

**Dear adoptive parents, dear supporters and friends of the Narovinu Center,**

Thank you all for your support in celebrating 20 years of Distance Adoption, the May Family Festival in Vyšehrad was a great success... Thanks for the beautiful atmosphere. On page 6 you will find some photos. Celebrating 20 years of the education support program, 20 years of beautiful and inspiring stories. Pass it on - supporting education makes sense! Share your stories, photos, letters... Share your experiences. Become adoptive parents too and give children in Kenya hope for a better future.

We would love to meet you during the summer at other festivals and events across the country, you can always look forward to the Fair Trade Shop and workshops with an African theme. For more information, visit [www.AdopceAfrika.cz](http://www.AdopceAfrika.cz) or [www.facebook.com/CentrumNarovinu](https://www.facebook.com/CentrumNarovinu). Have a wonderful summer, holidays, vacations...

On behalf of Narovinu Center  
**Simona Heřtusová**  
[simona.hertusova@adopceafrika.cz](mailto:simona.hertusova@adopceafrika.cz)

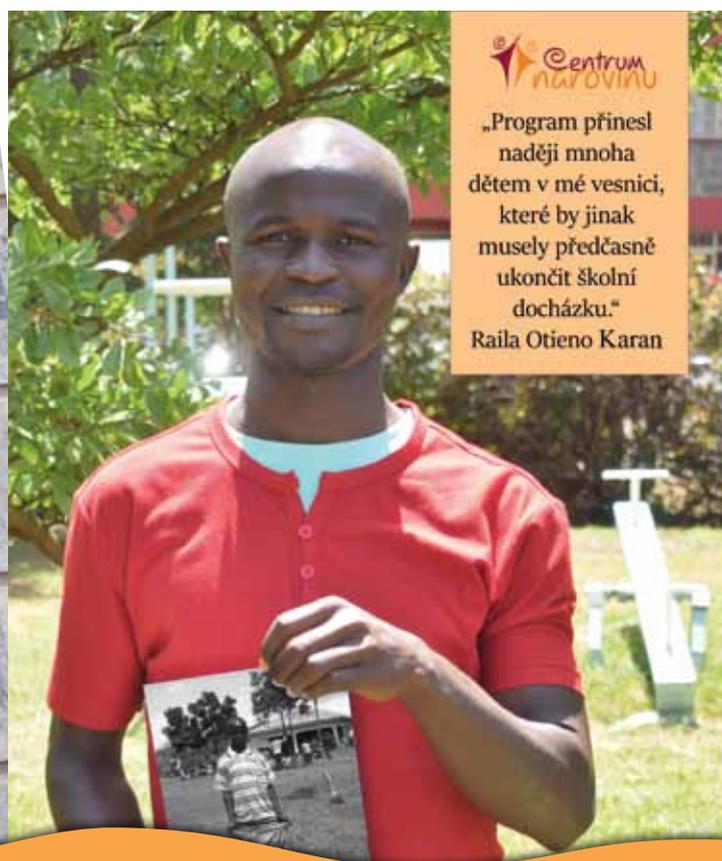


## Celebrating 20 years of Distance Adoption

We are celebrating 20 years of beautiful stories where we have helped children in Kenya graduate from their dream schools, spend their childhoods with their peers, expand their horizons... Today they are adults, have their own families, jobs, they volunteer and pay it forward... Celebrate with us. Support the education of one particular child and give them hope for a better future, thank you. For a database of children and more info, visit [www.AdopceAfrika.cz](http://www.AdopceAfrika.cz)

Do you like the project to support the education of children in Kenya, but your current situation does not allow you to adopt one of the children? Would you still like to support them financially? You can do so through the Club of Friends of Adoption and send a lump sum, or send regular or irregular amounts throughout the year. The collection account number is 107-6829480277/0100. The variable symbol of the Club of Friends is 800.

Thank you in advance for your support and help!



## Who makes up the Narovinu Center team?

### We present a new reinforcement in the Prague office



**My name is Eva Jedličková** and I originally come from Vysočina, from a small village near Telč. In previous years, I have traveled a lot and also lived for a long time in England. I have occasionally translated as a volunteer for the Narovinu Center and now I am joining as an administrative support for the provision of this project. I will be processing health insurance and communicating with the coordinators. I am very happy to be part of a wonderful team that supports and improves the quality of life for so many children. My main hobby is traveling (especially backpacking), I don't have a favourite destination because

I think every country is beautiful in its own right and has something to offer: Nature, culture, lifestyle and traditional cuisine. I believe that getting to know new countries and people enriches one's personality and so numerous times a person realizes that he/she can be grateful for what he/she has (especially in developing countries).

Yoga also plays an important role in my life, which has taught me a lot. I like bike-riding, reading interesting books or watching good movies. My main new challenge during this last year has been to learn Spanish also.

# Friends of Adoption Club

From the account of the Friends of Adoption Club, (where people can contribute regular and irregular amounts under s. 800, and where excess payments donated to us by "adoptive parents" from completed adoptions go), we managed to support a total of 46 children who came.

Meanwhile, in the second school term of 2022 there are those who are still waiting for the support of their current "adoptive parent" or their "first adoptive parent". In total, this amounts to 208,800 CZK and 1,540 EUR.

Thank you very much for the amount donated to the Adoption of Friends Club.

*Hana Jodasová*

We present the children you can support in education:



**William Awino Ombalo (ID 52672)** has three siblings, their parents are deceased. William likes to play football and volleyball. At school he enjoys Swahili, mathematics, physics, chemistry and history. He would like to become a lawyer. In 2022, he should finish the 4th year of secondary school and apply for follow-up studies.

If you would like to support William, please contact the coordinator Monika at [monika.hubickova@adopceafrika.cz](mailto:monika.hubickova@adopceafrika.cz).

**Anna Adhiambo (ID 51336)** goes to Island of Hope School on Rusinga Island. She has been raised by her grandmother, who tries to support herself by selling firewood. Anna lives with a family of 6 in a two-room mud house. The girl is healthy.

If you want to support Anna, please contact the Stand coordinator at [stanislav.svacek@adopceafrika.cz](mailto:stanislav.svacek@adopceafrika.cz).



**Lucy Anyango Okongo (ID 51685)** comes from a polygamous family. Lucy and her younger sister live in a house with 9 other step-siblings. Their parents also take care of 10 orphans who live next door. Her mother sells fish and father is a project coordinator. In 2022, Lucy studies in her 3rd year of high school. Island of Hope Humanist Mixed Boarding School.

If you want to support Lucy, please contact the coordinator Lucie at [Lucie.valtova@adopceafrika.cz](mailto:Lucie.valtova@adopceafrika.cz)



## The second wave of health insurance

Also, this year, adoptive parents have the opportunity to enrol their adopted children in the Health Insurance program. The first wave of insurance has already taken place, but it is still possible to insure the child for the period from August 2022 to May 2023, by sending the amount of CZK 1,500 (EUR 60) to our account by 7/27/2022. Enter the number 6 + the number as a variable symbol of "your" child (i.e. e.g. 641023).

Account in the Czech Republic: 19-1460510217/0100 (account in the Czech Republic in EUR: 35-3076360217/0100, IBAN: CZ50 0100 0000 35307636 0217, BIC: KOMBCZPP, account in Slovakia in EUR: 4001055909/7500, IBAN: SK137500000004001055909, BIC/SWIFT: CEKOSKBX).

If you would like to pay for health insurance for the relatives of your adopted child, please contact our office.

### Insurance for children ensures:

- 1) a complete preventive examination including blood tests for HIV (provided that the family agrees to the tests);
- 2) follow-up of the HIV-positive patient (providing medication and all necessary information);
- 3) information on the prevention of common diseases;
- 4) reimbursement of treatment and medication costs in case of hospitalization (to ensure medical care for more serious conditions that require hospitalization, including in the case of injuries and accidents, up to a maximum amount of KES 150,000/ Kenya shillings per year);
- 5) payment of the costs of treatment and medicines in the case of outpatient treatment by a doctor up to a maximum amount of KES 10,000 per year (also applies to specialized examinations, for example dental and eye examinations).

Thank you in advance for supporting the children also in terms of health, because health insurance is certainly the best gift for them! Another of the common diseases is cholangitis (also amoeba) caused by the Entamoeba parasite. You may know it under the popular name of dysentery. It can affect anyone, but it most



often occurs in people with poor hygiene conditions. People usually become infected by ingesting faecal-contaminated food and water. For those who do become ill, symptoms can include severe stomach pain, bloody stools and fever. Only rarely does it attack the liver and form an abscess (a collection of pus). We frequently receive messages from Kenya that our children have contracted this disease, the main reason is that many families use water from the lake, which can be contaminated with this parasite. The disease is most often treated with appropriate drugs, and it is also necessary to pay attention to diet and the replenishment of fluids, which however, is not easy in Kenya.

Thanks to this medical insurance, children can be treated in time and can thus prevent a severe course or any permanent consequences. Thank you very much!

*Eva Jedličková*

## Extra support for children in Kenya

This time I would like to write something a little different about the extra payments than the usual number and value of them, and list of all the things that they have bought to make life easier for families in Kenya or to bring joy to adopted children. This time I am referring to a story that happened last year. We got information from our Kenyan coordinator that a boy from the Adoption program had been in an accident and seriously injured his eye. The hospital examined him and told his parents that surgery was needed preferably within two days or the boy would lose his eye. However, the eye operation was so expensive that his parents could not afford it at all. So they asked our coordinator if an adoptive parent could help. That is where the fight for the boy's eye began. We had to contact an adoptive parent who lives in Switzerland. He confirmed by phone that he would pay for the boy's surgery. However, the money

could not come until Monday or Tuesday at the earliest, given the weekend, but we needed to have it by Monday morning in Kenya on Rusinga Island, where the incident happened. We persuaded our accountant to pay the money without the money being transferred to Kenya. It was a bit of a risk for all of us, but the boy's eye was worth the risk. Everything worked out fine, the money was settled and the boy's eye was saved. We all have a good feeling in our souls.

*Zdeněk Mocek*



## Volunteering on Rusinga Island thanks to the OU Aid project

We would like to share with you our experiences with volunteering on Rusinga Island. We are Kačka and Zorka, students of the Faculty of Education of the University of Ostrava, who, thanks to the OU Aid project, got the opportunity to become part of the wonderful community of Centrum Narovinu for six weeks.



Thanks to the focus of the study, it is understandable that we spend most of our time with children. The primary content of our work is the creation of leisure activities for children from the orphanage. It is said that repetition is the mother of wisdom, so we try to build on the work of previous volunteers, we work with children and repeat e.g. topics such as basic hygiene habits, our body or the basics of decent behavior. However, we pay the most attention to activities that show children the importance of cooperation and communication in a non-violent way. Local children, often with a not-so-simple history, are more anchored in competition, and that we are trying to change. Just like the competition, we are trying to change their attitude towards volunteers so that they don't take our work for granted.

Activities supporting the development of fine motor skills are also a great success. Above all, we often produce and create in the evening before going to bed. Despite the fact that sometimes it is more difficult to explain the rules and principles of games to children, our days are simply full of sports, creativity and fun.

When "our children" are in school, we are involved in the teaching in the kindergarten. The Kenyan school system is somewhat different from ours. Teaching in the kindergarten here is also different than we expected. The children have classic teaching blocks, they work in desks and the teacher teaches them, for example, the basics of mathematics, English, agriculture, etc. Our job is to help the teacher and prepare activities corresponding to the children's age. However, we try not to impoverish even the oldest students. We organize workshops and seminars with high school students.

We dare say that our presence is appreciated by both social workers and teachers, as well as other employees. We also try to help in the kitchen when serving breakfast, lunch and dinner.

The gratitude of all the workers can be seen at first glance. We did not encounter a single complaint. On the contrary, we found a common language with everyone and at least partially passed on a "European" view of the operation of the entire organization, which can make everyday work at least partially easier.

Even though our cultures and lives are so different, we learn from each other. For us, local life is as rewarding as any information that reaches the locals. It's no wonder that among the most rewarding activities is reading together letters sent by adoptive parents or schools. Children are very conscientious and they like to learn not only about the Czech Republic. We would also like to thank all the adoptive parents and sponsors who, thanks to their letters, enable us to spend beautiful moments with the children.

The last big task we set ourselves before leaving concerns the painting of the dining room, which also serves as a common room. Everyone spends a lot of time here, so we felt sorry that the room seemed sad and unkempt. However, it is not within our power to complete the painting of the entire area, and therefore we would be very happy if the volunteers who come after us continue this initiative.

Although our departure is fast approaching, we hope to meet the locals again one day at Rusingo.

*Kateřina Hemzová and Zora Duřková*



## Visit of adoptive parents in the Island of Hope

We greet all current, future or potential adoptive parents, but of course also all others who admire, as we do, the work done by this organization, Centrum Narovinu.

We would like to share with you our short but wonderful stay among children on the Island of Hope. Me, my partner and my dad, who is currently the adoptive parent of two boys, Nelson and Zdenek, went on a trip to Kenya, and of course we thought it was amazing that we could combine this trip with a visit of the boys.

At first we thought we would say hi to the guys, take them somewhere for lunch or a trip and that would be the end of it because everyone would have their own schedule. We thought the school would have a few buildings and a maximum of 200 children, but currently there are 500 children, which we think is an incredible number.



stake here. From healthcare to making fish cages to sell so children can buy food at school to the problem of drinking water and much more.



During those three days, we visited a few classes (they also have a computer science classroom and we really stared at that), helped prepare snacks, had lunch with the kids, hung out at an egg cooking class, and took our boys on a boat trip and then to lunch.



We were there like three Alices in Wonderland. We could never imagine what this organization has accomplished. As a medical professional, I was of course fascinated by the health center, where routine outpatient examinations, vaccinations, testing, births, treatment for TB, malaria, etc. take place. They even managed to get an ambulance!

All these things that seem common to us are not really common there, and the fact that children can have it and learn to use and perceive everything correctly is an incredible opportunity for them to take it somewhere.

Thank you very much for the wonderful experience and we look forward to being part of the project from now on.

*Hedvika and Michal*

We ended up spending three whole days at the school and would have stayed longer if we could have. We were lucky enough to meet the wonderful Dana who started it all and for that she has our admiration. As she went through the whole thing with us and showed us the individual buildings and their sponsors, it immediately became clear to us that it is not just about building and running the school. There is much more at

# Celebrating 20 years of the programme of Adoption of African Children - a long-distance aid project



On May 21, we celebrated 20 years of our education support program with the African Festival at Vyšehrad. THANK YOU to Creative Africa and Vyšehrad National Cultural Monument for their tremendous support and co-creation of a wonderful atmosphere. A big thank you also to all the performers AneboAfro, KAT Bent L'Amor, ACA - African Culture and Art, Sahar, Divadlo Figl, Meet Your Street, Leonardo Teca, Marie Imbrová, the program was really diverse...

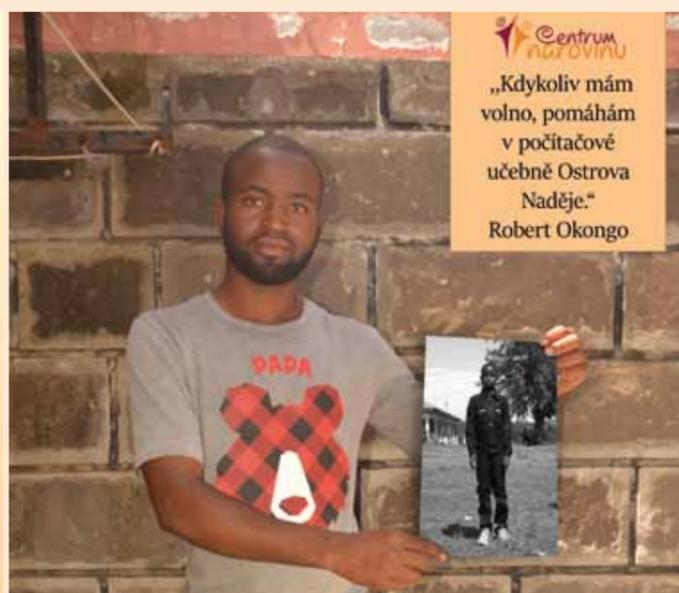
Thanks also to all the wonderful volunteers from the Narovinu

Centre who entertained the children at the African workshops... And a big thank you to all of you for coming with a warm spirit, buying something for pleasure and supporting meaningful projects with your contribution. The proceeds from the Hippo Trail, Birthday Raffle and Fair Trade Shop supported the education of the children of Island of Hope on Rusinga Island in Kenya with a wonderful amount of 20 000,- CZK.

[www.AdopceAfrika.cz](http://www.AdopceAfrika.cz)



Centrum narovinu  
„Díky programu jsem vystudovala cestovní ruch na univerzitě a nyní spolupracuji s několika hotely a organizacemi.“  
Faith Ndunge



Centrum narovinu  
„Kdykoliv mám volno, pomáhám v počítačové učebně Ostrova Naděje.“  
Robert Okongo

# Derrick – a cheerful boy who follows his dream

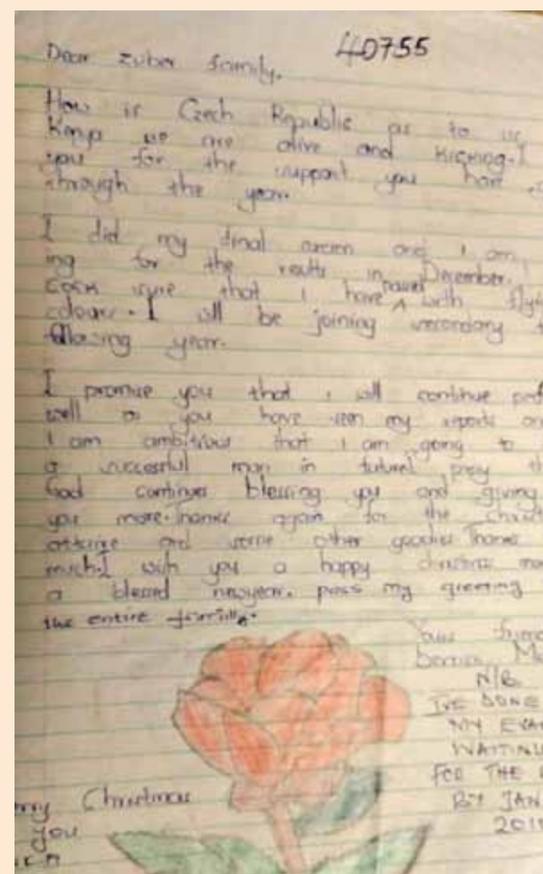
In 2008, we decided as a family to join the Long-Distance Adoption program. On the website of the Narovinu Center there were photos of children who needed new sponsors, because

the existing ones could no longer contribute for some reason. Derrick caught our eye, especially his smiling face in the photo with his dog. He looked like a happy, fearless boy who could go far. We learned that he lives with his mom and sister and that the family does not have enough money for school and food. At the same time, Derrick was almost the same age as me, so we decided to help him with

jects. Ever since high school, he wrote that he wanted to become a lawyer and help people. We were very supportive and proud of him. We knew that supporting a high school student and later a college student would be more financially challenging, but we could not just abandon him. He was growing up before our eyes, and I was growing up with him. Derrick gradually became a mature and grown man who fully pursued his goals and exceeded our expectations.

In recent years, communication has slowed down, in part due to the Covid pandemic, but we have been able to connect with Derrick via email and LinkedIn. I believe I will meet Derrick one day.

Monika Zuberová

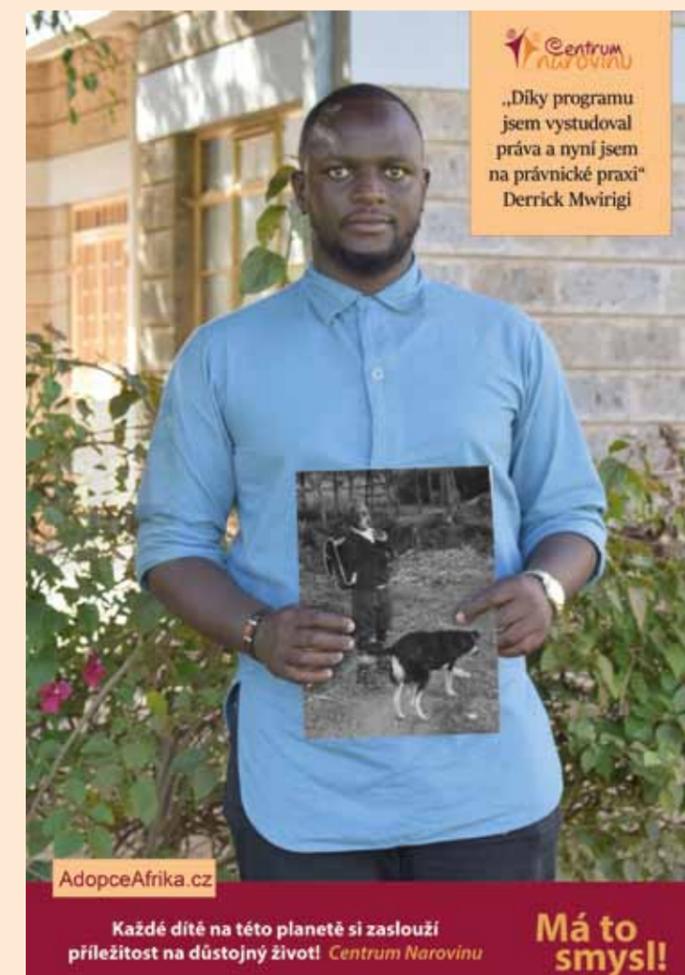


schooling and other educational needs.

From the first letter it was obvious that he was a clever boy, his report card was also very nice, he was already in the eighth grade and he confided that he wanted to continue his studies. Thanks to his results he got into a good secondary school. It was already a tremendous success and we had no idea that he would eventually go on to university.

Because my parents do not speak English, I translated the letters and later wrote them myself, it was great practice. Over the years we have seen Derrick's English get better and his speech improve as well. We did not plan to send any big gifts, but we sent Derrick things like stationery and notebooks, a book, and later a contribution for a laptop. It was always a pleasure to receive a letter from him with a picture with our gift or a picture and a thank you note. We have received many photos from Derrick over time, and we have sent him a picture of our family several times as well. We also received several nice letters from his mom.

We have closely monitored Derrick's performance in school and kept our fingers crossed that he would be successful in high school. We were very pleasantly surprised when he got into college and overcame all the obstacles and challenging sub-



## Cooperation of the Třeboň Gymnasium with the Centrum Narovinu



Two excited girls, twins, show me an article in Květy magazine about adoption in India. They brought it to class that day to ask their classmates if they would be interested in getting involved in adoption at distance. The class enthusiastically agreed and their class teacher helped with the initial paperwork and everything else. In English class, the first letters were translated. It is the school year 2000/2001. If I recall correctly, we still have not traced the exact beginning of the adoption at our school, which was in the beginning connected with the Archdiocesan Charity in Prague. This venture of one class reached out to others, who gradually joined in depending on their interest and enthusiasm.

In 2009, the cooperation with the Narovinu Center began and has continued without interruption until now. Adoption of Kenyan children takes different forms in our school. Sometimes a child is adopted by the whole class, other times just a few students from several classes join forces together, either with the coordination of the Student Parliament or just through the support of the class teachers - all under the guidance of a charity coordinator from among the teachers. The students were also joined by all the teachers.



This school year we supported four adopted children, Ronny (10th year of adoption, high school), Brian (9th year, college), David (5th year, high school) and Edwin (high school), whose adoption was finalized this spring after 10 years. The covid era was actually a great boon for us in the adoption field. Thanks to online connections, we have been able to accomplish projects that we had not even originally considered. Our very communicative, academically gifted and organizational Brian works online so that the adoption class can meet with him through Teams during the school year. His tremendous efforts in his college studies have impressed other students and teachers so much that they have decided to support his studies in his second year of medical school at Kabanga University in Kenya and cover the total financial cost of his college education.



Thanks to the online meetings that the Narovinu Center held during the covid, we were able to participate in projects that we would not have travelled to Prague for. Thanks to enthusiastic teachers, we discovered the so-called Fair Trade Shop and tried to get involved in it as well. It took place for the first time before Christmas last year and this Spring. There was more interest than we ever expected, more than 25,000 CZK worth of goods were sold and we already have more shoppers waiting for the next "Kenyan Christmas offer". We were also very pleased to take advantage of the offer of an on-line link-up with pupils from the Island of Hope Community Centre, which was moderated by Dana Feminova. It was all topped off with a song in Swahili as which was an extraordinary experience for us. Last but not least, we also took advantage of Simona Heřtusova offer to give lectures about the Narovinu Center. We also held lectures during the covid period - online and now again in person. I would very much like to recommend this informative lecture to all those interested in the activities of the Narovinu Center, including the well-designed questionnaire What the world has and does not have. It will make the listeners think more deeply about how we live.

*Lenka Kopečková, Gymnázium Třeboň*