



Nadace
Zdeňka Bakaly

November 2013

136

**people joined
the Bakala Scholars' Facebook
in just a few days**



Josef Hazi



Matěj Jungwirth no.176



Zuzana Schmidtová

Interested in Studying Abroad?

Turn to the Bakala Scholars.

The Zdeněk Bakala Scholars have launched a Facebook page at www.facebook.com/bakalascholars for all students heading abroad and seeking useful tips.

Josef Hazi, a Bakala scholar currently reading physics at the University of Oxford, went even further to hold a debate on study abroad at his old secondary school, Gymnázium in Cheb. Attracting more than one-third of the school's students, the event sought to motivate them to apply for universities abroad and ease any fears that they might have. Josef shared his own story about his journey to Oxford: obtaining the best possible marks in the school leaving exam, participating in the research of nanocrystalline diamond layers at the Institute of Physics in Prague, preparing for the interview... "I think the debate served its purpose in that it motivated students to pursue what they are good at and what they enjoy." Images by Viktorie Kuzmová

Bakala Scholar Sporting and Teaching in Nablus

Apart from intensive study, Matěj Jungwirth, a Bakala scholar, is a cross-country runner for Beloit College. Matěj explains: "Before moving to the US, it had never crossed my mind that I could become so involved in school sports. But I could not be happier that I did. I have met so many people, and been immersed in a sport that I love, and become a much more effective student. Training is so time consuming that I simply have to be as efficient as I can in the time that is left."

In the summer, Matěj joined a group of volunteers – both students and teachers – from Mexico, the Netherlands, Ireland, and France on a visit to Nablus, a city in Jordan's West Bank. Josef taught English and sporting activities to the local people in an initiative organized by Project Hope. He shares his Nablus experience on the Zdeněk Bakala Foundation's Web site, in the Czech section entitled STUDENTI POMÁHAJÍ.

Prisoners Resocialization, as Viewed by a Bakala Scholar

Zuzana Schmidtová (one of this year's SCHOLARSHIP recipients) aims to study criminology. In an interview about **Křehká šance** (Delicate Chance) – a two-year-old Czech program designed to help prisoners, even those convicted of major offences, seek conditional release – Zuzana said: "Personally, I believe in a second chance and the resocialization process; at the same time, it has to be determined who will be eligible, and under what conditions. People convicted of major offences, by which I mean intentional serious bodily harm or intentional homicide, should not be eligible for early release. Nevertheless, they should be helped once they are released, in the way all prisoners are helped. Reducing their sentence is, I believe, not a good message to the public, to prisoners, or to potential offenders."