

Report from the trip to

**Petrovsky orphanage
Klin district, Moscow region**

September 20, 2014

We resumed the orphanages visits after the summer holidays. We visited the Petrovsky orphanage in the Moscow region for the first time and we were very pleased, as there was the opportunity to have fruitful and interesting conversations with the children and with the administration.



Victor (right standing) is the boy whom we took into the Blinkov's family. He is 17 but his real level is around 11 years

Two boys drove with us from Torzhok disability-level 8 boarding school. These boys are fostered by two of our volunteers. The boys noted that the living conditions in the Petrovsky orphanage were much more comfortable than in the Torzhok boarding and that the kids now have a better life there.



However, this is not surprising, since the further you go from Moscow, the worse the support for children's homes and boarding schools.

We conducted three master classes: outdoor games for preschool children, making soft toys for the older children and a talk about freedom and responsibility for the older teens. With the latter, we also wrote letters to God, and our old friend and volunteer, Shota Odishvili, read a very informative and interesting lecture, full of facts about the dangers of tobacco, alcohol and various drugs. The aim

of the lecture was not simply to say that alcohol and drugs are bad, but to inform the children about the physical and psychological consequences of their use. The kids actively participated and asked many questions.



We finished our visit with an amicable time of further socialising over tea.

Two of our volunteers shared their impressions: "At the heart of our visit was the desire to go to children who are forced to live in a social institution without the love, affection and warmth of their parents. I wanted to show them that there are people who are not indifferent to these children, who will pray for them and will leave the things they have on to go and give some love, to take the time to communicate.

Our team consisted of completely different, interesting people all carrying out their own role. Everyone had something to share with the children. Some took the time to communicate with the children, teaching in a friendly manner, sharing some wisdom, some made toys, some caught naughty kids, some took photos and videos of all the events etc.

What is important that inside we had a clear understanding that we were in the right place, that we needed them and they needed us. It was felt everywhere: seeing their bright eyes, the cuddles and the request to come back ... "Anastasia



"My impressions of the last trip were the nicest. I felt an extraordinary lightness and openness in communication with both the staff of the orphanage, and also with the kids, despite the fact that it

was the first time we had visited them. Thank God for the opportunity for us to sow love in fertile soil, even if it was only a little. After these trips I felt refreshed myself ..." Natalia



As part of our project, 15-18 year old children wrote letters to God. Here are some of them:

Dear Lord, I ask You to forgive all my sins, give me a new heart. I was touched by the story about life after death. I have often thought about it. Give me strength and willpower on the path of life.

Victor

Hello, Lord!

I'm Jana, you already know who I am. I often thank you for this wonderful world, THANK YOU. And always, I ask only one thing - that things with my parents would be all alright, and now I'm asking, please forgive all my sins.

Lord, I love you!

Jana

Jesus Christ!

I'm a big girl, and responsible for my own actions, but still I want to ask for a "pure" heart to become better, kinder and brighter. To help people in difficult times, to change for the better and get closer to you.

I know You're always there and always looking out for me, so I thank you for this.

Thank you very much.

With love Marina

Dear Lord, please forgive me for all my sins. Give health to all my friends and relatives. Let each child have a mum.

Anya

Dear Lord, forgive me for all the sins and lead me on the right path, I beg you, give me a clean heart, help me and my family, deliver us from evil, save my soul and the soul of my loved ones and give us the strength to overcome all the difficulties of life.

Alexey

Photos from the trip are available on our page:

<http://vk.com/albums-39183691>

From the bottom of our hearts we thank all of our volunteers and sponsors!

Contacts:

Irina Blinkova

Coordinator of the project

tel. no. +7 916-923-8694