



April 2018

The European School

Newsletter

In a world where we face an unprecedented pace of change, the IB's mission to create a better world through education is more meaningful than ever. Joining the IB 50th celebration, we reflected on how the IB community has grown, and how the IB shapes the future of international education around the world. To mark IB 50th anniversary at our school was the opportunity to celebrate IB history, to celebrate what is unique about an IB education, and to make the world a better place through education.

International mindedness is a central part of IB curriculum, and an integral part of what we aim to embody at the European School. Indeed, each person at our school, from our youngest student to our senior staff, plays a role in this. At the European School we are all striving to improve our own understanding and implementation of international mindedness. I believe IB 50th celebration made stronger environment for learning for our students, and hopefully a more internationally minded community. I believe our future leaders, scientists, engineers and creative entrepreneurs will continue to carry the beacon of hope and incite positive change for the next generation, creating more achievements for us to celebrate in another years.

As the IB schools network expands globally, I believe that our community will grow ever stronger and help create a better world. I look forward, with a sense of hope, that our community, now more than ever, has the power to change the world.

Sophio Bazadze, the Academic Director of the European School

As a proud IB continuum school, the European International School celebrated the IB's 50 anniversary with various activities and performances over a two-week period! Some of the activities included:

- Senior project Presentations and student Scientific conferences
- PYP assembly and open lessons
- MYP assembly
- Middle and High School Georgian assemblies
- Science Day
- Technology Day
- Language Acquisition Day
- Language and Literature Day
- Mathematics Day
- Humanities Day

A BETTER WORLD THROUGH EDUCATION



At the European School we know that we need to develop our students critical thinking skills, and their ability to solve complex problems. "When we think about the changing times and the (unclear) future...having this cognitive flexibility is absolutely key to adapting."

A big Happy 50th Birthday from everybody at the European School!

Christo Steyn, the Director of IB Programmes



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American High School Day

On Tuesday April 17, and Wednesday, April 25, seventeen seniors of the Class of 2018 wowed and awed their fellow students and faculty with profound and diverse intellect that covered topics such as “Infinity”, “Cryptocurrency”, “Love in Adolescence”, “Problems Concerning Contemporary Art”, and “Mysteries of the Parallel Micro-World”. Each student working with their respective faculty adviser during the school year first conceived their project thesis and upon approval researched and then composed a ten – fifteen minute presentation with power point visual aids that was to “stimulate the mind and raise awareness.” An annual tradition, this year’s seniors did not disappoint! The topics by choice reveal insight into each student’s interest with a specific twist that educates while also hopefully enlightening their audience into unknown but fascinating topics. The conversations that they inspired were a true testament to their critical and conceptualized prowess as both students and young adults. No doubt, the Class of 2018 will continue to contribute and create....a legacy worthy of themselves and our community. We are and continue to be VERY PROUD OF THEM!



Joseph M. Blake, Head of American High School

IB PYP and Georgian Program Elementary School Day

The European School IB PYP and Georgian Program Elementary School joined the celebrations of the IB’s 50th anniversary on April 18, 2018. The day was filled with a variety of activities – The European School hosted the IB PYP concert in the courtyard, teachers organized open lessons and IB PYP grade 4 students competed in different sports activities.

IB PYP students presented various interdisciplinary topics that they have been working on over the course of the academic year.

Georgian Program grade 1 students organized the shadow theatre performance, portraying animals’ characteristics.

Georgian Program grade 2 students discussed germs and ways of preventing them from spreading.

Georgian Program grade 2 students discussed real friendship – can humans be friends with only humans? Can animals be our friends?

Georgian Program grade 3 students shared tips on how to make compost and fertilize plants.

Georgian Program grade 4 students discussed relations between generations.

The assembly ended with an awarding ceremony.



The second floor of the European School is bustling with activity. The sounds of discussion fill the air as Grade 10 students in and around the auditorium engage with crowds of students and teachers, occasionally gesturing to the colorful displays that decorate the perimeter.

The reason for all the commotion? The MYP Personal Project Exhibition!

The MYP Personal Project is an exploration where students use the skills they have gained throughout their years in the MYP to create a product that reflects their passions and helps their communities. From saving the environment to tourism, reviving historical traditions to combatting bullying, students can explore any topic that excites them. They also write a 3,500-word report detailing their learning experiences. The Personal Project, however, is much more than a school research project; it’s a chance for students to take initiative and explore a topic that perhaps they ordinarily wouldn’t have time to do. Since the start of the school year, MYP Grade 10 students all over the world - myself included! - have been working tirelessly to complete their projects for their exhibitions. From the moment I started, I wanted my Personal Project to be interesting and also help others in my community. School can be a very stressful environment for everyone, with both students and teachers constantly bombarded with assignments and examinations.

IB MYP and Georgian Program Middle & High School Day

On April 19, 2018, students from Georgian Program and IB MYP joined the celebrations of the IB’s 50th anniversary and organized assemblies. Students delivered presentations, presented their projects and performed on stage. The day ended with MYP grade 10 students’ Personal Project Presentations in the main hall. Students’ personal projects covered a variety of topics, including: tourism, psychology, sustainability, ways of being environmentally friendly, poetry, etc.

Let's face it, school is a high energy, noisy place. I wanted to find ways for us to effectively combat this stress, and through my research I found Mindfulness. Mindfulness is a practice stemming from Buddhism which focuses on bringing one's attention to the experiences occurring in the present moment. Mindfulness can lower anxiety, calm racing thoughts and improve our ability to focus. For months I researched various meditation exercises with the goal of creating a workshop for ES students and teachers. In fact, I held three workshops that explored different ways to be mindful in our busy lives. MYP students came out of the workshop with a better understanding of how they can take time in their day to breathe, relax and live in the present. These are powerful skills that can serve everyone throughout their lives if practiced regularly.

Now that the Personal Project has concluded, I realize that I have gained so much more than just doing a few workshops and writing a report. The feeling of being able to say that I created something meaningful that might help my ES community is very fulfilling. I learned that the entire journey is much more important than any product produced. I am proud to have used so many IB learner attributes in the process and picked up new valuable skills along the way. Having seen the innovative projects of my classmates and the excitement generated by their presentations, we should all be proud of what we have accomplished. Congratulations!

Fiametta Boffey, MYP Grade 10

Science Day

Within celebrations of the IB's 50th anniversary, the European School organized Science Day on April 20, 2018. Using chemicals, grade 10 students, Davit Grigolia, Misha Pruidze, Ana Akhalaia and Nini Dagargulia, applied fake cuts on their skin, pranking the guests and fellow students who gathered around and watched them in astonishment.

During the day, open lessons were conducted: "The Earth and Beyond;" "The Lake Nyos Disaster;" "Melting and Boiling;" "Classifying the Natural World;" "Reaction Rate;" "Inhabitants of Africa and Australia," etc. Students attended an interesting and informative lecture on sleep and dreams, and then, showed Physics experiments to the audience to pique younger students' interest in natural sciences.

The school courtyard was filled with action – students organized a Chemistry show, displaying liquid nitrogen popcorn, erupting foams, magic tricks with fire, etc. They got to test the Physics Lab equipment that is normally used for the lab experiments.

The day ended with a Georgian Program Assembly. Georgian Program students presented their projects, skits and plays, and performed for the audience.



On Tuesday, April 17, my classmates and I decided to visit the National Botanical Garden of Georgia to join the worldwide celebration of Earth Day. We were very excited to help the gardeners – we removed unwanted grass from flower beds. I think we did a great job. We explored the whole garden and cleaned up the premises.

Niki Bezhuashvili, MYP Grade 8

Student Conference

Within celebrations of the IB's 50th anniversary, the European School hosted a Student Conference on April 21, 2018. The conference consisted of different sessions and panels: Mathematics, Foreign Languages, Technology, and Natural and Social Sciences. Students from all three programs – IB, American High School and Georgian Program - presented their works and delivered presentations. Special guests, together with our teachers, attended the conference sessions and provided students with their insight on topics discussed. In the end, students received certificates for participation.





Technology Day

On Technology Day, IB PYP students organized a paper rocket show in Lego Lab, on April 23, 2018.

Before the show, students, together with their teacher, discussed how rockets work. Following the teacher's presentation, the students started making paper rockets. They followed all the basic steps – read instructions, made rockets out of paper, colored them and placed a straw inside the open end of the rocket. When rockets were finally ready, the show started: students launched rockets by blowing through straws. Later on, students tried to answer some questions: why did some rockets not launch? What prevented them from launching? They managed to answer these questions in the second stage of the experiment. This experience gave students a chance to have fun and expand their knowledge about rocket construction.

Towards the end of the day, the Departments of Sciences, Mathematics and Information and Communication Technologies organized a STEM quiz show for grade 8 students from IB, American High School and Georgian Program. The students tried to answer questions from STEM disciplines. In the end, the contestants received certificates for participation.



Language Acquisition Day

Global citizenship was the main theme of Language Acquisition Day on April 24, 2018. Our school fully embraced its multiculturalism, as our students, dressed in their national, traditional outfits, greeted parents and teachers in the hallways, demonstrating their diversity. In German and French classes, students discussed how language learning and music are linked and how we learn about other cultures through music.

IB MYP grade 7 students shared IB Learner Profile qualities with Georgian Program students. Together, they decorated the school's courtyard and participated in the project named "Discover IB!" Later on, IB MYP students organized a flash mob in the school courtyard; at the end of the dance, they all held up their "We're Global Citizens!" posters.

IB PYP grade 5 students ended Language Acquisition Day with their skits and sketches in Russian, German and French languages in the school's main hall.

Language and Literature Day

Language and Literature Day at the European School started with a pleasant surprise – students and teachers were greeted by real-life Vasiko Kezheradze – a man, who loved literature. They took memorable pictures in the photo booth, while grade 7 students interviewed students and teachers in the hallways. During the day, Georgian Language and Literature teachers organized interesting and diverse activities, open lessons, projects, discussions, and role-playing games.

Students from Georgian Program, American High School and IB were equally engaged in the celebrations of the IB's 50th anniversary, which goes to show our unity and the utmost respect our students have for their native languages.



Mathematics Day

Within the celebrations of the IB's 50th anniversary, the European School organized Mathematics Day on April 26, 2018.

Our open lessons reflected the IB philosophy – our teachers and students demonstrated research-based learning and teaching, and students' active involvement in the process. Research-based teaching and learning help students become thinkers and explorers.

The day was filled with different activities and extraordinary classes: "Field Work in Mathematics," "Summative Lesson Using Smart Technologies," "Summative Lesson on Golden Ratio," etc. Students tried to make connections between mathematics and the real world. They showcased those transferrable skills that they are gaining in the classroom, including problem-solving and time management.

The European School students tried to show that Mathematics is everywhere; they demonstrated the examples and applications which Mathematics has in everyday life. Grade 5 students engaged in fun problem-solving activities; MYP grade 7 students summarized the unit that they have just covered; MYP grade 10 students demonstrated their research and investigation methods.

The joint class in Mathematics and Theory of Knowledge (TOK) marked the culmination of Mathematics Day. Students discussed the philosophy of Mathematics; they exchanged views on whether Mathematics is created or discovered – is it a human-created system, or something more complicated? In the end, they agreed that Mathematics covers every aspect of the world around us and is driven by creativity and aesthetics.

Towards the end of the day, Professor Hamlet Meladze, delivered a lecture – "Mathematics without Formulas" – for our students.



are normally referred to as heroes," said Nini Kintraia, grade 11.

"The mock trial was such a unique experience. I got to examine historical periods and iconic personalities. My experience as a defense lawyer allowed me to see monarchs as ordinary people," said Anuki Lataria, grade 11.

"The mock trial helped us to evaluate historical events and examine historical figures and judge their actions from today's point of view," said Luka Leluashvili, grade 11.



Humanities Day

On April 27, the European School organized Humanities Day. Students participated in various projects and quiz shows, created posters and short films, revived history through photographs, set up a mock trial, etc. Senior students sat down with younger students to discuss the main causes of World War I. According to them, "it was quite a challenge to step into the teacher's shoes," but the class turned out to be fun and interesting.

Senior students participated in classroom debates, tried to look for alternatives to the Treaty of Georgievsk, exchanged viewpoints and examined the treaty from different angles and contexts.

Georgian Program grade 10 students organized a project named "History Revived through Photography." The students exhibited historical photographs, demonstrating how modern states were formed and developed over the course of history.

Mock Trial at the European School

Georgian Program grade 11 students organized a mock trial in the school's main hall on April 27, 2018. The students played the roles of judges, defense lawyers, prosecutors and defendants, as they argued cases that involved real events from history of Georgia.

"The mock trial allowed me to understand the socio-political situation in the 13th century. I figured out that it's OK to criticize even those individuals that

The European School Marathon

The European School concluded the celebrations of the IB's 50th anniversary with a marathon around Lisi Lake, on April 28, 2018. About 50 students from Georgian Program, American High School and IB Programmes participated in the race, running 2500 meters around the lake. The purpose of the marathon was to promote sports and healthy lifestyle within our school community.

Final results

Girls (grades 7-9)

First runner-up: Ksenija Kocuraite

Second runner-up: Ana Chelidze

Third runner-up: Rusudan Tedoradze

Girls (grades 10-12)

First runner-up: Eva Dudolenska

Second runner-up: Elene Lolashvili

Third runner-up: Mia Bajat

Boys (grades 7-9)

First runner-up: Li Zheng Yang

Second runner-up: Temur Iordanishvili

Third runner-up: Irakli Kikodze

Boys (grades 10-12)

First runner-up: Nikoloz Samushia

Second runner-up: Giorgi Darchidze

Third runner-up: Luka Davlianidze

"The weather was beautiful. My classmates and I ran around the lake and had such a wonderful time," said Luka Konstantine Shatberashvili, DP grade 11 student.

"The Marathon was great. I think we should organize activities like this more often. We breathed fresh air, jogged, and simply, had fun. Everyone was so motivated to finish the race first. I'm proud that I am the third runner-up," Mia Bajat, DP grade 11.

