



## A few words about the wonderful summerschool in prof. Plemelj's Villa in Bled

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As for several years now, the 4-day summerschool for best Slovenian nine-graders in math, physics or astronomy was organized by DMFA Slovenije in Bled. Our unique experience started on Sunday, June 10th, when we gathered for the first time in the Villa of prof. Josip Plemelj (1883-1967), a well-known Slovenian mathematician. As you can imagine, our group of math and physics champions was rather shy and quiet at first, so a start with a few ice-breaking social activities was a great way to kick-off.

In the evening, dr. Boštjan Kuzman prepared a short lecture for us. We calculated the average number of stickers that we need to buy in order to complete a full album. This was a very inspiring beginning. After the lecture, some of us already felt closer to each other and started vivid discussions on school, math and science.

After breakfast on Monday morning we split in groups and had much fun by seeking winning strategies for several interesting combinatorial games that were prepared for us by Nežka Rugelj and Katarina Vidmar, who were taking great care for us all week. The afternoon was colored in physics. First we discussed torque and levers in human body with dr. Barbara Rovšek, than we analyzed the rainbows in the lecture by dr. Jurij Bajc. We also used a chance to swim in the refreshing waters of Lake Bled, while in the evening we listened to a funny lecture on »Almost obvious« by dr. Uroš Kuzman.

Our Tuesday morning was spent on the other side of Lake, filled with sport games and math problems. In the afternoon, dr. David Kraljić lectured us on the life of stars, and dr. Boštjan Kuzman directed us to discover some beautiful combinatorial properties of trees and graphs. We

spent a lot of time on our research without a moment wasted, as the research process was really interesting.

In the evening, we also played a game of quizz. That was so much fun! A bit of nervousness and competition as well as cooperation helped our group to win the game and we gladly shared our prize of chocolate bananas with other groups.

As we continued our mathematical research about trees on Wednesday morning, the atmosphere was so much more relaxed than on the first day. Unfortunately, our ways parted soon after lunch.

**I couldn't have spent these few days better than I did. They gathered together several like me. Young minds that are actually interested in this terrible math that causes so much pain to others, and are willing to dedicate their free time to discuss the beauty of math, physics and astronomy. I have made so many great contacts and I am sure that I will cherish the memory of this summerschool for a very very long time.**