

Co-operative field trip

- class, teachers, parents, siblings and parish workers

Date: 4th September 2007

Venue: Church camp- and training centre “Naarila”

Participants: classes 6A & 6B, their class teachers, class assistant, parents, 2 workers from the church

Themes:

- Educational: Forest and nature
- For parents: Puberty and changes at home
- Activities: Lessons, lunch, swimming and sauna, parent-teacher –talks, lecture for parents given by a youth training expert of the parish



Classes 6a and 6b with their teachers Sami Tammioja and Anja Romu started planning the field trip together with the parish workers in late spring. It was decided that the field trip will take place in early autumn in order to be able to study the forest and its flora when it is at its best; berries, mushrooms, bugs, trees etc. Pedagogical planning was carefully done at school, materials were made and the teachers had several planning discussions where the responsibilities and duties were agreed. A class assistant was available for their use so the classes were divided into 3 working groups. Classes left the school in the morning by charter bus.

Before noon the tasks were all about forest. Afternoon there was lunch, which was sandwiches and barbecue sausages, organised by school kitchen. After the lunch there were some games and free time. Parents, brothers and sisters arrived after their working days. Sauna was heated and most pupils went swimming as well, even the temperature of the lake was already quite chilly. During the free time for the children, teachers were able to have face-to-face discussions with those parents who felt it necessary at this point of the school year.

In the evening the youth training expert of the church parish gathered all the parents together and gave a lecture of puberty and the changes parents might find in their child in the next years to come; behaviour, alcohol, smoking, staying late out, school motivation etc. Discussion was lively and parents were able to make questions.

Only some families were not able to attend, most parents were present and joined the discussion actively.

Next day the teachers were interviewed at school. Their feedback of the preparations, activities and result was positive.

Because some parents are non-Christian, it was agreed beforehand with the parish workers that any religious themes are not included to the programme.



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