



Name: Alexandra Schurz

Age: 21

Born in: Klagenfurt, Austria

Family: Parents, an older brother and a cat

Occupation: Assistant teacher in English and French

Speaks: German, English, Italian, Swedish and French

We interviewed the assistant teacher in our school who now is an intern from March until June 2015. Alexandra is teaching in different subjects like English, French and German.

Childhood

As a child, Alexandra was very creative, she liked painting and doing handicrafts. She grew up in a small village of about 5000 inhabitants in Kärnten. During the summers she liked to swim in the local lake and during winter she enjoyed skiing.

Alexandra lived in the same place until the age of 18 when she finished high school. She moved to Brussels for four months and afterwards to Versailles for six months.

Alexandra worked as an Au Pair and took care of two children at the age of five and ten years old.

University

She started studying the English and French teaching program in Vienna in 2011.

Alexandra moved to Vienna with her brother where they lived in a student residence with 13 other people.

The school system

The students have four years of primary school, then five years of high school. It's up to the students to choose if they want to continue studying or start working. When you turn 18 you have the opportunity to choose between studying technology, tourism and economics.

Other facts

Alexandra likes to swim, play basketball, go to the movies, the theater and to play guitar. When she was 14 years old she read a book in English and got interested because she has relatives in Sweden. Alexandra's dad's uncle moves to Sweden 50 years ago, he married a Swedish woman. She has been on vacation in Sweden. Alexandra likes the landscape, the people and the language. She found a teacher from our school on e-twinning and then the teacher sent her a welcome email.

Alexandra has learnt French when she was in Brussels, so she didn't learn it in school while working as an au pair.

By: Nesrin & Natali



Filmfestival Junior - Cosmonova

The 4th, 5th and 6th grade went to Cosmonova on the annual Junior Film Festival.

Cosmonova is located at the Swedish museum of Natural History and is Sweden's only IMAX-facility. IMAX stands for "Image Maximum" and has the capacity to project movies on larger scale, with higher quality and precision. It is an enormous dome-shaped screen that can display natural science documentaries with some intriguing special effects in 3D and is using a whopping 70 movie format, 10 times bigger than a normal cinema screen. The movie was produced by The American Museum of Natural History with a significant support and cooperation with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), the Heliophysics Division. The movie consisted of two segments involving the field of astronomy and the universe, the first one was called "Collisions in Space" and was about the violent collisions that shaped the solar system as we know it today. It was also about the structure of the solar system and the celestial bodies and their physical properties, their proximity to the sun, gravitational pull, mass, radius, orbit and their satellites. It introduced some scientists, mainly astrophysicists who explained the field and the technology present day space agencies like NASA use to research and explore other celestial bodies, the rovers, probes and satellites. The second movie was called "The Solar System's Worst Weather". It was about the violent storms and weather phenomena that occur on the planet's surface. Experience the storms that have ravaged on the planet's surface for more than 400 years and dust clouds so enormous that they could swallow whole planets. The collisions in deep space that will let you experience the violent forces that created new stars and worlds caused a mass extinction and put an end to the dinosaurs that dominated the earth for millions of years. At the same time our moon's smooth moonlight and our seasons were created thanks to the axis and orbit of the planet we call home.

Interesting fact: About 99.86% of the solar system's mass is found in the sun and the majority of the remaining 0.14% is contained within the solar system's eight planets.

By: Rasul

Five Star

On the Monday after the Easter Break we went to see a movie that was included in the Stockholm Film Festival Junior, it was called Five Star.

The film was about John, a teenage boy who was trying to become a member of an infamous Brooklyn gang. The gang leader, Primo, mentors John and teaches him about the life as a gang member. During this, John finds out a secret about his father, who was killed by being shot in the head a few years back, that reveals that Primo might have had something to do with the killing.

John's mother wanted him to keep out of the gang life so he wouldn't be shot just like his father, but John didn't listen because he wanted to find out more about his dad as well as what Primo had to do with the murder. In the end, after John found out that Primo had ordered someone to kill John's father, he took Primo to the beach at night and aimed a gun at him. Primo wasn't scared at all because he was used to having guns aimed at him, and finally John decided not to shoot Primo so he wouldn't risk someone shooting him in turn. He also thought it would be better if Primo walked around with guilt for the rest of his life instead of not having a life at all.

By Leon

Stockholm Film Festival Junior

Two weeks ago, from April 13th to April 18th, the film festival for kids and teens in Stockholm took place.

In our school, all the classes went to see different movies, the purpose of watching the movies was to make the students watch movies they wouldn't have chosen to watch otherwise.

Thanks to that you get a bigger cultural perspective.

The 9th graders went to see two movies, one was called "Five Star" and the other was called "Wet Bum". As mentioned the movies were not the type of movies that the students would have chosen themselves, therefore the 9th graders didn't really like them.

Even the younger children watched some movies, one of them was a movie called "Island of Secrets" by Taavi Vartia. It was about a fifteen year old boy from Finland, his name was Toni. Together with his father, step-mother and two step-brothers he was going on a trip to Greece, but he didn't look forward to the trip. When he was younger he and his mother fell through the ice when they were out ice fishing. He was rescued but his mother drowned. Ever since then he has been afraid of water.

So when he was in Greece he first didn't want to get close to the water, but then he met a Greek girl that he fell for and she was a good diver. The girl was kidnapped and Toni and his step-brother tried to rescue her.

In interviews with pupils from the 1st and 3rd grades they said that the movie was very, very good and that they would definitely recommend it to others.

By: Clara



4th grade chess tournament

The 4th graders went to the Stockholm Globe Arena in Stockholm which is a venue where they hold concerts, parties and so on.

The 4th graders on the other hand went there because they participated in a chess tournament. I asked Olivia and Sabina from the 4th grade about the tournament.

They said that they enjoyed it even though it was pretty much a mess there because of there were many students that participated. They were just a little disappointed because they thought that they would get permission to buy candy which they didn't. Everyone that participated got a gift even though they didn't win. There were several classes who won but the girls don't know what they won. They only know what the first price was which was a trip to the city Västerås where they will compete against another school.

By Diana

E-twinning

E-twinning is spreading in our school. It started as a project in 7th grade and has been important to our English lessons since then.

E-twinning started as a project about three years ago. It is a site where students can communicate and collaborate with other students from different schools throughout Europe. We can upload articles, files, pictures and videos. It's like a Facebook page where you have your own profile and friends. We can write on others' pages and chat with them too.

In the beginning we worked with Poland and the Czech Republic, we sent Christmas cards and did many PowerPoints where we wrote about traditional Swedish food, music and our old school. We've also made quizzes for them to answer.

Our class continued sending cards but this time to France and we also started writing the school newspaper that we sent to them. We've been writing many articles since then. Today we are cooperating with Italy, in a project called "15 in Switaly".

The director of E-twinning visited our school. He invited us to the SETT Fair which stands for Scandinavian Educational Technology Transformation. It's Scandinavia's biggest fair where teachers, educators, pre-school teachers and school leaders can get inspired about how to exploit new ways of working in schools towards higher achievements. Higher Education Council are responsible for E-twinning in Sweden.

We are going to speak about E-twinning and the advantages with it, what we've done so far and how it has affected our lessons.

<http://magazinefactory.edu.fi/magazines/15inSwitaly/>

By: Suzanne and Angelina

The SETT Fair

Some students in our class got the chance to exhibit at the SETT fair this year.

Natasa divided us up into four different groups with three students in each. The SETT fair took place for three days but the students from our class could only be there for two days since we had an exam on the third day. There were two groups each day, when the first group was exhibiting, the second group could walk around the fair. It was a big fair with many stands with different technologies. Some of them gave out free pencils and treats like popcorn, candy and frozen yoghurt. Each group stood there for about two hours talking to people about E-twinning. Some people were nicer than others. We gave out pamphlets almost to everyone who passed by our stand.

The only technology that interested some of us looked like vision glasses, there was a Samsung Galaxy S5 phone in it and it was made by Oculus and Samsung. When you wore them it felt like you were watching a 3D movie. At lunch time, they gave us free lunch tickets and we ate salmon with hollandaise sauce and potatoes, it tasted really good.

By: Angelina and Suzanne



Ghost walk

The week before the holiday, the entire school went on a ghost walk in Old Town.

A guide showed them around and talked about different places which were haunted. They walked around for about an hour. The younger children thought it was kind of fun but they would have liked it to be a little more scary and most of the older students thought it was quite boring.

One of the stories that the guide told them was about a school that was built on an old cemetery. In the basement while a class had had a party they heard something pounding on a wall, but there was no known room behind that wall. They later decided to find out what was behind it. They tore down the wall and found a mass grave from the old cemetery.

The only time ghostly or paranormal things happen there are when you make a lot of noise and disturb the ghosts but nothing serious has ever happened. There are a lot of similar places as this one. Like for example a basement where there are stories about a man and a treasure. Long ago the man bought a house because there were rumors about a treasure that had been buried in the basement. He started to look for it and dug up the basement. No one knows for sure if he found the treasure or not, but rumors say that sometimes you can hear someone digging in the basement

and that's him and he's still looking for the lost treasure. There's also a red house with white dots on it and every dot represents a person who was killed in a bloodbath back in 1520. There are 92 dots.

Most of the people who died were decapitated and some were hung.



Elsa Beskow

The first and second graders went into town to hear about an author.

They took the subway to

S:t Eriksplan and then walked a few minutes to get to the place.

When they got there the classes were divided separately and when one class went and learnt about Elsa the other one played with memory card, they then switched places so both classes were able to do both.

A storyteller sat and talked about the writer Elsa Beskow who was a fairytale writer.

The students found it very interesting and fun.

They said that they would like to go there again because it was fun and if they had to choose which thing was the funniest thing to do between Play with memory cards and hear about Elsa many would choose to hear about Elsa because they even got to dress up as some of her fairytale characters from her stories and eat fruit.



By: Naemi & Johanna

English Theme Week

The English Theme Week is when the whole school does different activities instead of having regular lessons and the activities they do depends on what theme we have and what grade you're in . The students and teachers are only allowed to speak in English.

Last year's theme was "Alice in Wonderland", then we watched the movie, learned about the author, made clothes and wrote poems.

The theme of this English Theme Week was ghosts and horror. Our school has English Theme Week in Autumn and also the week before Easter Break.

During the English Theme Week the whole school did the same things but on various levels. These are the things that we did during this theme week:

We went on a ghost walk where we walked through Old Town listening to ghost stories, watched movies and wrote about them and wrote our own ghost stories.

The younger students also made art crafts and played various puzzles.



Students' opinion on the week:

What the 1st-7th grades thought of the week:

It was fun and interesting, the most popular things we did were the ghost walk, write ghost stories, watching the movie and listening to the various ghost stories. Even though the older students disagree about how the week went they all agreed that writing their own ghost stories was the most fun thing they did.

What can the school do to improve the English theme weeks?

To improve the English theme week the students want to learn more about history and if they could choose a theme they would have chosen tea party, the powerful kings, sports and how to create games.

Let's hope they know what theme the students want to have next time...

By: Chanel

The Wave

The Wave is a book about a class that is being controlled by their teacher and the exercise going too far.

The teacher wanted to experiment because the Nazis were famous for their discipline. So he created a social movement called The Wave. He wanted to see some improvement in the class so he decided to do an exercise. But the idea of the whole thing goes wrong. Some of the students' parents started to question their children about The Wave. Everyone didn't like the idea so The Grapevine, the school newspaper, decided to publish an article in the school newspaper about The Wave. After they published the article, members of The Wave get out of control and some of the members started to question if the article really was telling the truth, but their teachers also wanted to stop The Wave movement because some people didn't like the idea of it. The next day their teacher wanted all the wave members to meet up in the auditorium. When all the members were in there they didn't see any leader so their teacher saw how easily the students could be manipulated and how easily the students could put their faith on somebody. The 9th graders read this book and also worked with it.

By: Adam Q

Lisa Dos Santos, the writer of Leo Bell, visited Novia Engelska Skolan

The school got copies of the book “Leo Bell” for free and the 4th and 5th graders are supposed to read the book and make a project about the book itself. You can read more about the book in the previous Hello Wake Up issue.

The students in 4th grade and 5th grade are going to create an exhibition after they have finished reading the book.

The author of the book came to our school on Friday 20th March. She talked about herself and how she got the idea to write the book. The 5th graders had some questions for her after her lecture.

She works as an attorney when she doesn't write books. She has written several books for children. Every Friday she goes to a café in Södermalm, a part of the capital city Stockholm and she continues writing on her books. It is calm there and she sees a lot of people when she is there and she likes to sit by the window. She told us about how it all started and some years ago things started disappearing, for example her keys and she didn't find them until a few days later. Then she talked about another world, she believes that people from some other world took her keys. She has a fantasy of a child and she is convinced there are several different worlds.

She came up with the idea to the title of the book while taking a walk. She walked by a store that is called Skobell and then she thought that Leo and Bell is a good connection and it rhymes in a way. After watching Eurovision

Song Contest she for example liked a song title and she changed the idea to her own. Lisa liked the names that are connected to the Universe and stars and she mixes and comes up with names to the characters in her books. She met a blind person once and then she started thinking about how it was to be blind and that's how she came up with the idea to write about a boy that wakes up and suddenly he is blind. He then starts visiting other parallel worlds.

All students were really interested in her lecture and she spoke calmly. Nobody spoke while she did and that is a good sign.

Lisa is coming back to visit the exhibition during week 22, and she will also get a guided tour by the students.



By: Alex and Adam R

Unga Klara "X"

Grade 9 in Novia English School went to a play called X.

The main plot is about racism. Different actors from different countries and cultures showed us how it was in Sweden when it comes to racism and what people have experienced. We could see how immigrants get accused for things that they haven't done and the difference between them and the Swedish people.

All of them had experienced different things in their life that they told us about during this play, what they and their families experience during the difficult living conditions. The play started with showing us how it was living in Sweden in the past, we got to know how the racism started and came to our daily life. They had different histories about this theme and one of them was about how white people used the black people as slaves and in the triangle trade. They also showed us how a "perfect" Swedish person would look like during that time. The theatre included many messages, events, experiences and other stuff like that.

Me and Manpreet liked the theatre really much because it told us about events we've also experienced, the society and how people get treated in our everyday life. Maybe we or the people near us has experienced the same things because racism a big thing that just gets worse and worse. Like a movie we saw in school a few weeks ago, some people in other countries had committed suicide because of network hatred, racism and things like that which is really bad.

By: Sevin and Manpreet

Thanks & Goodbye!

We want to thank everyone who has read our newspaper for all their support and feedback. We also want to thank our English teacher Natasa for the inspiration and motivation she has given us during these three years.

We want to wish next year's journalists a great time writing the articles and to have as much fun as possible.