My experience of the exchange with Chotěboř Gymnázium

At first I was nervous about living in a family that had completely different routines than my family, and it took the first few days to adapt and learn what time the breakfast was and when you went to the bus, for example. Something that really helped though, was the fact that my host family was so kind and always made sure I was okay. This trip has given me an authentic insight into the lives of the people that I have spent this week with and I am very thankful they opened up their home to me.

It was fun to see the school and have the students teach us about their Easter traditions and the Czech language. On the same note I want to point out that I liked the Czech food I got to try both in my host family and in the school, but I was surprised there weren’t any vegetarian options, since many of my classmates don’t eat pork, for example. Although this wasn’t that much of a problem due to the fact that we got more than enough food from our hosts.

The activities we have done during this week have all been interesting and well planned, furthermore I feel like they brought both us Swedish and Czech students closer. The only negative thing that I can think of with this exchange, is that there was a bit of division between the students we stayed with. This resulted in several groups being formed. In one way I agree that it can be positive to spend some time with just your host and their family (and maybe another host) but it’s not so fun when all groups keep to themselves, which leads to you not getting to know everybody as much as you might want to.

Despite this, my overall impression of this exchange is great. This week went by much faster than I thought it would and I am safe to say that I will be crying a lot when I have to say goodbye to these people that have made my stay here the best possible.