



Newsletter



European School is the Leader of the Year!

The international award “Leader of the Year” was awarded to the European School by the Swiss Rating Association and the National Business Ratings Union (NBR-UNION). The European School is a successful international school that earned a gold rating among enterprises of Georgia. The awarding ceremony was held at Bioli Medical Wellness Resort.

-, „This award belongs to every teacher and staff member who contributed to the school development during 14 years of its existence. The European School is a success-oriented institution driven by innovations and continuous development. I believe it will make a significant contribution to the country’s progress in response to the current challenges. I would like to congratulate the school community on this major accomplishment!”- stated the European School Director Sophio Bazadze.





Digital Transformation in Education

The European School has taken a significant step toward technology development. The digital transformation team was formed to integrate and develop technologies at different institutional levels.

Digital transformation is a process where technology and innovative approaches or methodologies are implemented in all areas of school life.

Teachers are trained to actively use digital devices in teaching. The digital transformation team together with the teachers develop new methods to support the creative and digital skills of students.

Digital transformation is focused to hold workshops and events on technology themes for students. Within these activities, students learn about future professions, receive information about global technology trends and challenges. Additionally, students participate in ideathons and creathons where they work together with schoolmates and teachers to develop technology solutions to different problems.

European School Signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Vakhtang Bochorishvili Clinic

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed by the European School Director Sophio Bazadze and the Head of Vakhtang Bochorishvili Clinic David Gadelia. This document implies close cooperation between the school and the clinic during pandemics. On the way to combat the novel coronavirus COVID-19, the European School continues to support the health of students, teachers, and staff. The clinic will provide the school community with a special offer on health care services if needed.

Vakhtang Bochorishvili Clinic will offer the European School community emergency medical assistance and patronage throughout curing the disease and testing to detect the virus. Additionally, special offers will be provided on diagnostic services. We wish you good health!



TEDxIBEuropeanSchool - This Year, We Came Back Virtually!

While all of us are apart, TEDxIBEuropeanSchool managed to offer intellectual entertainment to the European School community by bringing its students, teachers, parents, alumni together in a virtual space. Thought-provoking talks on the theme “Solve for y” produced from every subject imaginable — from Economics to Zoology, were delivered by the ES students from all three programs: IB DP, AHS, and Georgian Program. Popular young musicians Liza Kalandadze and Giorgi Gigashvili made the event more lively and attractive.



Find some time in your day and change your perspectives, ignite your curiosity, and learn something new with TEDxIBEuropeanSchool:

Is the Chinese language difficult to learn?

Is street art a real art or distortion?

Is it possible for everybody to become creative?

What can we do if we need to choose a future career but don't have enough experience to make serious decisions?

How can the country provide energy supply without harming the environment and society?

How to use exponential economic potential in overcoming the downturn caused by COVID-19?

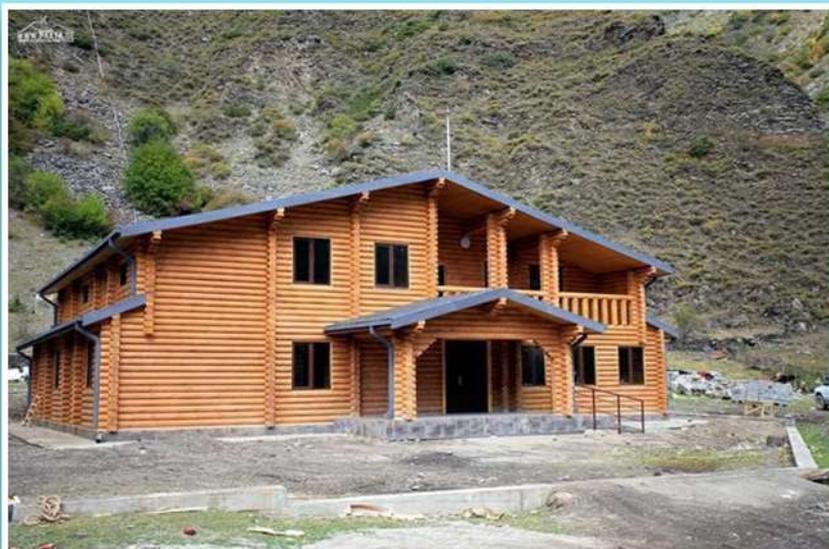
Do phones have unfavorable effects on a face to face communication?

Could animal shows be prevented?

Is lack of sleep the most common problem in teens?

How to deal with anxiety as an artist?

Children Support Peers. Good news from Shatili



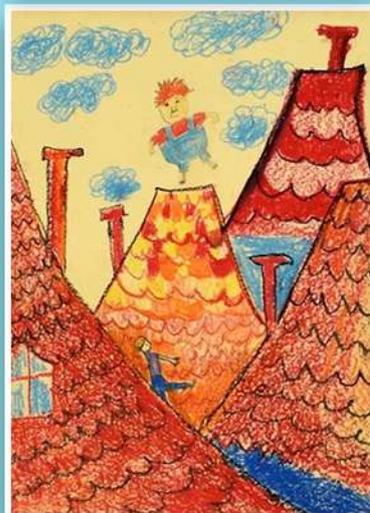
As you know, the boarding school of Shatili burned down last year. On the same day when this happened, the European School students started a campaign #youjoinus-too. Students united to support their peers and began to collect school supplies. Books, textbooks, photo camera, balls, stationery items, computer accessories, and learning resources – these are only a few objects from the list of gifts delivered to Shatili. Georgian National University SEU joined our initiative and sent 8 computers to Shatili School. The Georgian Industrial Group and David Bezhuashvili Education Foundation equipped the school fully. School resources and housewares, gas stove, refrigerator, beds, wardrobes, mattresses, pillows, sports, and stationery items –all that the boarding school needed the GIG delivered to Shatili. The school building has been built, it is fully equipped and ready to renew the learning process.

We are from Astrid's World! Astrid Lindgren's Week & Address by the Ambassador of Sweden to Georgia H.E. Ulrik Tideström to the European School Students

"I don't want to write for adults. I want to write for readers who can perform miracles. Only children perform miracles when they read."- Astrid Lindgren.

The European School bookish students participated actively in Astrid Lindgren's Week. Within the celebration week, Giorgi Kekelidze conducted lessons on literary themes, the Ambassador of Sweden to Georgia H.E. Ulrik Tideström addressed the European School students and presented his beloved stories from Astrid Lindgren's books. Dian Amphimiad taught students the recipes of popular dishes from these stories.

The ES students prepared the presentations about the famous author's life and her works, dressed in Pippy's, Karlsson's, Ronia's and Emil's costumes, cooked Pippy's pancakes and Karlsson's jams, wrote letters to Astrid, and painted popular characters. Other schools joined the ES and took part in this celebration week with great enthusiasm. The certificates of participation were presented to the students at the end of the week.



Charity & Equilibrium

The European School supports knowledge, education, and development and participates in various literacy projects. Within the Equilibrium project of the National Parliamentary Library of Georgia, the ES students collected children's books and delivered to the writer Giorgi Kekelidze who plans to create a personal library for Tika Tedoradze who tragically lost her family members during the natural disaster happened in Khelvachauri. We received children's books from Bakur Sulakauri Publishing House as well. Charity united us all: the school, the library, and the publishers.

“The European School is one of the main partners of Equilibrium. Equilibrium is an education movement which aims to restore and renew village libraries, provide books and computers for them and create park libraries and media techs” stated Giorgi Kekelidze



Get to Know our Scholarship Winners!

The education scholarship - “Excellent Student of European School” was awarded to 21 students of the European School. The decision was based on the students’ academic results from the second semester of the school year 2019-2020.

The David Bezhuashvili Education Foundation, being a long-term strategic partner of our school, has established the scholarship program to achieve the highest education standards in the country. This competitive scholarship recognizes academically exceptional students with excellent character as demonstrated through their academic achievements, activities, and community service.

The scholarship winners are: Akhalkatsi Liza, Tedoradze Nino, Geladze Giorgi, Tvauri Temur, Murvanidze Mariam, Talakhadze Lizi, Shushania Aleks, Gadelia Aleksandre, Gobianidze Anastasia, Saakashvili Mariam, Shoshiashvili Nugzar, Diasamidze Ana, Zodelava Ketevan, Darchiashvili Sopo, Kubaneishvili Tornike, Zedgenidze Salome, Jokhadze Elene, Panjakidze Elene, Koblianidze Elene, Oqriashvili Mariam, and Tsertsvadze Nini.

The European School congratulates the scholarship winners on this accomplishment and wishes them continued success.



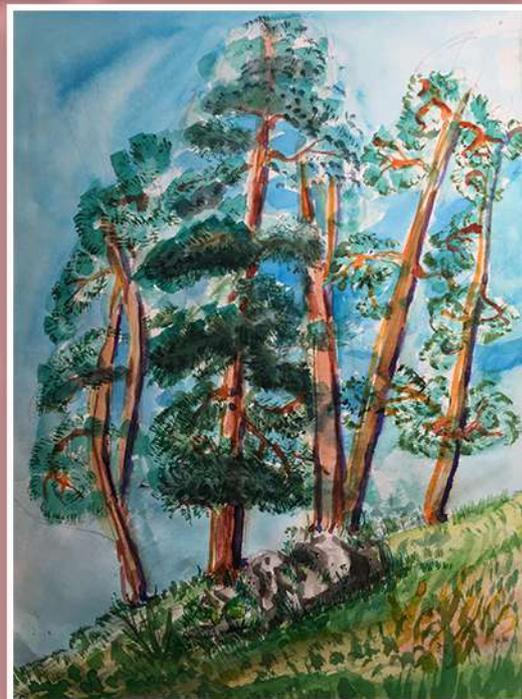
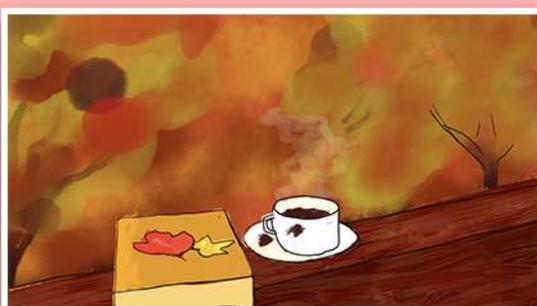
End of the Semester Assembly

It's the end of the first semester and it's time to summarize units in different subjects, present interesting projects, and created products. This year, the Georgian Program middle and high school students held virtual assemblies.

Students from grades 10-12 presented historic, ethnographic, literary projects, gave us insight into their understanding of the life philosophy, how they perceive life in different colors, entertained the audience with their talk show, musical and dance performances, culinary masterclasses, allowed us to visit online exhibitions of their paintings, artworks, and collections and offered a drone video of the night city. The middle school assembly was also diverse and rich in content. Difficulties caused by a global pandemic, students' response to the emerged youth issues, the role of digital skills and resources in current reality – these themes were discussed in various projects. Our students, realizing the fact that not every child has equal access to online learning, recorded video lessons of the Georgian literature course, thus produced an amazingly beneficial learning resource for peers. Famous Georgian Women is an online page created by the student. It contains valuable and interesting information and is available to a broad community.

It's noteworthy to mention that nearly every project was literature and arts-integrated work. The students presented their own short stories, illustrations, musical compositions, comics, videos, records of distance meetings with poets, and finally, an online exhibition of New Year's themed artworks.

The creative approach of the students, their research projects, and their multilingual abilities amazed the audience.



4th IB programme to be offered at European School soon!



Continuous development has been part of the European School history for more than a decade. The school executes its improvement journey so that all students' needs are met. Different paths are offered to the European School students to meet their career goals and prepare them for future success.

The European School became officially a Candidate School for the IB Career-related Programme (CP).

The CP is a framework of international education addressing the needs of students engaged in career-related education. It leads to higher education, apprenticeships or employment.

With the addition of the CP, from September 2022, the European School will join a limited number of schools that offer all four IB programmes.

There are close to 5400 authorized IB World Schools in the world and only 41 of them offer the four IB programmes (PYP, MYP, DP and CP). The IB CP at European School is going to add variety to the list of pre-university options available to our students.

World Children's Day

November 20 this an important date when the UN General Assembly adopted the Declaration of the Rights of the Child. This day is all about the importance of children and how they have special rights and freedoms that help them to grow into happy and healthy adults. These rights need to be respected, protected and fulfilled even during times of crisis. The Covid - 19 pandemic has disrupted-and sometimes violated children's rights.

The European School IB PYP community celebrated World Children's Day on November 20 virtually due to the Covid - 19 pandemic restrictions. We promote togetherness around the world and awareness of the problems that children face in every country and support their wellbeing.

PYP learners wrote a class story about protecting children and their rights, poems, presentations, and engaged in online fun games.

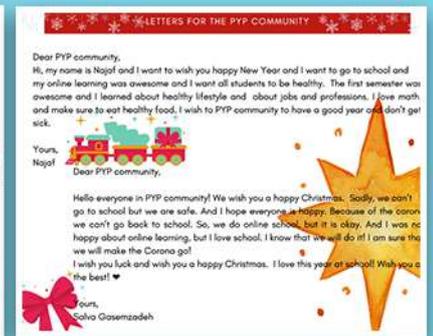
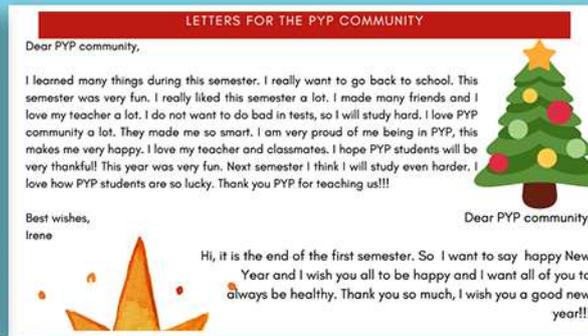
On this very special day, let children feel precious in every way because they are our future! If we want to see our future filled with happiness and harmony, we must teach our students to be good human beings more than anything else.



PYP Students' Letters to the PYP Community

As the first semester is coming to an end, Grade 3B students were asked to reflect on the learning process and their achievements. Students noted how hard it was for them to stay at home most of the time and learn without being close to their teachers and friends. Even though most of the time students were not able to go to school and learn from their classrooms, the PYP community, teachers, parents, and students, were still feeling the connection between them due to the support they were receiving from each other constantly throughout the semester. Parents were supporting their kids while they had to work on various projects, teachers were always there to help and guide students and even children themselves were eager to work with their classmates and help them in any way possible.

This is why grade 3B came with an idea to write letters to the community that has been supporting each member so eagerly. Through their letters, students expressed their feelings and gratitude. They talked about how hard it was for them to learn from their homes and how much they missed their classmates, teachers, and friends. Their letters were filled with hope that next year they all will be able to meet again and learn together from the classrooms they miss so much. Grade 3B students wished the PYP community to stay positive, have hope for the best, and be healthy. Their letters filled with love showed what a big role each member of the community plays in our school and in the lives of our beloved students. Hopefully, the wishes of our third graders will come true and every student in Georgia will be able to go back to school very soon!



Embroidery is not just a Form of Traditional Art

IB MYP allows its students to develop interesting personal projects. In this edition of the school newsletter, we would like to introduce grade 10 student Nino Gabaidze to the readers. She is 15 years old and her project is about embroidery. As her inspiration, she has chosen literature because literature is a never-ending source of new things to explore and new places to discover as she states. The themes chosen by her are generally from literary works of different authors. Initially, Nino was not very experienced in embroidery, but whenever she tried it, it always relaxed her and took her to a completely new place. Nino learned more from Ms. Lela Abdushelishvili, whose family tradition is to embroider. Ms. Lela has been involved in it since childhood. Embroidery is not just a form of traditional art. Nino found that embroidery has helped her in many ways unimaginable. She developed many useful and life-long skills. Nino has fallen in love with embroidery since she started her project.



She recorded video-tutorials about embroidery where she talks about the history of embroidery, fun facts, and provides a detailed interview with Ms. Lela. You can find her page on Facebook. It goes under the name: Literature and ancient art/ ლიტერატურა და უძველესი ხელოვნება.

You Can Reach

One of the outstanding projects in MYP this year is a personal project by Mishiko Gabaidze “You Can Reach” which aims to help people, who have physical disabilities that do not allow them to travel all around high-mountainous Georgia and view spectacular and breathtaking views, monuments and nature.

Mishiko always wondered how he could play his role as a responsible citizen in his community. He always wanted to create something valuable and somehow help others. When the personal project came, he decided to use this chance to its fullest. He thought a lot about what to do in order to create something purposeful; something that would maybe not change the whole world, but something that would change the world even for one single person. Finally, he came up with an idea for the project “You Can Reach”. Through this project, he created 360-degree virtual tours of locations that are high-mountainous and inaccessible for disabled people. 360-degree virtual tours with audio guides in two languages provide an unforgettable experience for disabled people who will be able to travel and feel as if they are walking. The audio guides will provide very deep and detailed information about every single location in terms of their history, geographical location, culture, traditions, and many more. The audio guides will let the audience explore the Georgian spirit to its fullest.

The virtual tours will be accessible all around the world through a highly developed website created by Mishiko himself. The website will allow the users to view the virtual tours using their smartphones, laptops, tablets, or other smart technologies, as well as using VR headsets, which will make the experience even more realistic.

The outcome of the project isn’t only allowing disabled people to travel in such locations, which are impossible for them to reach but to make tourism accessible for everyone and promote and motivate projects like his. Mishiko wants everyone to remember that you can reach any heights in life and he is there to play a part in it!



IB DP Continues to be Part of International Events during Pandemic

Sharing International Experiences during COVID Pandemic

CAS coordinators of the European School - Georgia, Hangzhou International School - China, Graz International Bilingual School - Austria, and Notre-Dame International High School Paris – France organized an experience sharing event for their DP students on the 3rd of December. The young people have been invited to tell their stories and experiences of coping with current challenges. Participants were divided into small groups, consisting of students from different schools.



Groups were moderated by CAS coordinators, who insured extensive experience sharing and brainstorming on future cooperation. In the end, students were motivated by realizing that they are not alone, and the challenges they face during the pandemic, are common for DP students from different international schools. An important outcome of the event was the decision to continue cooperation in the future as well. This decision was supported by the participants’ positive feedback.

Meeting with the Representative of UN FAO

On October 16, at the event dedicated to World Food Day, the representative of the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) met the European School DP students. The goal of the meeting was to increase awareness about UN Sustainable Development Goals. After the informative presentation on the significance of social responsibility in agriculture, the UN representative facilitated a brainstorming activity for the students. The guest discussed how each individual can contribute positively to solving globally significant problems, such as food waste, poverty, and environmental pollution. The European School continues to provide opportunities for its students to collaborate with international organizations and become more socially responsible citizens with a global mindset.

All of us can DO



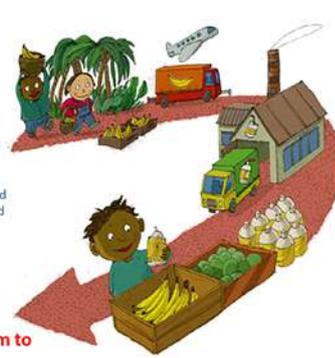
Choose local
Whenever you can, ask your parents to buy local fresh food, especially from farmers markets. In doing so, you not only help local food heroes, like smallholder farmers, but also local economic growth.

Choose seasonal
When food is out of season in one part of the world it must travel a long way before it gets to your local grocery store or market. A shorter trip can also mean riper, tastier or more nutritious food!

Grow food at home
This will take some time but it will teach you a lot about how food is produced. This can be a form of exercise and fun activity to do alone or with friends and family. Green spaces also do a lot of good for us and our environment by purifying the air we breathe.

Show appreciation

Did You know that?



Most of the food we eat comes from a farm, whether it's a crop, animal, dairy, fish or other type of farm. Did you ever think about how far some of the items in your grocery store had to travel to get to us? A great deal happens during the time food leaves a farm to when it is eaten at the table.

Cultivation - Farmers grow crops, rear animals or fish, or get produce from the local environment, like forest products.

Processing - Food either reaches your table the same way it was when it left the farm, or it is processed, which means that food coming from farms is transformed into a variety of food products.

Market - Farmers may use some of the food for their family and transport the rest to sell at a market.

The way food travels is called: System from Farm to Fork

Every hero is an important piece of the giant puzzle that is our food system!



They work in rural and urban areas. They are agricultural laborers, fisher folk, mountain farmers, foresters, pastoralists and farmers in indigenous communities. The world is filled with heroes.



Heroes are not just fictional characters — they also live in your neighborhood! Food heroes are protectors of biodiversity, defenders of the Earth's natural resources, and guardians of social and cultural traditions!



You may also recognize your local heroes as your parents or guardians that cook for you at home, processors, retailers at the grocery store, the people working at a food bank in your community, or food truck drivers.

First Semester at IB DP

The European School International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme successfully conducted online teaching during the first semester. The programme effectively used experience from the past semester improving it with new approaches and activity types. In the mid-term period, another assessment tool was introduced. AssessPrep is integrated into ManageBac and allows additional features for formal written assessment sessions like tests and examinations.

Diploma Programme started a series of online workshops for parents helping them to raise awareness of the programme nature, IB culture, and requirements.

Two very important events took place during the semester. The Diploma Programme completed the re-authorization process, which means that the European School will offer the programme for the next five years.

Another important event was the launch of the IB Career-Related Programme (CP). IBO awarded candidacy status to the school. IB CP authorization process will be finished in 2022 that will allow the school to offer CP to students from the fall semester of the same year.

The European School will be one of only 41 schools worldwide comprising all four IB Programmes.

MYP Students Share Knowledge with Peers



The European School students from MYP organized a series of training sessions on the topic. Using Digital Tools in the Learning Process, for the members of Pari Innovation Center.

The training aimed to share the knowledge and experience gained in the field of digital technologies.

At the first training held on December 15, MYP grade 10 student Mishko Gabaidze explained to peers how to use the Artsteps program for creating the virtual exhibition. On December 21, MYP grade 7 students: Ilia Berbichashvili, Nutsa Kutelia, Mariam Khurodze, and Sofia Dzuliashvili introduced Padlet, Pixton, Jamboard tools to their fellows from the Svaneti region. The attendees got inspired by the presented interesting projects of MYP students: exhibitions of their paintings and animated stories created with the above-mentioned applications.

The Head of Pari Innovation Center Ekaterine Tsulukidze thanked Ms. Ia Ghadua - Georgian Language and Literature teacher at the European School, who took the initiative and organized the meeting, and her students who enthusiastically engaged in the project and managed to inspire others with their creative approaches.

My long lost culture

So in this poem, I touch on the important parts of history for my people. In the first stanza, I discuss the migration of my people to the inland of South Africa. This event is called The Great Trek (1835-1846). In the second stanza, I briefly touch on a historic battle called the Battle of blood river. This battle was fought between 464 Voortrekkers, and an estimated 10,000 to 15,000 Zulu on the bank of the Ncome River on 16 December 1838, in what is today KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. The last line "They were delegated for peace but killed by the spear" Is a reference to "The Piet Retief Delegation massacre" This was the 1838 killing of 100 Voortrekkers by the Zulu king Dingane. Dingane betrayed the Voortrekkers, killing the peace delegation including Retief on 6 February 1838. In the next two stanzas, I explained events that took place in the Anglo Boer War. These events include but are not limited to farm burnings, farm murders, women, and children of farmers being taken and put in concentration camps. In the last stanza why I talk about something very personal. It is the story of my great grandfather who fought in the Anglo Boer War. He fought in the Anglo Boer War and was a prisoner on St. Helena Island. On that island, as a prisoner, he had made a bench out of driftwood for him. This bench is still in our family today. I referenced this bench in the "line I ponder as I sit on your bench". Then in the last two lines, I ask forgiveness for writing this poem in English. Because it was the language of my grandfather's enemy. This is still evident today. Seeing that my grandmother won't utter a word in English. Such is the hatred for the British.

By Joah Steenberg
(MYP grade 9)

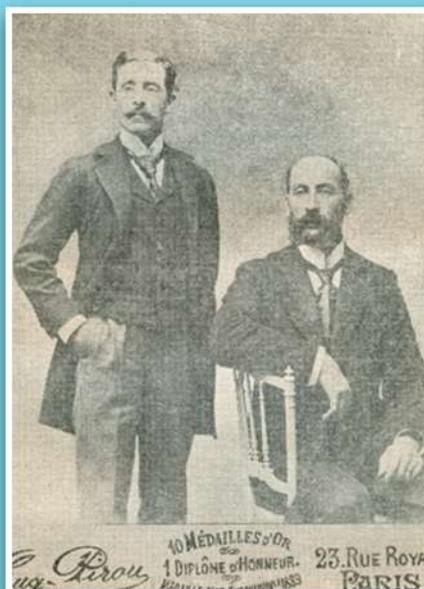
Through the long lost Natalia,
The Trekkers trenched,
Fleeing from the red coat enemy
Bearing the sigil of Britannia.

Not even Impi spears whirling through the air,
Could not halt the Boers with paralyzing fear.
Women loading muskets while the ox-wagon bear
They were delegated for peace but killed by the spear.

The Red coats returned with vigor roaring,
Diamonds and gold the land was storing,
When great-grandpa returned one early morning,
Gazing on his world in flames and mourning.

A Georgian prince named Bagrationi,
Bearing arms with a Russian,
To help stop the spread of the Red coat's corruption.
With all this help they should have won in a day,
But the British took their families away.☹

Great grandfather to the Lord I give thanks,
Because he delivered you safely to South African



Our long lost culture, forgotten,
Like a corpse that has rotten,
All that remains is a stench,
I ponder as I sit on your bench.

O, great grandfather forgive me,
For I write this poem in the language of your enemy.

AHS-School Newspaper

One of the new clubs in American High School is a School Newspaper Club. Every month, the club members gather to brainstorm the topics relevant to the school community and assign articles for a particular student for writing. The rubrics of the newspaper may remain constant or change over the month but there will be always a general theme for each newspaper issue. In October, topics were connected to Halloween. December's topic is Christmas. Students try to include not only writing but also illustrations to make the newspaper more appealing and engaging.

The newspaper covers all the successes of American High School students, include all the upcoming events, and offer advice on different topics. The issues also contain an interview with a teacher, administrator of the school, or the alumni.

The American High School students from all grades are encouraged to join the club. Organizers of the club plan to continue this process online for the foreseeable future and distribute physical copies of the newspaper as it will be allowed.

The Antique mythology, literature, history

Today, when integration of Georgia into Europe is a vital subject, reception of classic inheritance into Georgian culture and specifically, into literature, has been more important. This issue was a central topic of an interdisciplinary lesson held by Classics teacher Ekaterine Kobakhidze and Georgian Language and Literature teacher Ketevan Gardapkhadze. These types of lessons are not unusual for American High School, because students are covering topics such as antique mythology, literature, history, and Latin language. These are the subjects, which introduce students to the founding culture of Europe and Georgia – as its organic part.

At the lesson students analyzed the allegoric story of Akaki Tsereteli “Who is Aznauri?”, discussed Alexander the Great’s campaign to Kartli and related history. Students showed skills of text analysis as well as deep knowledge and understanding of classic literature as they discussed Plutarch’s Parallel Biographies’ part about Alexander the Great.

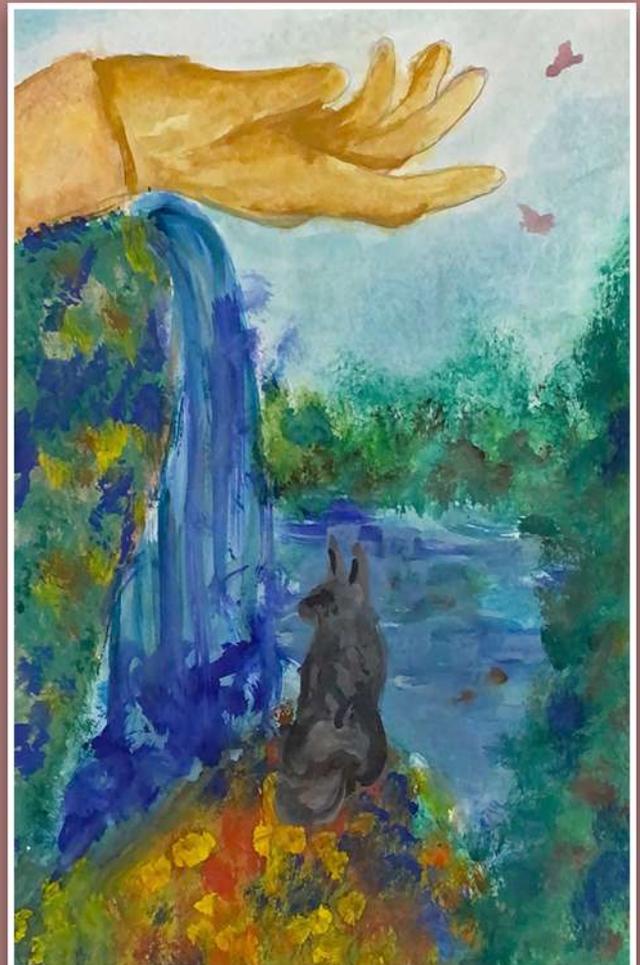
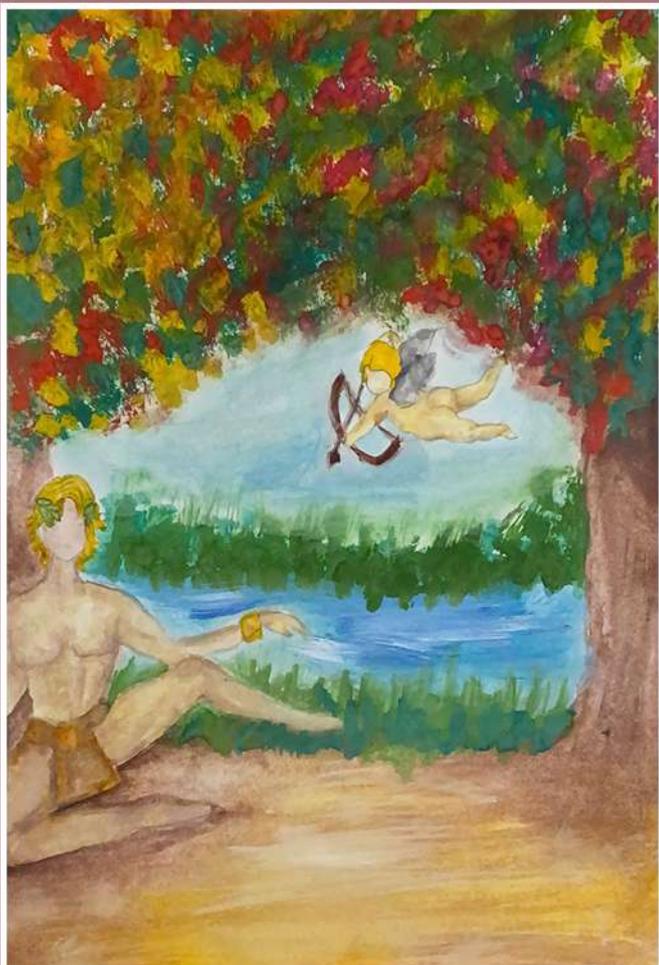
It is noteworthy to mention that during the lesson the students had an opportunity to become familiar with a very interesting electronic database that contains antic terms preserved in Georgian literature (V-XX centuries) and related scientific resources.

American High School Charity Club

American High School community is always ready to participate in meaningful charity events. This year, our students have expanded their activity and have organized and established the American High School Charity Organization (AHSCO). Students from grades 8-12, who are part of this club, participate in a wide range of charities. The charity club does not only focus on one aspect of charity, rather it shares and participates in the major themes which affect our present-day world. The charity club is divided into smaller groups, which have their designated beneficiaries, who they focus on. There are 7 different groups: Environment focused, Elderly, Poverty, Education, Health, and International. AHSCO does not only focus on charity activities in Georgia but also on global and international charities. The Charity Club is in progress and gets bigger every day. AHSCO founders believe that it is important to understand and help the people, animals, and the environment as they are part of our lives. American High School students want to make sure that this charity organization will last a long time and bring some benefits to the country.

A Handbook of Ovid's Metamorphoses

This year, tenth-grade students in AHS were granted a great opportunity to create and publish a handbook for Ovid's Metamorphoses. AHS's curriculum offers classes in Classics where students study mythology and classical literature. One of the authors they cover is a Roman canonical poet, Ovid, and his book Metamorphoses, which is a collection of Roman mythological and legendary stories. Covering this piece without having a corresponding handbook of references and context has been difficult for students. That is why some of the sophomores decided to create and illustrate a handbook for Metamorphoses. This handbook will be published and available for not only future AHS students but also a wide range of readers around the country. The handbook serves as a more detailed and intricate introduction and explanation to Ovid and his stories. The created handbook will help people understand the depths and importance of Roman mythology and make it a bit more interesting and exciting to read and interpret.



First Day

The new academic year 2020-2021 started on October 12th at the European Kindergarten. The kindergarten playground was decorated with colorful balloons. Children had fun playing with their teachers and friends Zuzu, Minnie, Sunny, and Lu.



Online Kindergarten

From November 9th, the European Kindergarten switched to online learning. In addition to program lessons, Georgian and English sector preschool groups have English, Russian, Art, Music, Dance, Ballet, Karate, and Sports classes on weekdays. During online meetings, teachers share interesting presentations, do language and math exercises together with kids. After completing the unit, fun quizzes are arranged for children. To make lessons diverse, teachers try to join online classes from various locations like kindergarten classrooms, museums, or open spaces in nature.



Clean Hands

On October 15, we traditionally celebrated International Handwashing Day at the European Kindergarten. Children washed their hands with their handmade cocoa soap. They talked about the rules and importance of proper hand washing and made various applications.

