



2007-03-28 Wednesday

www.euso2007.de

EUSONEWS

Challenge the First...

Tuesday is over, a very special day for all of us: for the mentors, having spent most of the night on discussing about and translating the tasks, for the organisation team and the guides, desperately hoping everything would work as it was planned before and, of course, for the participants, who

Fig. Students at the laboratory



had to solve several scientific tasks in only four hours, biologists, chemists and physicists working

together to find out what is going on with Mr. Conrad's plants. Maybe there is something wrong with the soil? Or not? But what else instead? This stupid potato might have caused problems for some groups while others were quite happy about such tasks, and hopefully most of you are looking forward to the task on Thursday. No matter to which of those groups you belong to - you already won something that might be even worthier than any medal you could get here: The chance to meet several people from other countries and cultures, to stay, talk, live and work together, to become friends with people you would have never met if this competition did not exist. Keep that in mind, enjoy your stay, make new friends, and, last but not least: Good luck on Thursday!



School in flames?

The groups visited the schools had much more fun with “chem-talk”, a chemistry effect show, with which one of the schools tried to impress our young scientists.

Fig. chemistry in schools



It was definitely amusing especially the way a nervous school teacher ran around as the flames of the burning magnesia swarf couldn't be put out...

Potsdamer Platz: the place to go

Potsdamer Platz is an important square and traffic intersection in the centre of Berlin, Germany, lying about 1 km south of the

Brandenburg Gate and the Bundestag, and close to the south east corner of the Tiergarten park.

It is named after the city of Potsdam, some 25 km to the south west, and marks the point where the old road from Potsdam passed through the city wall of Berlin at the Potsdam Gate. It developed within the period of little over a century from an intersection of rural streets into the most bustling traffic centre in Europe.

Fig. Potsdamer Platz in 1903



As was the case in most of Berlin, almost all of the buildings around Potsdamer Platz were destroyed by air raids and heavy artillery bombardment during the last years of World War II.



When the city was divided into four sectors by the occupying Allies at the end of the war, the square found itself on the boundary between the American, British, and Soviet sectors.

As Cold War tensions rose during the 1950s, restrictions were placed on travel between the Soviet sector (East Berlin) and the western sectors (West Berlin). Lying on this invisible frontier, Potsdamer Platz was no longer an important destination for Berliners.

With the construction of the Berlin Wall on 13 August 1961 along this intracity frontier, Potsdamer Platz found itself divided in two. What had once been a busy intersection had become desolate. With the clearance of ruined buildings on both sides, almost nothing was left in an area of dozens of hectares.

After 1990, the square came into the focus of attention again, as a large, attractive location which had

suddenly become available in the centre of a major European city. The city government chose to divide the area into four parts, each to be sold to a commercial investor, which then planned new constructions. During the building-phase the Potsdamer Platz was the largest building site in Europe. Since it has risen again as a

Fig. Potsdamer Platz at night



glittering new heart for the city and the most visible symbol of the new Berlin.



Info

Bus Departure:

- Students and mentors: 8:45
Sightseeing Bundestag and Potsdamer Platz
- Mentors: 14:00
Lab-check Golm
- Students: 16:45

Meeting at bus at Potsdamer Platz

Take your passports with you to the Bundestag – very important

Take your blue EUSO-bagpacks with you to Berlin for reasons of recognition.

off the mark



	morning	lunchtime	evening
wednesday 2007-03-28			
temperature	5°C	15°C	13°C
thursday 2007-03-29			
temperature	6°C	13°C	10°C