

Dancing and singing, cooking and baking. "FN dagen" in the Tårnveien barneskole

The 24<sup>th</sup> of October 1945 is called the birthday of the United Nations. In terms of this UN day, the pupils from the Tårnveien barneskole in Narvik had two days of projects and celebrations where the volunteers from Narviksenteret had the possibility to present their different cultures.

The eight volunteers from Narviksenteret coming from the five different European countries Poland, Serbia, Slovakia, Russia and Germany, were member of the two project days "FN dagen" in the Tårnveien barneskole. They were presenting their culture and were giving the pupils the possibility to see what the habit in different European countries is:

### *Jeg liker Fantakake!*

The two German girls, Steffi and Sina, were baking their traditional birthday cake, which are made of the well known soft drink "FANTA". They were working with kids from the 7<sup>th</sup> classes which were very open-minded and interested in baking and preparing this cake, especially in decorating it with "Non Stop". So they made competitions of decoration: Which group has the nicest cake??

### *Salty sticks*

An usual snack in Serbia, were backed by Dusan and Dimitrije with children from the 5<sup>th</sup> classes. Because the dough is complicated to prepare, the Serbian boys were doing it before. So it was easy work for the kids. This special kind of dough is similar to modelling clay which had a funny effect. The children could have been creative and form the sticks as they wanted to.

### *Russian robbers*

Ilya and Georgiy from Russia were presenting a traditional children song to the 6<sup>th</sup> classes. The English translation would be "Song of robbers". It has his origin in an animation movie which they were also showing to the groups. They had a guitar and Georgiy was playing the drum which was the most exciting thing for the kids. It was a big success for all and at the end the children were even singing for them another song.

### *Nobility or folk – it doesn't matter! Just dance!!*

Anna from Poland and Ivana from Slovakia were together dancing with kids from the 4<sup>th</sup> classes. Each of them was presenting their own traditional dance.

Anna was choosing the pair dance "Polonez" which was usually danced by the higher polish nobility. Nowadays is it used to dance at the prom, the ball after the highest graduation.

Ivana was presenting the Slovak circle dance "Karicka" which was usually danced by the folk. She was choosing the easiest version, but also these easy steps became more and more difficult by changing the speed of the music...

The children had a lot of fun with the two girls and were always very pleased when the teachers were also joining the group. But also the volunteers were very satisfied with the kids, because they were very willing to learn. It was also a good work-out for them. They were always happy about a little break with Fanta kake and salty sticks from their colleges to recover for the next dancing groups...

Finally, all volunteers have enjoyed their work on the Tårnveien barneskole. They had two nice days of baking, singing and dancing and have presented their culture in terms of the United Nations Day with success.