

Successfully – International Day at Thor Heyerdahl upper secondary school

Music, dance, tastes, smells and countless impressions from "all" the countries of the world. International Day was a success



Many people gathered around the table where there was served tempting food and drink from all over the world. From Thailand to Norway, from China to Iraq, and from Somalia to Kurdish - all students had prepared well to show students, staff and visitors THVS culture. - Now we will soon dance, says a student from Syria. He gathers a whole bunch of other students and soon boys and girls from several different countries have gathered to show everyone the dance on the ground floor of Thor Heyerdahl

Encouragement: raise your eyes

The students in the Combination class have spent a lot of time preparing things for the day and they have made great presentations showing their home country. In restaurant and food processing program, the students have made a Norwegian pea soup, and a traditional

dessert called "tilslørte bondepiker" from Norway and Italian biscotti and pizza.

Colorful national costumes were worn for the occasion and the smiles are in place. Principal Kjølvdal Eidhammer began the day by encouraging students and teachers to "lift their eyes up" and look beyond Norway's borders.

- The students have made delicious different courses by cooking different food, made creative posters and several was wearing beautiful national costumes.

The leader of the Combination Class at THVS Kari Brekke Nilsen says;

it is very nice to get good feedback from students here at the school, teachers and visitors "from outside". She says the students were brilliantly satisfied and they thought was great fun.

- It is perfectly okay to be tired in the legs when everything has been so successful!, she added.

Strong testimony

there was a dense program throughout the school's Auditorium Kon-Tiki with various lectures on cultural meetings and cultural differences. Students who have participated in strategic partnerships and job exchanges had presentations from their experiences, while Kjell Østby and Abdul Ilah talked about meeting with Norway. Julien Bourrelle followed the theme humorously with her lecture on "Cracking the Norwegian Code".

- Both Kon-Tiki and the first floor where most of the activities were well attended all day, it's fun. Everyone has made a great effort to achieve this, says Cecilie Lund, coordinator of International Day at THVS.

Bente Hoel, coordinator of internationalization at the school, thinks the students were well prepared and shared their experiences in a good way.

- My impression is that they have gained a lot from their travels and stays with Erasmus +, says Hoel after the students' presentations.

She will remember the school's social worker Abdul-Ihla Karim Ahmad's testimony where he shared his escape through Europe from Iraq, to a better life in another country as a strong testimony. He left his wife and four children where the youngest was only four years old. He did not see his family for two years after coming to Norway; it was touching to hear about.

- He highlights important perspectives such as the well-being factors that one leaves behind when one is on the run and arrives in a new country, says Hoel.