

Saint Nicholas Day at Baltic Barracks

Written by AG

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The Multinational Corps Northeast Allied Ladies Club organized and supervised one of the most awaited events of the year for children, Saint Nicholas Day!

Approximately 95 children and 80 adults came to Baltic Barracks Tuesday, 5 December 2012, to participate in this event. Everyone was entertained with dancing, singing, face painting and much more with the support of 19 students from Piwoni Private High School in Szczecin.

The students, under the direction of the school headmaster, Ms. Iwona Stypula-Dworak and five teachers, kindly agreed to help arrange the entertainment for the children. In return for their services, they only asked for monetary donations which will be used towards providing lifesaving rehabilitation for a local Szczecin girl, 16-year-old Malwina Wajs in her fight against a progressive and incurable disease.

Saint Nicholas Day is celebrated in different parts of the world. In most countries it falls on December 6th, while in some places it occurs on December 19th. However, regardless of the time, all children wake up the next morning to find small treats, gifts, fruit or nuts, cookies and special Nicholas candies left in their shoes or stockings as a sign that St. Nicholas visited them while they were sleeping.

Every year members of the Allied Ladies Club do their best to bring the festive spirit of this wonderful event to all of the children whose parents are assigned with military duty at Multinational Corps Northeast as well as with other children from the Szczecin International

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School.

This year, children excitedly watched a dancing routine from three hip hop dancers, played different kinds



of games, and received adorable facial paintings making their cute faces shine even brighter. Also, nearly every child participated in decorating artificial snowballs that they were able take home and put on their Christmas tree afterwards! There was so much fun for everybody!

During the event all participants enjoyed eating hotdogs, coffee, tea, hot chocolate, and with the most delight - homemade sweets and salty treats as well as some fruit. Candies, kindly donated by the Canteen at Baltic Barracks, were a big hit.

One of the biggest highlights of the evening was the arrival of Saint Nicholas, and his two elf helpers, who gave out small candy presents to all of the children! It was a nice surprise to receive small gifts from the Piwoni Private High School students as well!

So, now that this joy-filled winter holiday is over, everybody is impatiently waiting for Christmas and New Years to arrive. Hopefully it will be filled with happiness, joy and family closeness for everybody!

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