extend one's neighbourhood. Another person answered that the opportunities to experience cultural diversity is one of the best advantages. When we asked some Italian people how they felt about being a European citizen, they told us that the chances to live and work anywhere in Europe was what gave them the feeling that they were part of Europe. They had the impression that other Europeans were like his fellow citizens, that there was no difference between the different nationalities. Because of this, one is able to learn more about the different European cultures without major difficulties. Furthermore, the similarities between the laws in the different European countries are one aspect which is also very important when one thinks about European Citizenship. In Spain the students who were asked told us that they enjoyed having the possibility to participate in school projects like our Comenius Project, it gave them the sense of being part of something bigger than their own country. They enjoyed having given the chance to be able to communicate with students from different European countries. In Germany we have the point of view that being part of the European Community enables people to learn from each other, at the same time that it gives them the chance to develop tolerance towards people from different cultures and ethnic backgrounds. Also it offers people the possibility to choose the place where they want to study or live and ensure a better life quality for every one. To summarize, we think that the sense of togetherness in Europe could be improved by promoting more exchange programs in schools since it is the young Europeans that are going to continue to develop the European Community in the future.



Oranienburg - Berlin



Comenius students sharing views and experiences in Tarragona.

In Poland many schools take part in Comenius projects and in this way they get to know their peers from other European countries. By contacting them via the Internet and visiting their motherlands they can find out about other cultures and practise English. A lot of university students from Lodz participate in Erasmus projects thanks to which they have an opportunity to study in a foreign country for a year, gain knowledge and qualifications, learn a foreign language, which they find very useful in their future jobs. In many schools there are EU clubs, which are extracurricular classes during which students learn about EU institutions and discuss some issues connected with the activity of EU. In some schools EU Days are organised during which

In Lodz there is the Regional Centre of EU Information which informs citizens about the process of Poland's integration with EU

pupils present different aspects of other nations' culture such as music, food etc.

In Lodz there is the Regional Centre of EU Information which informs citizens about the process of Poland's integration with EU, supplies materials and organises meetings with experts during which problems and challenges that EU faces

currently are discussed. Another important institution is the European Institute which organises conferences and workshops for people from different sectors and also helps beneficiaries to implement projects and programs funded by EU.

In Poland we celebrate Europe's Day on 9th May. On this day in Warsaw (the capital) there is Schuman's parade and various events connected with EU.



Little picture: the building of the European Institute in Lodz.
Big picture: The tablet at the entrance to the European Institute in Lodz



European citizenship

European citizenship, introduced by the Maastricht Treaty in 1992, is supplementary to national citizenship and guarantee rights such as the right to vote in the European Parliament, the right to free movement, settlement and employment across the EU and the right to consular protection. European students can freely travel in order to know the different ways of living, customs and traditions of other states. The free movement favours not only tourist travelling, but also the commercial and cultural exchanges. We can share the same values, principles, rights and duties such as the right to

The Comenius project is very important for our learning development, as it allows students to get in touch with other realities and habits, to familiarize with English language and to become aware of belonging to a wider European Community

to attend the host school and live in a family for several months in order to improve their English level and to know a different way of life. The Comenius project is very important for our learning development, as it allows students to get in touch with other realities and habits, to familiarize with English language and to become aware of belonging to a wider European Community. Intercultural and multilateral experiences can also prevent racism and teach young people to work together and to establish relationships that can continue in the future.

study and work in another country. The European Union is also a very important resource for the countries in economic difficulty to support the population, by financing many courses to learn a profession, by funding the companies and by the free exchange of goods.

Our town established a twinning partnership with Rastatt in Germany and many students have been involved in school exchanges and twinning projects like Erasmus for universities and Comenius for High schools. Our Institute has developed two European LLP projects: the Multilateral Comenius Project and the Pupil Individual Mobility Project with the Polish High school of Lodz. The Individual Mobility gives the students the opportunity



Big picture: The European Parliament. Little picture: Students involved in EU partnerships.

Fano



Diari de Tarragona

