

FINAL REPORT

from the stay of foreign language teachers from Slovakia in a foreign real surrounding called
“The Gateway of Languages Opened for Teachers“

I am so glad that I had an opportunity to stay in Fulbridge Primary School for nearly two months from 8th September to 23rd October 2008. I have become the participant of the ESF project called “The Gateway of Languages Opened for Teachers“, made by Methodology and Pedagogical Centre in Banska Bystrica which runs programmes for teachers. Being in an English school and doing observations in lessons, watching everyday life in the school, in the city and its surroundings helped me to improve my language skills and obtain more information about the country whose language I have been teaching.

I have done observations in a lot of lessons, mainly in Year 4 and some in Year 6. Life at school is not only lessons but also break time and extra curricula activities. The motto of the school “Unlocking Potential: We believe that if we give children the roots...that they will grow wings and fly.“ is not just empty words because I could see how all teaching staff were looking after the children to give them everything that is important for their lives. Teachers and teaching assistants led classes, evaluated pupils and helped them very patiently.

The atmosphere in Fulbridge School was peaceful and calm. The relationship between teachers was very friendly and helpful. It was the same between teacher and pupils. Teachers evaluate and praise the students for good answer or well done work and that is very good motivation for making progress in their learning.

I have learned how important it is to know the aim and learning objectives of each lesson for pupils but also for their parents. It was written on the board every day and pupils have re-written them into their books.

I liked Assemblies very much. Children are led to positive thinking, to help to each other and they are taught to be responsible for their behaviour and most important is they have the right to feel safe and equal. I will never forget how children did reflexion after each Assembly.

I have spent the most of the time in Browning Class- Year 4. I have learnt how to lead lessons when children have different abilities, encourage them to work and make them think. All the lessons I have observed were motivating and inspirational. I have seen some Music lessons and all had a very nice atmosphere. I have learnt that building up the story, discovering the poems can be interesting for pupils. During the lessons teachers gave students the time and space to express their attitudes and ideas. I have found out that learning about History and Geography can be taught in a very amusing and interesting way. Teachers of Year 4 classes simulated a flight to Egypt. They were very well prepared

for this occasion and the children were happy to take a part in it. It was a nice example of how pupils are prepared for real life and how they can use information from school in everyday life.

Talented students can express their abilities not only during lessons but in the afternoon clubs where they can improve themselves in different kinds of activities. They can do sport, music, dance, art – what they want. It was nice when they prepared a performance for parents -Harvest Festival. All children from Year 4 classes participated in this event. They put together songs and drama to show what they had learnt.

I am grateful for the time I have spent in Fulbridge Primary School and I have to say that the two months, spent in the school have been such a nice period in my life . All the things I have learnt in the school I will try to bring to life in my school and in my country.

Mgr. A. Sivekova

Dear Mr Iain M Erskine,

I have only been at your school a short time, but I would like to thank you for allowing me to do observations and help to teach in your school.

Being, living, meeting new people in a new country has brought me a lot of experiences and I have so much new information about the life of people in Peterborough. I was looking forward to meeting children from Fulbridge Primary School. I have found them very nice and self disciplined

My stay in Peterborough has not been only school. I have tried to know your town and country, I will never forget my stay here. I never forget the first day when I came to your school – your warm welcoming, posters and words on the wall in your room, which was open all the time when you were in. Some events and happenings have influenced my life and they will remain in my mind. Therefore I have to thank especially Mr. Biggs, Mrs. Panjuni, Mr. Ellis – teacher and teaching assistants from Browning class. Mr Biggs is a very young but very good and patient teacher. Thank you to teacher and teaching assistants from Keats class. It was nice to spend a couple of days in this class. Mrs Hill is an enthusiastic and skilled teacher. My thank also belongs to Mr. Clingo – it was pleasure for me to observe his lessons and afternoon clubs. He is an actor, musician and excellent teacher. In class 6- Chaucer- are very professional teachers - thank you that I could see their lessons. Thank you that I could participate to Line - Dance club . It was funny and refreshing for me. Thank you all teaching, administrative and technical staff. They were very helpful and friendly to me. Thank you for healthy hot dinners and smiling faces of the women from the kitchen that served us. Thank you that I could visit two secondary schools in Peterborough . It was very useful for me too.

Everybody who comes to Fulbridge School must feel the positive and pleasant atmosphere which has been created by you and all the staff around you. You are as a very big family where all teaching staff is looking after children. It was nice to spend time here.

I wish you and your family, all your staff and children a lot of success and outstanding results in your work. You are really the best school in Peterborough.

Best wishes,

Mgr. Anna Siveková

Gymnázium I. Bellu

972 51 HANDLOVA

SLOVAKIA