



## Newsletter



### Innovative Digital Fabrication Laboratory Opening at the European School

We are proud to announce the opening of innovative Digital Fabrication Laboratory at the European School.

FabLab promises unprecedented educational opportunities in the Georgian education system – students will have access to the most advanced technologies and acquire knowledge to kickstart international innovative projects in Georgia.

Implementing new education methods along with the high-tech infrastructure will strengthen 21st-century skills among our pupils. The European School FabLab is an ideal environment for self-development and creative projects. Our FabLab has the following equipment: Laser Cutter; 3D Printers; Industrial Robot Arms; CNC Milling; Vinyl Cutter; UV Printer; Vacuum Former; Thermo Presses; Electronics Table and other tools for inventions and innovations.

At the official opening ceremony, Sophio Bazadze, our Academic Director, Natia Zedginidze, Deputy Minister of Education of Georgia, and Irakli Kashibadze, General Director of Future Laboratory, cut the red ribbon.

#### Sophio Bazadze, Academic Director of the European School:

“Last year, together with Future Laboratory, the European School launched an innovative project – we are transforming into a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Design, and Mathematics) school. The importance of STEAM is increasingly emphasized all over the world. International schools are incorporating STEAM education into their curricula and strategic plans. In-demand jobs require STEAM skills. And since demand for STEAM education grows, we, as a CIS member school, stay up to date with modern challenges. The European School hosted WiSci Girls STEAM CAMP in August 2018. The camp brought together 100 high school girls from Georgia, Azerbaijan, Armenia and the United States. They expanded their knowledge in science, technology, engineering, arts and design, and mathematics (STEAM). Today, the European school is transitioning into a new era of STEAM education.

FABLAB is a platform for teaching and innovation. I would like to congratulate our student body. From now on, they will experience an integrated, interdisciplinary approach to learning, project-based and research-driven environment, and acquire 21st century skills. I would like to thank the school founders, Future Lab, and Department of Information Technologies and Innovation, for providing our student body with unique opportunities. I am confident that STEAM education will provide a solid foundation for our students' future success.”

## Ambassador of Estonia at the European School

On November 30, 2018, the European School had the honor to welcome the ambassador of the Republic of Estonia to Georgia, Ms. Kai Kaarelson.

The ambassador met with the students of our school and discussed digital capabilities and services that have helped Estonia become a world leader in digital innovation.

The European School students organized a school tour for the guest and showed her around our FabLab, an innovative Digital Fabrication Laboratory, which promises unprecedented educational opportunities in the Georgian education system. At FabLab, our students have access to the most advanced technologies and hands-on STEM education even in the early school years.

The ambassador emphasized the importance of introducing students to the latest technologies.



## School Fair 2018

On December 7-8, the European School participated in School Fair 2018 at Expo Georgia

The exhibition, the first of its kind in Georgia, was designed to provide a platform for the education sector - the aim was to allow potential customers and visitors to evaluate presented educational institutions, their advantages, programs, teaching methods, infrastructure, curricula, and technical support they provide.

The visitors of our stand received comprehensive information about the European School. They actively inquired about the programs offered by our school. During these two days, our stand was constantly surrounded by parents and children.





## Summative Assessment of Transdisciplinary Themes

The importance of the disciplines is well-acknowledged, but disciplines alone are not enough. Students need to learn the concepts and skills that transcend the disciplines and must be able to put their knowledge into practice.

This was the main purpose of summative assessment of transdisciplinary themes for our Georgian Program. Pupils from Grades 1-5 held an exhibition of their works, showcasing the transdisciplinary skills acquired while learning unit topics. In addition, students discussed activities that have been carried out by them within this learning process.



## Project “The European School-Athens-The European School”



Starting from 2012, the European School is actively involved in an educational festival “Golden Fleece” to celebrate Georgian-Greek relations. The festival is supported by TSU Institute of Classical, Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies, The Embassy of Greece in Georgia and National Archives of Georgia.

Over the course of the years, the European School students have been participating in different activities, in particular:

During the academic year 2012-2013, Grade 6A students (team leader: Irakli Bezhuashvili) were awarded the first prize in an intellectual tournament “What, When, Where.”

In 2013-2014, Grade 7 and Grade 10 students were awarded the diplomas and prizes - the tournament was dedicated to the jubilee of Melina Mercury. Students’ works were published by the TSU editing house. During the festival the primary year students were actively involved: they participated in role-playing games about Greek Mythology. They were mentored by our History teacher, Maia Tsenguashvili.

The festival was launched for our Georgian Program students in 2018-2019. The project explored Ancient Greece and its relations with Georgia. TSU Institute of Classical, Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies held interactive lessons on bullying in ancient Greek tragedies.

On November 30, 2018, Grade 7 students, parents, our history teacher, Maia Tsenguashvili, Middle Years Programme Coordinator, Inga Toloraia, and a homeroom teacher, Tamta Gogichashvili, went on a four-day trip to Greece.

On November 30, 2018, students met with Ambassador Ioseb Nanobashvili. On the same day, they had a meeting with the Georgian Diaspora representatives and Avtandil Mikaberidze, the director of Georgian Cultural Center “Caucasus.”

On December 1, 2018, students went sightseeing and visited Acropolis and other famous sights in Greece. On the following day, they went to Argolida, Mycenaean Acropolis, an archaeological museum and Epidauros Theater. On December 3, 2018, the group went to a famous city of Nauplius, Vouliagmeni lake, Cape Sounio, and Poseidon temple.

## Charity Event to Help the Library of Akhtakli Village

Georgian Program Grade 10 and 12 students, together with their homeroom teachers, decided to organize a charity event to supply school libraries in Georgian regions. Books and stationery goods were being collected throughout a week. We selected Aktakli village public school for our campaign. The school accommodates students from both Georgian and Azerbaijani descent. After interviewing the school principal, Mtvarisa Babajanashvili, it appeared that the school library could use some Georgian books.

On November 22, 2018, we went to Aktakli and delivered about 500 books. In addition, the school was provided with a full package of stationery items.

Our presents put a bright smile on children’s faces and motivated them to acquire in-depth knowledge of Georgian literature.





## Excavations: History Hiding Underground

To support inquiry-based learning in PYP, we often organize field trips for our students. The central idea of “How we organize ourselves” unit evolved around the way past civilizations shaped the structure of our modern societies. Grade 5 teachers, along with students, organized a field trip to the ethnographic museum in Tbilisi. Our international students got to experience Georgian history and literature. They seemed eager to further explore various cultures to hone their research and presentation skills.

This field trip allowed our students and teachers to volunteer on an archaeological dig site. Students reflected back on their experiences.

“I had no idea you could learn so much from excavations. It seems like that a huge part of our history is still hiding somewhere underground,” said Niako, Grade 5A.

“We assigned numbers to the artifacts and recorded information. I felt like a real scientist. We had a wonderful guide – he told us about the archaeological site in Dmanisi and showed us photos of the first Europeans,” said Sopho and Lizi, Grade 5B.

“The items that we dug out are fascinating. We got to observe scientists coming up with scientific conclusions,” said Mariam and Keto, Grade 5B.

“Finding pieces of human remains was exciting. We did what real archaeologists usually do,” said Roma and Ika, Grade 5B.



## Dog Shelter: Empathy Starts from Home

On November 17, 2018, MYP Grade 10 students took a trip to Tamaz Elizbarashvili Dog Shelter. Despite a rainy day, students' excitement and empathy were contagious. They donated dog food and money to the shelter and bonded with animals. “We're confident that these young people will contribute to building a healthy and friendly community,” stated the shelter's official website.





## World Champion and European School Students Against Bullying

On October 17, 2018, the European School students joined an ongoing campaign Sports against Bullying. Our school hosted Guram Tushishvili, the world champion in judo, Deputy Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sport, Shalva Gogoladze, Deputy Ombudsman Eka Skhiladze, and a prominent photographer and traveler, Goga Chanadiri.

Our guests talked about the role of sports in bullying prevention. Students engaged in an avid discussion - they conversed about underlying factors of bullying and proposed possible preventative actions.

Along with successful athletes, the European School students will participate in charity activities, which will underwrite the construction of sports facilities in the regions of Georgia.

Our school ensures that its students, despite their rigorous academic schedule, strive to become responsible citizens.

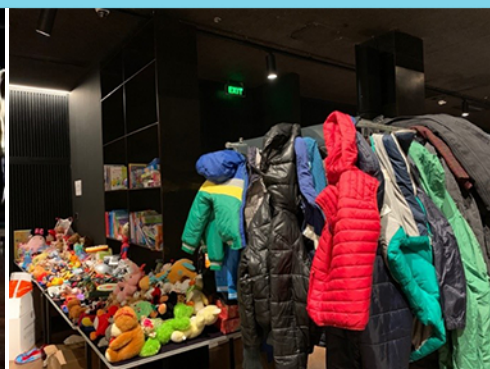
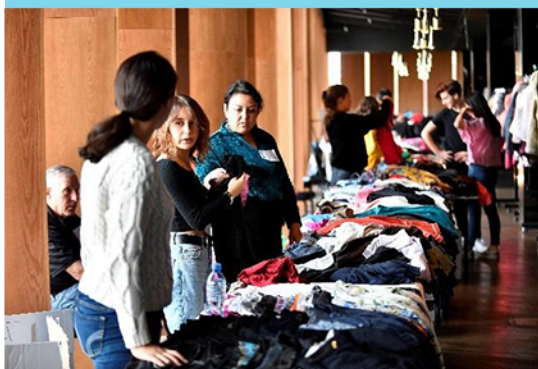


## C.O.A.T.S.: No one should get cold this winter!

The European School students (AHS, IB, and Georgian Program) participated in a charity campaign C.O.A.T.S. at Radison Blu hotel on December 17-18, 2018. Prior to the event, they had collected gently worn clothes for those in need. MYP students managed to motivate students from all three programs to get involved in the campaign and commit acts of kindness.

“C.O.A.T.S. is a must have experience for each student our age, as it reminds you of all the luxuries you have which can’t be accessed by others,” said Sopo Okriashvili, Grade 10.

“Although it’s sad to see our peers living in such poor conditions, helping them fills you with happiness,” said Anastasia Bessonova.





## Tree-Planting Campaign for Greener City

American High School students decided to participate in a green event: on December 6, 2018, they planted trees to tackle the growing air pollution problems in our city.

Tbilisi City Hall provided our students with a designated piece of land on University Street and supplied them with seedlings of Fraxinus.

“In a long-term perspective, even a single tree can make a huge difference,” said a student from Grade 11.

“We’re more than happy to get involved in similar activities in the future. I hope that more people will follow suit,” said a student from Grade 10.

American High School plans to organize more green events both inside and outside of Tbilisi.



## “The Knight in the Panther’s Skin” – A Fresh Perspective by Giorgi Kakhishvili

On October 19, 2018, the European School hosted a bright, young researcher Giorgi Kakhishvili, who presented his findings and novel approach to the famous Georgian poem “The Knight in the Panther’s Skin.”

Recognized by leading scientists and pundits of the field, his ideas offer a fresh perspective on a mythological realm of the poem.

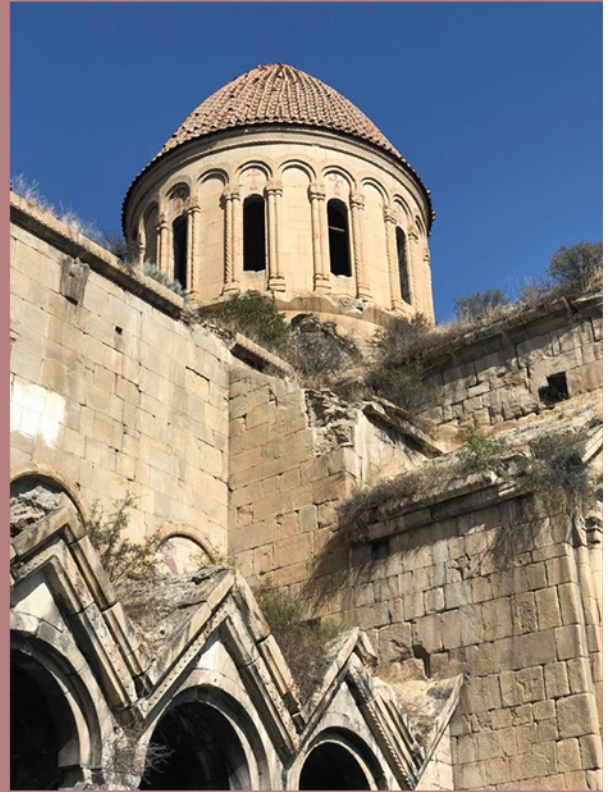
Our students engaged in a meaningful conversation with the guest and juxtaposed “The Knight in the Panther’s Skin” with other masterpieces of world literature.





## Trip to Tao-Klarjeti

On October 11-14, 2018, American High School students took a trip to Tao-Klarjeti. They visited historical places of Shavsheti, Klarjeti and Tao. They got a unique opportunity to visit the places they have read about in history and hagiography books.



During a four-day trip, students and teachers saw a number of historical and cultural monuments: Mere's castle, Seytan (Kajeti) castle, Ardahan, Shavsheti, Satle castle, Tbeti, Doliskana, Artvin, Artanuji, JoJokhetis Canyon, Akhiza's castle, Yusufeli, Otkhta church, Kavkasidze's castle, Vejangeti castle, Ishkani, Oshki, Khakhuli monastery, Tortum waterfall, Torumi castle and Bana cathedral.

"These historical places may be beyond Georgian borders, but they're part of our history and I'm glad students got to visit them," said Ms. Natia Tevzadze, Academic Director of American High School.





## The first day of kindergarten

September 10 marked the start of the new school year at the European Kindergarten:

our kindergarteners filled the rooms with giggles. It was a special day for everyone, but those parents whose children entered the kindergarten for the first time were all the more excited.

“I was looking forward to seeing my friends and teachers,” said one of our students.

“It was an amazing day. My friends and I enjoyed playing with a clown,” added her classmate.



## Global Handwashing Day - Underscoring Health Benefits of Clean Hands

On October 15, 2018, the European Kindergarten joined the celebration of Global Handwashing Day.

Children learned more about the importance of regular hand-washing and participated in an interesting craft exhibition.

A huge “water drop” added excitement to the event.

In the end, children participated in a fun hand-washing competition.

These events help our children understand the meaning of global citizenship.



## Presentation for Parents

On November 2, 2018, the European Kindergarten students exhibited their artworks and showcased the skills they had acquired over the course of the year.

Parents got a chance to try delicious cookies, churchkhelas (candle-shaped walnut candies) and apple jam, handmade by their children.





## It's Fun to Eat Fruits and Veggies – Promoting Healthy Eating with our Chef

In order to promote healthy eating habits among kindergarteners, the European School, Chef, Giorgi, paid us a visit. He explained why fruits and vegetables should be an important part of our daily diet and answered children's questions.

Students, together with our Chef, cut fruits and vegetables in different shapes.

In the end, children unanimously decided to eat more fruits and vegetables from now on.



## Amazing Chemistry experiments

On October 26, 2018, the European Kindergarten students had a magical day.

Sopo Patsatsia, our chemistry teacher and a parent, and Tea Sikharulidze, her colleague, took our children on an adventure in a fascinating world of chemistry: they saw how a little pill can take different shapes, learned how to make lemonade, witnessed mini volcano eruption, and were amused by the different colors of elephant's Toothpaste.

Our guests used dry ice to create mysterious fog, which dazzled our little scientists and made a lasting impression on them.

"I always liked my mom's chemical experiments and I'm happy that my friends enjoyed them too," proudly declared Alexandre Glonti, our kindergartener.





## Halloween party: Join us if you dare!!!



Our school's Halloween party took place at our main hall. The Halloween night began with a drama performance – "Little Red Nose." IB

MYP Grade 10 and Grade 9 students showcased their acting skills. They were mentored by our Drama teacher and SA coordinator.

Students conducted Halloween-themed chemistry experiments, painted each others' faces and danced the evening away.

"It was a perfect ending for a perfect party," said Meryem Melek, Grade 8.





## Memorandum of Cooperation with "Global Education Motivators"

On December 7, our school hosted Mr. Wayne Jacoby, President of "Global Education Motivators", a non-governmental organization which works in association with the UN.

Mr. Jacoby conducted a training for our pupils on the topic of Student Leadership Conference on Development.

During the visit, the three-way memorandum of cooperation was signed between the European School, "Global Education Motivators" and the Public Movement "Multinational Georgia" (PMMG).

In accordance with the memorandum of cooperation, for the first time in Georgia, direct videoconferences will be held from the UN headquarters. Participants from the European School will get the chance to interact with key UN officials, international student leaders and peace advocates from around the world to deliberate and discuss various topics. Action Plans and Resolutions developed by them will be voted upon and submitted to the UN Youth Envoy as a set of recommendations.

Afterward, during the school tour, our pupils showed Mr. Wayne Jacob around our facilities and acquainted him with the student life, activities and programs at the European School.



## Christmas Exhibition

European School hosted honorable guests on its pupils' Christmas exhibition opening – the famous painter and winner of Shota Rustaveli prize, Ketі Matabeli and Nino Chitaishvili, the main scenic artist of Nodar Dumbadze Professional State Youth Theatre.

The exhibition brought together the artworks of our Georgian Program and IB Programme students. Our talented artists used various techniques to create impressive artworks, collages and compositions.

After the exhibition opening, a meeting was held with Ms. Ketі Matabeli. She conversed about the importance of visual arts and spoke about her works and upcoming projects. In the end, she answered our students' questions.

It was yet another memorable day in the history of our school.

