



SCHOOL OF DIALOGUE

„School in dialogue” is an educational programme, which is fulfilled by Foundation *Forum Dialogu Między Narodami*. The Foundation's aim is to maintain and promote national and state traditions along with Polish cultural heritage of Jews and also to foster cultural education and nurture interest in culture and art. Within the programme the trainers of the Centre help teenagers to discover the history of the pre-war Jewish population in their city. What's more, they prepare the project, which commemorate that event.



In 2008 the first edition of the programme took place in Warsaw's institutions. Since 2009 „School of dialogue - Warszawa” is conducted with a similar project „School od dialogue - Polska”, which motivate and engage teenagers from small localities with rich Jewish history. Students of secondary schools and the third grade of junior high school are invited to participate in this programme.

The management of Primary, Middle School and Pre-school in Dobra was invited to participate in The Project „School of dialogue” in 2012 by Ewa Czerwińska. Then teenagers were uncovering the pre-war history of Jewish people living in their locality under the guidance of trainers - volunteers Forum Dialogu Między

Narodami. Students of the third grade took part in those classes, who are sensitive to the cultural heritage of their small homeland. The aim of the workshops was to prepare pupils to fulfil an independent project which commemorate the local Jewish community. The trainers familiarised students with the methods of the programme during those meetings and they have set up a plan of actions undertaken by the pupils under supervision of the teacher. The purpose of the programme and the task for the students after the end of the series of meetings is to carry out their trip of important places in the life of the pre-war Jewish community. The students familiarized us with the history of the NNMP's Church in Dobra, they showed the ghetto area in Dobra and recalled its tragic fate. They talked about the ghetto in Czachulec and about the extermination camp in Chełmno, which ist he only one in the area of our province Wielkopolska.



An interesting point of the visit was visiting the area where ruins of the former synagogue were still in the sixties. The pupils also mentioned about Henryk Glicenstein, whose roots are related to our city. We could also see the old Jewish cemetery, where guides told about the tradition of burial. Local authorities were invited as well. Among the guests were deputy mayor Mr Jacek Gajewski, the secretary of community Mr Stanisław Stasiak, representatives of Stowarzyszenia Przyjaciół Ziemi Dobroskiej,

manager of the Public Library, the represent ative of Centrum Kultury. There were also headmasters, teachers and students.



In 2015 during the Warsaw's Gala the school were representing: headmaster Marek Milczarek, teachers-coordinators: Ewa Czerwińska and Paweł Janicki, representatives of the local government- deputy mayor Mr Jacek Gajewski and students of the second and third grade of junior high school: Daria Dygas, Agata Kurek, Sylwia Pajor, Bartłomiej Sławik, Natalia Stefaniak, Weronika Stasiak, Julia Śmigieliska, Katarzyna Sikorska. In 2016 the School in Dobra won the third time the title “Szkola Dialogu”. That year school was represented by students: Daria Dygas, Katarzyna Sikorska, Kinga Janiak, Julia Gebler, Julia Śmigieliska, Natalia Stefaniak, Kinga Jesioneck.

On Warsaw's Gala on 3rd March 2017 were students: Kamila Pawlak, Justyna Gogolweska, Wiktoria Kin, Agnieszka Krysztofowicz. There were more pupils who are working to restore the memory of Jewish in Dobra: Julia Kropidłowska, Tobiasz Pawlak, Jakub Górski. With them were present the headmaster Mr Marek Milczarek, teachers Ewa Czerwińska and Paweł Janicki, the deputy mayor Mr Jacek Gajewski. School acquired another honorable fourth title. While working for "School of dialogue" on 19th April 2015 students: Katarzyna Sikora, Daria Dygas and Natalia Stefaniak took part in an action "Żonkile". The volunteers were pinning daffodils to inhabitants of Dobra, who they met in the streets of the city. The leaflet with information about this action was given together with the



flower. As part of the history of Holocaust students of the third grade of junior high school took part in the trip and museum lesson in German extermination camp in Chełmno near Ner River. They took also part in 70th anniversary of Liquidation of the Extermination Camp in Chełmno. They also invited twice German teachers of Nadrenia.

On the grounds of the former Ghetto "Czachulec" and on the grounds of old Jewish cemetery in Dobra were guiding them Dr Leon Weintraub, whose family come from our city.



In October 2015 pupils of junior high school were present on the workshop a few days which took place on the former concentration camp for women in Ravensbruck. They were: Kinga Janiak, Julia Gebler, Julia Śmigielska and Kinga Jesionek. In the following years were participated in "Święto Chanuki" which means Wonder Of The World organised on the grounds of former Extermination Camp in Chełmno by the Ner River. The same year one of the nominated to the Prize Sendlerowej "Za naprawianie świata" was the teacher of ZS-P in Dobra, the catechist Paweł Janicki. Within the action "School of dialogue" we managed to reconstruct the history of Jewish in Dobra, to clean the old matzevah on cementry and record the interviews with people who remember Nazi occupation period. The book "Z Dobrej do Czachulca" was also published.

In March this year the School won financial grant in the organized competition by Stowarzyszenie Żydowski Instytut Historycznego to place the plaque with the name list of resting Jewish on the former Jewish cemetery, which is located by the way to Błaszki. The students of the second grade of junior high school have prepared the area to build the mausoleum. Then they have constructed lapidarium and fit the plaque with Jewish names. In this way the Jewish community of the city was commemorated, which constituted in the interwar period over 50% of the population.



Unfortunately, practically all the Jews died in the extermination camp in Chełmno by the Ner River. Only two Jews survived the war. One of them was Moris Francus.



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