

Year 2015-16, Issue 2

The sky is the limit

Special edition: NORWAY



The Sky is the Limit

BC Naklo – Secondary School Newsletter
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Students and teachers BC Naklo & Voss jordbruksskule/
Dijaki in učitelji BC Naklo & Voss jordbruksskule

300 copies/300 izvodov

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ISSN 2463-7777

February 2016

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FROM THE EDITORS

WHY 'THE SKY'?

We started an English magazine to, firstly, do something with and in English other than the booring classwork :-o but also to present our school, field-work, our creativity and trips abroad. At the same time, we find it useful to take copies along when visiting other schools and countries or introducing ourselve's to our guests from abroad.

WHY A SPECIAL EDITION?

A group of our students spent two unforgettable weeks in Norway last autumn. A group of Norwegian students are staying

in Slovenia in January and February. The two visits are part of our regular exchange programme with a school of agriculture in Voss and a school of horticulture in Hjeltness, Norway. We felt there is a lot to say about the experience so we have produced this issue.

AND ... WHY LEARN ENGLISH?

Why learn English? Well, wherever you are, you might meet someone who will want to speak English to you. You might need to read something for personal or professional purposes. And if you really want to, you WILL go abroad one day. In another

country, all sorts of things might happen to you, for example:

- you might need help with finding a place or finding out how long it would take you to walk around a lake;
- you might want to invite someone to a traditional Slovenian meal that you are making;
- you might be left all alone without a teacher at a school in another country;
- you might get locked in the bathroom at a dorm;
- you might meet someone special that you want to communicate your deepest feelings to ...



Finding your way around a lake
Illustration: Vanessa Šalamon

'Round and around and around and around we go ...'

Rihanna

Students of BC Naklo take part in numerous exchanges and trips abroad throughout the school year so even though this issue is dedicated to Norway, it has been impossible to avoid overlapping with other exchanges that have taken place recently so some reflections from students visiting Austria are included in this issue as well.

Working in Austria

By Janez SUHADOLNIK & Žan DOLENC

We had a great opportunity to spend eleven days in Biosphärenpark Nockberge in Carinthia, Austria. Biosphere parks are not completely like national parks, but they are divided into zones, that make it easier to fulfil the aims and objectives of farmers and land users. So, what did we do there? We were removing bushes from pastures, so they will grow stronger, visited some mountain farms, on which farmers produce local ice-cream, cheese, honey and some other products. We also had a chance to see what kind of tourism locals can offer to the tourists. Sometimes we were surprised, how innovative some people are. They offer some really simple activities, but they are very popular. It would have been a pity if we hadn't

explored the mountains in the area, so we were hiking a little bit, too. We learnt about the old method of making fences at high mountain pastures. We presented our school at the local market, and had a sightseeing of a town called Gmund. Their school, which is quite similar to ours, invited us to visit them. In the second week, after being accommodated in a hotel at first, we moved higher up to the mountains, into a wooden cabin without electricity. That was a real test for us. In the morning, we had to light a fire and prepare breakfast for ourselves. In the evenings, we sang, accompanied by the guitar, or played cards.

Experiences like this are a great opportunity to discover worlds different from ours, to see how to use all the resources around you and make them work for your success. Everything is possible; you just have to use your mind and imagination. The best part of this particular exchange was

meeting new people, learning about their lives, experiences and their world views. They gave us such a large spectrum of knowledge and skills, which are important for life. These projects are like learning by doing, and besides, you have a great time. Therefore, we think everyone should get these experiences and be part of projects like this one.



Students and teacher taking part in the exchange

Photo: Jure Avsec

BC Naklo auf dem Weihnachtsmarkt in Ehrental

Von Tibor BRVAR & Timotei FIKSL

Unsere Schule hat sich im November 2015 auf dem Weihnachtsmarkt in Klagenfurt vorgestellt. Auf dem Markt in der Schule in Ehrental haben wir unsere BC-Naklo-Torte und andere Produkte aus unserer Schule den Besuchern angeboten. Die Torte wurde aus dem Buchweizenmehl, unserem hausgemachten Quark und Honig gemacht. Neben der Torte waren da auch

slowenische traditionelle Potitze und zahlreichen Kekse zum Kosten. Wir haben mit den Menschen geplaudert und ihnen auch unsere Schule vorgestellt.



Unser Stand
Photo: BC Naklo archive



BC Naklo stellt sich vor
Photo: BC Naklo archive

Agrarmesse Alpen Adria 2016

Von Nik LONČAR

Im Januar 2016 besuchten wir, die Klassen 1Č und 2Č, die landwirtschaftliche Messe Alpen Adria in Klagenfurt. Die Messe bestand aus fünf Hallen, in denen landwirtschaftliche Maschinen unterschiedlicher Hersteller ausgestellt wurden. Die Messe war sehr gross und hatte viele Besucher aus verschiedenen Ländern. Nach dem Besuch der Messe gingen wir in den Stadtkern um sich die wichtigsten Sehenswürdigkeiten zu schauen. Alles war sehenswert und wir haben uns beschlossen in zwei Jahren wieder zurückzukommen.

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Gruppenfoto vor der Messe
Photo: BC Naklo archive

Let's go north!

Zala ŠTURM talks to Meta VOVK, the beginner and to this day the heart and soul of our exchange with Norwegian schools

Did you have any connections with Norwegian schools before the student exchanges?

We had had some contacts with Norwegian schools before we organised the exchanges. At first, some teachers went there to share their teaching methods because our school and their schools have similar courses. Before the exchanges, our cooperation had been supported by the Norwegian embassy.



Meta Vovk
Photo: Meta Vovk

How did you get the idea for student exchanges with Norwegian schools?

The first time teachers went there we figured we had similar courses but very different methods. These similarities and differences encouraged us to organise an exchange. We also saw a big opportunity in their way of experiencing nature as an opportunity for the development of rural areas in Slovenia, which we wanted to introduce to our students as well. We made tight friendships with teachers from Norwegian school and all this was a good background for our cooperation.

Did you have any trouble with arranging the exchanges? If you did, what kind of trouble was it?

Of course, at first we had some trouble with organising, but even these troubles might have only been in our heads – to send student so far away from home isn't a piece of cake, not for students, parents or for people that organise the exchange. Here, at our school, these exchanges are only successful because of good the connections between the project office and the teachers that organise, or take part in the exchanges.



Hard-working Slovenian students at the Hjeltnes Gartnarskule boarding school
Photo: Irena Šubic Jeločnik

Did the first exchange go as you planned?

The first exchange I've ever organised, together with the project office, was to France, where we included half of the class of nature conservationists. It wasn't all that good because many students that were included wouldn't fit today's exchange criteria. We had troubles motivating students in France. Since then we have developed a strict selection procedure for every exchange that we organise.

Did you first organise the exchange with one or two Norwegian schools?

We began with one school – Hjeltnes Gartnarskule in Ulvik, but the next year we already organised the exchange with the second school as well.

Was organising the exchange with two schools more difficult than with one school?

Two schools were a bit more difficult, but both schools have good connections and are not far from each other (about 40 minutes). These Norwegian schools have different courses, that's why we can include horticulture students, agriculture students, and nature conservationists, which is another advantage – we have even more multicultural connections.



Voss jordbruksskule in a temporary building
Photo: Mojca Naglič

Norway: our expectations & reflections

By Nikita TRČEK, Mojca NAGLIČ, Katja OSELJ, Anja KRANJC OSENNAR, Ana KRČ, Rihard PELKO, Žan PEČELIN, Mari EGDETVEIT and Ida Johanne AADLAND

Nikita

I am so happy that I have been chosen to take part in the exchange to Norway. For a long time I didn't know whether to apply or not. But I decided that it is a good chance for me. I edited my portfolio (karierna mapa); I wrote something about me, my life, my hobbies, my achievements; enclosed certificates, acknowledgments and some photos of me and my classmates. I applied because I like travelling, meeting new people, exploring new countries and I like new adventures. I would like to improve my English, too.

What do I expect from the exchange to Norway? I think I expect a lot of new things. I will meet new people, learn some Norwegian words, learn about protecting nature and enjoy the trip. I hope I will also take some amazing and exciting photos. When I come home, I'll be tired but I know I'll be very happy and proud of myself. And I will speak English better. In school I will have new motivation for learning and for other activities. I think that we will have a good time together and everyone will contribute to a good atmosphere.



Nikita Trček
Photo: Ana Krč

Mojca

Why did I apply? I am just halfway through my secondary school and this exchange will be a valuable experience, but I will also be able to be involved in some practical work and learn about another culture.

Probably, I would not go to Norway if the school did not offer this opportunity.

From the exchange I expect to improve my English as much as possible, get to know a new culture, towns, and the way – environment conservation is taught in a Norwegian school. We will make new friendships and connect with each other.

This will also impact my future. I will gain experience and improve the language, which would be useful in finding a job. Maybe it will influence my decision for further studies. The exchange will probably change my attitude to life and education and it will make me happier because such opportunities are rare and I will feel privileged that I was chosen. I also expect to become more confident, decisive and ready to take up new challenges.



Mojca Naglič
Photo: Nikita Trček

Katja

When I found out, that I am going on Norway, I was very happy. Finally I will have a chance to learn about Norwegian culture and attractions. I really like nature and animals. Many interesting animals live in Norway and I really want to see some of them. I want to know if Norwegians take care of plants in a different way than we do, I want to see some plants that grow only in Norway. I think this experience will positively affect my life. I will be able to improve my English and beside that, I will be able to learn some Norwegian words.



Katja Oselj
Photo: Ana Krč

Ana

In September, I heard about an international student exchange to Norway. I'm interested in new knowledge and new experiences so I decided to fill the application form. I have been chosen and now I expect that in Norway I will find out a lot about nature, animals, plants, their culture, way of life,... I think that this exchange is a great opportunity to meet new people and get useful contacts. For me this is also a chance to improve my command of English. The exchange will have an influence on my future work. I will have a deeper insight into professional topics and because of that, I will be more critical. This experience is very important to me. I have a desire that one day I will live and work abroad.



Ana Krč
Photo: Nikita Trček

Anja

I applied for this exchange because I really want to experience how people in other countries live and educate in horticulture. From this exchange to Norway I expect, that I will learn many new things. I will probably learn more about their country, about school where we will spend two weeks, about their life and education, etc. Probably I will improve my English as well. I think it is going to influence my future work at school in a good way. I will be better at speaking English and I could present this unique experience to others. I believe that this exchange to Norway will have a positive impact on my life. I will learn a lot of new things and have a different view of the world around me. I really can't wait to experience this wonderful opportunity.

Anja
Photo: Mira Lavtar



Mira

I have been chosen to take part in the exchange and I am going to Norway. I applied because I love travelling and I want to learn more English, more about the Norwegian culture. I would like to see how people live, study and teach there. That is what I expect from the exchange, too. I think I will get a better perspective of the world and foreign countries, I will become more confident and independent. It will help me in future life because travelling is always a good experience. I will see a different lifestyle than my own so it will help me to get a better and different picture of the world so I will get a chance to become a better person.

Mira
Photo: Anja Osenar



Rihard

I applied just because we were informed by Ms Logar, our teacher. If she hadn't told us, I wouldn't have known about it. I think it's going to be an unforgettable experience and learning opportunity. We will meet new people, get to know about a

new culture and learn new working methods. Also, we will see new architecture and attractions. All new knowledge, which I will get in Norway, I will exploit in practical work in our school and demonstrate it to my classmates and teachers. I don't travel a lot, just Croatia and sometimes Austria. This trip will contribute to my travelling experience significantly. And the most important thing for me is that I will spend a lot of wonderful time with Žan, Anja and Mira, we all together will make a nice trip with a lot of new knowledge and experience.

Rihard
Photo: Žan Pečelin



Žan

I applied for Norway because I want to know more about Norway and the people who live there. I want to learn more about their culture, history and gardening in their cold climate. I wish to meet new people and make new friends. From the exchange, I expect to get new experiences in horticulture. I also expect to get new friends and have a lot of fun. I think it will have a positive influence on my school and mostly on my practical work at school. I think it will make a big change in my life because I will see and learn something new. Not many students have an opportunity for that option. I hope I will become an even better friend with Rihard, Anja and Mira.

Žan
Photo: Rihard Pelko



Ida & Mari

Last September four girls and their teacher travelled all the way from Slovenia to come visit us at Voss jordbruksskule in Western Norway. The entire class, including our teachers, were excited to meet our visitors. Voss jordbruksskule is a relatively small school, housing 170 students. Even though it is not a big gymnasium, we are offered a broad range of educational pro-

grams. Agriculture, wildlife and horsing are only some of the multiple choices we are given. In January 2016, four of us attending the wildlife-course will be visiting Slovenia and our new friends. We feel truly grateful for this golden opportunity given to us, and the month-long stay is an experience that we are all looking forward to.

Mari
Photo: Ida Johanne Aadland



When asked to reflect over the differences and similarities between Norway and Slovenia, we immediately embraced the opportunity to learn more about the country we are to visit. It was not long, though, before we realised that we do not know too much about Central Europe in general. We noticed some significant differences when visited by the Slovenians, but expect to learn a whole lot more during our stay abroad.

However, we discovered something. Despite the differences between the two languages, we have some similar words. We were placed in groups of six Norwegian students and one Slovenian. We compared words and phrases, and tried to pronounce the foreign words, with varying success. Dal, which means valley, is approximately the same. The word most, means juice in both Norwegian and Slovenian. We also discovered that 'telefon', is both spelled and pronounced identically in the two languages. After quite many comparisons, we presented the words to the rest of the class.

The project was interesting as we used three different languages to communicate. It was entertaining and informative, and we think this is useful for those of us travelling to Slovenia. We also learned how different languages can be.

Ida
Photo: Ida Johanne Aadland



Sports in Norway

By Mira LAVTAR

Norway is known for its great athletes. They are good at handball, football and cycling but they are the best in winter sports. Of course, they have winter in their blood. Most winter sports were born in Norway: ski jumping, skiing, cross-country skiing, biathlon etc. Some early equipment (the first skis) was found in Norway along with paintings of people using skis for travelling across the country engraved in stone in a cave. In Norse mythology, skis are mentioned a few times, too. In the history of Nordic nations some bishop described the first ski competition in the world where athletes competed for silver and bronze utensils. The first cross-country skiing competition developed when people started to organize hiking with skis in order to hang out. The first ski club called Christiania Ski club was established in Norway, too. Norway has some winter sport schools and camps. So Norwegians are experts for sports with skis. They have always won the best places in most winter sports throughout history.

The best and the most famous athletes are ski jumpers Anders Jacobsen, Anders Fannemel, Kenneth Gangnes, Andreas Stjernen, Johann Andre Forfang, Daniel Andre Tande, Anders Bardal and Rune Velta. Rune Velta was the best ski jumper in the 2015 World Championship. In February last year Anders Fannemel set the world record in ski flying in Planica. Famous alpine skiers are Anne Marie Mueller, Kjetil Jansrud and Aksel Lund Svindal, the best alpine ski racer in the world.

Two of the most prominent biathlon athletes are Emil Hegle Svendsen and Synnøve Solemdal. Cross-country skiing is a national sport in Norway and it is the most popular sport there. The cross-country skiing competitions are practically national holidays. People come from all over Norway and they organize huge celebrations. Cross-country skier Marit Bjørgen was the first athlete in history to win seventy-five individual victories in the Cross-Country World Cup and she was the most successful athlete at Winter Olympics in 2010. In male cross-country skiing Emil Iversen has been very successful this year.

However, winter sports aren't the only sports played in Norway. Some team sports are popular, too. Handball is one of the favourites. One of the best Norwegian clubs is Byåsen from Trondheim.



*Skiing is the most popular sport
Photo: Katja Oselj*

They won the European championship in 2015. The fun thing about Norwegian handball is that the girls are better than the boys. Apart from handball, football is the most popular team sport in Norway. Norwegians play football several times a week, and then they meet their friends and they have a lot of fun. The best team is called Rosenborg. Many people may say that Rosenborg is the heart of football for the whole country. Rosenborg has been the best team in Norway for the last ten years, and during the last two years they have qualified to join other great European teams in 'Champions League'. There are some good Norwegian athletes in cycling. The best cyclist is Edvald Boasson Hagen who won the Tour of Britain in 2015. He became the first rider to win it twice.

Norwegians love sports, from winter sports to football and cycling, and it makes them happy and healthy.



*Norwegians are born as athletes
Photo: Irena Šubic Jeločnik*

Norway, the land of the midnight sun

By Ana KRČ

Norway is a small country with only 5 million inhabitants and offers incredible landscape. It has almost everything: from the green coastal towns in the south to northern towns without trees. The most unforgettable are absolutely Norwegian fjords. The longest and deepest among them is Sognefjord. Because of that Norway is very interesting for tourists. If you travel to Norway in a cold winter, you can enjoy skiing or riding dog sleds. In summer it is worth going hiking, walking across glaciers, rafting ... The scenery is the most incredible between May and August, when you can experience the midnight sun. Midnight sun is a natural phenomenon where the sun does not set for several weeks. It is typical for northern Norway, where you can also see northern lights – a natural play of light in the night sky. It occurs at the height of about 100 kilometres. Northern lights are described in various myths of the Scandinavian nations, where they have a supernatural meaning.



Norwegian flag
Photo: Katja Oselj

There are several interesting facts about Norway that you probably did not know:

- The country of Norway is officially known as the Kingdom of Norway.
- The name 'Norway' means 'the path to the North'.
- Norway shares a border with Russia, Finland and Sweden.
- The Sami are an indigenous people

of northern Scandinavia who have been living in the northern territories for over 10,000 years. They are known for their colourful clothes and herding of reindeer.

- Norway is home to the world's longest road tunnel, with the length of 24.5 kilometres. The tunnel has become a tourist attraction in itself.

- Norway also has the world's deepest underwater tunnel at 287 meters deep.

- The troll plays a significant part in Norwegian and Scandinavian folklore. The troll is an ugly, messy, nasty creature that lives in caves or forests and will turn to stone if sunlight hits it. There are even a few areas in Norway that have been named after the trolls.

- Gas prices are among the highest in the world, even though Norway is one of the biggest exporters of oil in the world.

- Norway is one of the wealthiest countries in the world.

- A typical house in Norway is red and white.

- Food stores cannot be open on Sundays. If you need groceries then, you have to get them at the local gas station, which are allowed to sell food on Sundays.

- Food prices are so high in Norway that many people travel to Sweden to buy their groceries.

- You can only buy alcohol from stores called Vinmonopolet. There are only one or two in each city, and none in the countryside towns.

- If caught driving under the influence of alcohol, there is an automatic 30 days in jail, you lose your license for a year, and pay fines of up to 10% of your annual income!

- Norwegians love frozen pizza – frozen pizza Grandiosa has become a national dish.

- Norwegians eat brown cheese called 'brunost'. It is a kind of sweet cheese.

- The cheese slicer was invented in Norway.

- If you own a TV in Norway, you have to pay an annual fee of \$300 USD.

- Many Norwegians are passionate skiers and cross-country skiing is the national sport.

- Norway is the most successful nation in the world at the Winter Olympics. The country has collected the most medals of all countries throughout the history of the games and it is one of just three countries (along with Austria and Liechtenstein) who have won more medals at

the Winter Games than at the Summer Games.

- The largest population of reindeer is located in Norway.

- Norway has seven sights that are on the protected list of UNESCO.

- 17th May is Norwegian Independence Day and is celebrated with children's parades. On that day people are dressed in their best clothes or even in the national costume called 'bunad'.



A troll
Photo: Katja Oselj

Norse mythology

By Zala ŠTURM

Vikings and people from Scandinavian lands used to believe in Norse gods. These days Norse mythology is mostly replaced by Christian religion. Norse mythology has many gods and goddesses. The most well-known of them around the globe is Thor, about whom a movie has been filmed. But there is much more behind this story.

The gods are supposed to live in the Yggdrasil, which is a tree. In this tree there are 9 worlds. The main world in Yggdrasil is Asgard, where lives the chief god, Odin,

who's also called the Allfater. There is one more world for gods, but then there are also: world for men, dwarves, elves, giants, world of ice, world of fire and the world of goddess Hel, which is the world of the dead. Some of these worlds are in the branches, others in the roots of so-called Tree of life.

Odin is the ruler of the gods, he's the god of war, usually associated with wisdom, poetry and magic. He has a wife, Frigg, who is the goddess of marriage and moth-

erhood. Bragi is the god of poetry; he got her name from the old Norse word for poetry 'bragr'. In the time of Vikings many poets were named Bragi. Loki is the god of mischief, always having fun. The legend says that he cut the hair of Thor's wife.

Many writers and poets were inspired by Norse mythology, that's why today, there are so many tales about trolls, dwarves, elves and other mystical creatures that are part of this mythology.



Norse gods
Illustration: Taja Lipnik
Urana

Runes

By Zala ŠTURM & Nika ŠOLAR

Norse people had a special type of writing, the runes. Every rune has its own name and meaning. The runes were the first Germanic letters. Actually, they were more than just letters. Every rune has its own name, meaning, and even its own powers.

There are different versions of the runes: Elder Futhark, Younger Futhark and later Anglo-Saxon Futhark, which developed later in England. At first, the runes were carved into the stone or wood, before using ink and paper.



Name: Ehwaz (Horse)
Meaning: E
Phoneme: trust, faith, companionship

IT IS BETTER TO STAND AND FIGHT. IF YOU RUN YOU'LL ONLY DIE TIRED!

"It is better to stand and fight. If you run you'll only die tired!"

THE WOLF AND THE DOG DO NOT PLAY TOGETHER

"The wolf and the dog do not play together"

Scandinavian music – from the Sami to the Lordi

By Dominik LENARČIČ

Before I begin, I feel like I need to clear something up. When I say Scandinavia, I mean Norway, Sweden and Finland. While there are countries that are considered Scandinavian and countries that are not, the three I'll be talking about occupy the same peninsula (in part, when we talk about Finland) and as such I assumed their culture (and music) would be similar. Are we clear on that? Okay, let's go.

One does not need to ask another person, if they love, or at least like, music. Do you like breathing? Well then you might also like music. It's also kind of unnecessary to ask, if one loves Scandinavia. I mean the excellent state regulation and beautiful landscape speak for themselves. But what about Scandinavian music? Is it any good? Let's find out!

categories: North Germanic and Sami music. The latter is the music of the indigenous population of Scandinavia and it uses a special vocal style called joik. The joik is the Sami people's cultural expression, its themes deeply spiritual in nature. The other type of traditional music - North Germanic - includes either vocal music, full of ballads, or dance music, traditions which Norway shares with Sweden and Denmark.

A typical instrument for Norwegian dance music is the Hardanger fiddle, which is basically just a special violin. Other traditional Norwegian instruments include the bukkehorn (or "billy goat horn"), the langeleik (a stringed piece of wood) and the lur (a hole-less horn). Swedish and Finnish traditional music is similar, with

den and Erik Tulindberg in Finland. I also might mention Myllarguten, a well-known Norwegian folk musician who played the aforementioned Hardanger fiddle. Choral music is very popular in Norway and Sweden and it started in the classical era.

After the first World War the Scandinavian music scene began to modernize, as jazz, rock, hip-hop, pop and electronic music began to spread. And it was when I was searching for modern Scandinavian artists that I came across some familiar faces. Anyone could tell you that ABBA is Swedish and Darude is Finnish, but did you know that Avicii is Swedish? What about Europe, anyone remembers The Final Countdown? Yeah, they're Swedish, too. You'd never expect them to be Scandinavian. Now, if you know a thing or two about modern music you have probably noticed I left out a certain genre, one that is practically synonymous with Scandinavian music. Which one, you ask? Why, IT'S METAL, OF COURSE!

A guitar-shredding music genre, that started as a musical rebellion against Christianity (it was forced onto the Scandinavian area), it's either about boring everyday life pain or about Vikings and dragons and Ragnarök (some kind of apocalypse in Norse mythology). If you haven't guessed, I prefer the latter type. The Finnish Nightwish comes to mind, but you're probably more familiar with Lordi, also a Finnish metal band that won the 2006 Eurovision Song Contest. And I agree with you, Hard Rock Hallelujah was awesome. I listened to it and loved it, but I might need to see a doctor, because I might have headbanged a little too much.



As there are numerous genres of music to talk about I'll be examining one at a time and the different types of it in the three countries. To start with: traditional music or, as I like to call it, ye olde great grandfather music. Let's begin with Norway, as it is very topical at our school these days. Based on the ethnic population the traditional music falls into either of the two

Sweden's special fiddle, the two-stringed låtfiol. In the 1960s, the countries experienced a roots revival, a rise in popularity of traditional music.

The next genre is classical music, which started to grow in the 1600s. Famous from this era are Edvard Grieg and Ole Bull in Norway, Johan Helmich Roman in Swe-

den and Erik Tulindberg in Finland. I also might mention Myllarguten, a well-known Norwegian folk musician who played the aforementioned Hardanger fiddle. Choral music is very popular in Norway and Sweden and it started in the classical era.

*Lordi and Abba join forces
Illustration: Taja Lipnik Urana*

We have done some research ...

Norway: plants, animals, weather, environment, schools, food, people ...

By Nikita TRČEK, Mojca NAGLIČ, Katja OSELJ, Anja KRANJC OSENNAR, Ana KRČ, Rihard PELKO, Žan PEČELIN

PLANTS

CYCLAMEN

Cyclamen are very popular plants at Christmas time. We know a lot of different sorts, different sizes and colours. They need a lot of sunlight and water to grow up. In Norway we worked in huge plant nurseries looking after these flowers – it was an amazing experience.



Cyclamen in a greenhouse
Photo: Peter Ribič

NORDIC FIR

It's an evergreen, coniferous tree. Usually, it is used as a Christmas tree because of the decorative look. It's very common in Nordic countries. Part of our practical work in Norway took place in a tree nursery.

IN THE FOREST, IN THE MOUNTAINS

On our hiking trip, we saw a number of small but very typical plants. We were quite surprised to see blueberries in late October. While cranberries are rare in Slovenia, they come in abundance in Norway, also in a slightly different variety called lingon berries. We also learnt about cloud berries which, we were told, are eaten as jam at Christmas – and we got to see and taste them, too. Other plants that we saw along the way included inedible swamp wool, lichen and moss.



Blueberries in late October
Photo: Katja Oselj



Cloud berry, traditionally eaten at Christmas
Photo: Mojca Naglič

ANIMALS

TROUT

We spent a very interesting day fishing for trout in a creek. Two fishermen from a local hatchery brought a special electric device which makes the fish really calm so that we were able to catch them in a net or even hold them in our hands and put them in buckets. We then separated the males (han fisk) from the females (hun fisk) and eventually squeezed bright orange eggs from the females. We did not get the sperm out of the males but they told us this is what they do, and then fertilize the eggs at the hatchery to produce baby fish and deliver them to some lakes where the population has been destroyed due to the hydroelectric power plants.



Fish eggs
Photo: Katja Oselj

SALMON

Norwegian salmon can be bought in Slovenia as well. On our trip to some waterfalls and the Eidfjord Natursenter we saw several fish farms where salmon is bred.

ARCTIC FOX

Arctic fox is smaller than the fox in our country and it's all white in winter because it's a predator. It's the same colour as snow so other animals can't notice it. During the year it's brown, because the nature is not white anymore.



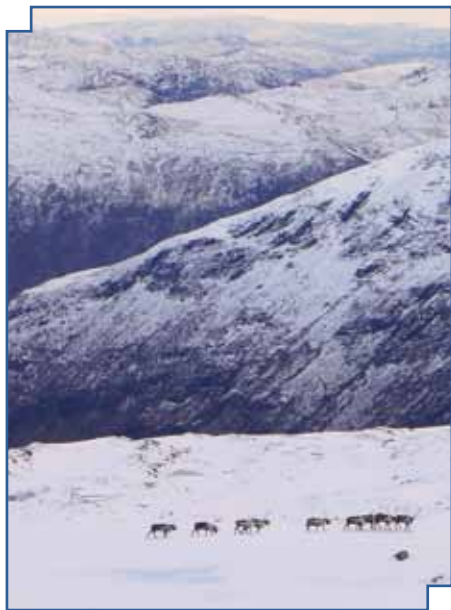
Arctic fox at the Eidfjord Natursenter
Photo: Katja Oselj

MOOSE

One of the most common animals in northern Norway is the elk or moose as it is called in the US, an impressive animal with huge antlers. Funnily, Norwegians have typical moose shops where you can buy moose souvenirs, including moose fridge magnets, moose hats, moose slippers, moose pens, moose mugs, moose aprons and more.

REINDEER

In the south of Norway, mountaineers sometimes catch sight of a herd of reindeer, the kind of deer that pull Santa's sledge. Among the locals, many of whom live in remote place along the fjords, far from the nearest town, it is very common to go hunting for reindeer.



Reindeer in the mountains, a rare sight
Photo: Dag Helleve

SHEEP

In Norway, the sheep are very small and fit, because they need to walk on steep slopes to graze. There are many sheep farms.



Who's the black sheep?
Photo: Mojca Naglič

HORSE

In Norway, the best known horses are fjord horses. In the past people used them to transport cargo across high mountains from one fjord to another.

SEA LION

Sea lions are mammals, which live by or in the sea. They are very intelligent animals. If they live in captivity, they love to play with people. Sea lions eat fish. Polar bear is their natural predator because it eats their pups. The show with the sea lions at the Bergen Aquarium was amazing.

PENGUIN

Penguins are birds, which live in the polar circle by the sea. They hunt fish in the water. Penguins are not very good fliers but they can swim very well. They can develop a very fast speed in the water. Penguins are very loving parents. When they lay eggs, one parent (male or female) stays and takes care of eggs and the other parent goes hunting for the family. Male penguins express their love by bringing little stones to female penguins. At the Bergen Aquarium, we saw a penguin feeding show.



Penguins at the Bergen Aquarium
Photo: Katja Oselj

AT THE AQUARIUM

We saw a lot of animals at the Bergen Aquarium, such as live penguins, sea lions, several kinds of sea creatures (sunstar, common starfish, edible crab, angler fish, European conger, sprat, tobis), and mounted polar bear, fox, lynx, weasel, orcas, eagle, moose and more.

... AND MORE

ENVIRONMENT

Norwegian people care about nature a lot. There aren't many big cities to pollute the air. The students said that Norwegian authorities care about the environment, but not as much as they would need to. However, even the students at school carry out various activities that are aimed at preserving the environment, such as measuring glaciers and doing research about them.

SCHOOLS

They have a small school of agriculture in Voss. They learn about nature, different areas and how to survive in the outdoors. They do a lot of outdoor activities like hiking, skiing, canoeing, horse-riding.

ENGLISH

In Voss students speak English very well. They talk fluently and a little bit slower, so you can understand them. They start with English when they start school.

WEATHER

In Voss the weather is cloudy, with a lot of rain. When it's cold, the rain changes into snow. The students in Voss were surprised when we told them that in Slovenia we often don't get snow before January. This year, they haven't had much snow either, there were floods in December.

FOOD

They eat a lot of bread and butter for breakfast, lunch and supper. They have dinner at four o'clock and lunch at twelve o'clock (they usually eat sandwiches). We were told their delicacy is traditional sheep head (smalahøve), which, luckily, we didn't have to taste.

PEOPLE

The people are hard-working but laid-back, sometimes stubborn. They love their nature and are very friendly. We actually have quite a lot in common!

Prices

By Zala ŠTURM

Do you know the feeling when you look in your wallet and you figure out that your money is suddenly gone even if you've only bought a T-shirt or two, and a chocolate bar? If you think that Slovenia is expensive than you've probably never been to Norway. As you spend about 25€ for two shirts and a chocolate bar in Slovenia,

you'd pay about 10€ more for the same things in Norway. Even Norwegian people ask themselves: "Is it really that expensive to live in Norway?" But don't worry if you're planning to spend some time in Norway, you won't have financial troubles; just find yourself a job, because the salaries are two or three times higher than in Slovenia. The

following table was produced in a group-work session in an English class at Voss jordbruksskule by a mixed Norwegian-Slovenian team of students.

| Product | In Norway | In Slovenia | The difference |
|--------------|-----------------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| Black coffee | 25 kr (2 €) | 18 kr (2 €) | - 7 kr (0,7 €) |
| Chocolate | 40 kr (4 €) | 28 kr (3 €) | - 12 kr (1,2 €) |
| Bread | 38 kr (4 €) | 9 kr (1 €) | - 29 kr (3 €) |
| Cheese | 86 kr/kg (9 €) | 46 kr (5 €) | - 40 kr (4,2 €) |
| Cinema | 105 kr (11 €) | 46 kr (5 €) | - 59 kr (6,3 €) |
| T-shirt | 150 kr (16 €) | 93 kr (10 €) | - 57 kr (6 €) |
| Jeans | 500 kr (53 €) | 280 kr (30 €) | - 220 kr (23,5 €) |
| Train | 200 kr (21 €) | 140 kr (15 €) | - 60 kr (6,4 €) |
| Swimming | 320 kr (34 €) (for 4 hours) | 28 kr (3 €) | - 292 kr (31,1 €) |
| Bus | 350 kr (37 €) | 234 kr (25 €) | - 116 kr (12,3 €) |

Comparison of prices in Norway and Slovenia
Table: Martin Bjellum & group



Norse gods
Illustration: Taja Lipnik Urana

| Product | In Norway | In Slovenia | The differensen |
|------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Taxes | 30 % | 50 % | + 20 % |
| A teacher salary | 450 000 kr a year (48 061 €) | 140 000 kr (15 000 €) | - 310 000 kr (33 109 €) |
| | 135 000 kr (14 418 €) | 70 000 kr (7 476 €) | - 65 000 kr (6 942 €) |

National heroes

By Zala ŠTURM

Many Slovenian people like to spend their time doing sports, especially in winter-time. Others prefer to stay inside on the cosy sofa next to the warm fireplace and cheer for some very successful Slovenian athletes. These day there isn't a person in Slovenia who doesn't know our winter athletes such as Tina Maze, Peter Prevc,

Filip Flisar ... Even in the summer Slovenian sports fans don't rest. They are always ready to cheer for some other Slovenian athletes like Urška Žolnir and Dejan Zavec.

Just like we are proud of our champions, Norwegians are proud of theirs. They also have some successful winter athletes, like

Kari Traa, Petter Northug and Marit Bjørgen. There is also the chess player Magnus Carlsen and boxer Cecilia Brækhus. These all are one of the best world-ranked champions in different disciplines, but they all have some things in common – a passion for sports, fans, and, of course, talent.

The world needs us

By 3N & Mari EGDETVIT, Ida Johanne AADLAND, Stian JACOBSEN and Martin BJELLUM

Finally, we have been able to welcome our Norwegian guests! They have been with us in several classes as well as out and about in Gorenjska, doing field-work. In 3N we talked about our future job and calling, which is nature conservation. Why do our countries need us, nature conservationists? Why does the world need us? Here's what we have come up with.



The world needs us – poster 3
Photo: Martin Bjellum

The world needs us – poster 2
Photo: Martin Bjellum



The world needs us – poster 1
Photo: Martin Bjellum

Norse gods

By Zala Šturm 4N & Nika Šolar 3N



Norse gods
Illustration: Taja Lipnik Urana

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | B | B | S | Q | X | Y | R | D |
| Y | F | R | I | G | G | X | C | R |
| V | X | A | F | A | F | O | L | H |
| U | I | G | N | R | R | D | O | O |
| L | Z | I | I | O | E | A | K | S |
| L | K | L | D | Y | Y | T | I | D |
| R | P | H | O | D | A | R | P | H |
| G | U | L | L | V | E | I | G | T |
| L | X | T | H | O | R | W | R | Q |

Bragi, Frigg, Odin, Hod, Loki, Thor,
Freya, Sif, Ullr, Gullveig



Norse gods
Illustration: Taja Lipnik Urana

Norwegian nature

By 3N & Stian Jacobsen

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| L | F | J | O | R | D | I | C | E | P | R | T |
| I | B | E | A | R | A | S | W | D | E | K | U |
| C | M | O | U | N | T | A | I | N | S | W | N |
| H | T | A | A | F | R | L | L | A | F | D | A |
| E | S | K | R | E | E | M | D | C | W | V | I |
| N | P | E | E | D | E | O | L | Y | O | B | C |
| J | R | A | F | C | S | N | I | C | L | A | S |
| I | U | N | U | B | B | E | F | L | F | I | Y |
| R | C | R | E | I | N | D | E | E | R | Y | Y |
| A | E | T | E | F | O | X | K | A | T | I | M |
| A | W | A | T | E | R | F | A | L | L | D | A |
| B | M | O | O | S | E | C | D | I | X | W | S |

Lichen, fjord, bear, ice, mountains, wolf, reindeer, fox, waterfall, moose

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| M | F | F | G | F | E | G | E | G | E |
| A | O | J | H | A | B | C | D | O | G |
| B | D | O | I | H | I | J | K | R | J |
| C | E | R | S | M | N | O | P | G | J |
| C | C | D | T | E | Q | O | S | E | B |
| D | B | E | O | N | J | E | O | V | W |
| V | A | L | L | E | Y | T | A | L | L |
| A | N | T | L | E | R | S | C | D | S |
| Z | J | B | C | I | P | A | P | Y | T |
| Z | W | A | T | E | R | F | A | L | L |

Antlers, valley, fjord, moose, waterfall, gorge, dog

