



## Newsletter

### Memorandum of Understanding on Exclusive Cooperation

We are proud to declare that in Brussels, the Georgia-EU Friendship Group, the European Alliance for Georgia, the European School and NGO Multinational Georgia for Strengthening Democratic Values (MGSDV) signed a Memorandum of Understanding on Exclusive Cooperation.

Within the memorandum, the ES students will be given an opportunity to participate in various events of the European Parliament and the Council of Europe, participate in international educational tours and attend short trainings in EU institutions. Plans for future collaboration with leading European educational institutions were developed. The ES will ensure implementation of strategic and educational projects.



### TEDxIBEuropeanSchool

Each and every year, TEDxIBEuropeanSchool brings together to the stage the diverse and fascinating students from different academic programs of the ES who share experiences that could change the way people think. This year, the talks interspersed with entertainment were based on real stories and ideas that have had real impact or have the potential to influence change. The theme of the event was "Chain reaction". We expect ideas from a wide range of subjects presented at the event: children's rights, the importance of learning psychology course, making chess popular, environmental issues, animal rights, personal development and positive effects of entertaining activities, will spark a chain reaction and will culminate in an avalanche of initiatives.

The event is popular among the school community members and receives mostly positive comments from visitors. Whether it was one talk or idea or the energy from the whole event, it left the audience inspired by something experienced at the TEDxIBEuropeanSchool.



**TEDxIBEuropeanSchool**  
x = independently organized TED event



## Leave no one Behind-World Down Syndrome Day



World Down Syndrome Day is celebrated on March 21st. Inspiring slogan of this year -Leave no one Behind, motivates everyone to support children with Down Syndrome. The ES students hosted beneficiaries of Children of the Sun. Acknowledging that all people with Down Syndrome must have opportunities to be included on a full and equal basis with others, the ES students integrated guests in different activities. They constructed robots together, conducted chemistry experiments, drew colorful socks, organized flash mob 46+1 and played fun sports games. At the same day, our students visited a day care center - Children of the Sun and gave presents to the beneficiaries of the center.

The day left everyone full of emotions and impressions.



## Valuable but Inexpensive Activity – A Day of Giving Books to Each Other

In 1995, UNESCO declared that the 23rd of April would be celebrated annually as World Book and Copyright Day. In 195 countries, including Georgia, this day is celebrated with book exhibitions and sales. This year, Giorgi Kekelidze, the Head of National Library, proposed to declare 23rd of April as a day of giving books to each other. He met with European School students and talked about the love of books. European School joined the initiative #giveabook with eagerness.

School PR Manager Nino Kusrashvili read a book “Guess How Much I Love You” to youngest of school students and talked about copyright issues with them. Students gave each other books, wrote kind messages on them and wished other a lovely reading.

“Many of the countries celebrate this valuable but inexpensive tradition – a day to give each other books. Even if they were not, why not start it ourselves? If you analyze closely, giving a book includes every present in itself: knowledge and feeling, teaching endurance to pain and joy, a thing and a thought, observation and amazement with this observation. A book is a sum of humanity’s memory, an experience such as you and I have. Therefore I thought to initiate a day of giving books to each other on 23rd of April, international day of books and intellectual property rights” – said Giorgi Kekelidze.







## Graduation Ceremony

On June 6, the graduation ceremony of 2019 graduates of the Georgian Program, Diploma Programme and American High School was successfully held at the European School. SophioBazadze- Academic Director of the European School, Gela Bezhuashvili-Chairman of the Supervisory Board, RamazSartania-the DP Coordinator, Irma Barbakadze- Director of AHS gave speeches in succession. They expressed their sincere congratulations and best wishes towards all the graduates. Gold and Silver Medals were awarded to successful students from Georgian Program: KhatiaKiladze, Nino Kintraia, Luka Leluashvili, and ElisabedSaakadze. For the outstanding academic performance, the administration awarded medals to the AHS and the DP students as well.

The graduation ceremony featured several guest speakers: Gigi Tsereteli-OSCE Parliamentary Assembly President, Julius N. Tsai-Cultural Affairs Officer, US Embassy, Tea Kuchukhidz- Educational/Professional Programs Coordinator, Public Affairs Section, US Embassy, NugzarDavitashvili-Dean of San Diego State University and EkaterineBaghishvili-Deputy Director of National Center for Educational Quality Enhancement. Honorable guests gave inspirational speeches and awarded diplomas to the graduates.





## Open Doors Day

On March 29, an Open Doors Day was held at the European School. Meeting with parents took place in the Main Conference Hall and was chaired by the Academic Director Sophia Bazadze. The British Council Teaching Centre Manager Steven Shelli and the General Director of the Future Laboratory Giorgi Kashibadze also welcomed parents. Later, parents had a school tour and meetings with program coordinators.

The European School is grateful to each parent who made a choice and decided to enroll kids in our school.



## Easter Charity

Within the Easter celebration, several charity activities were planned at the European School. Georgian program students visited old people's daycare center supported by the Red Cross organization, presented sweets to elders and held a joint concert.

The ES students collected food for elders and orphaned children. They visited the Youth Centre, old people's homes and orphanages and delivered collected food to the beneficiaries.

For the ES students and the people who were supported and paid attention to it was an unforgettable day filled with acts of kindness, love, and lots of hugs!



## Awarding Ceremony of "Oqros Pepela" Film Festival

On May 1, an awarding ceremony of the International Children Film Festival OqrosPepela was held at the European School.

Within the festival, showcasing of movies, workshops and masterclasses were conducted. Young directors from different regions of Georgia, guests from Baku, Moscow and Kazakhstan participated at the festival. Prizes and diplomas were awarded to the winners. Grand Prix was awarded to the student from Pioneer Film NikaZubashvili for the movie „Leo's Birthday party."





## European School Students at the Occupation Line

Giuli Chalaure, an elder lady, living in Gori, in a village near border, opened a small library in her house, because a library building had been burned down during the war. Local children love visiting her. European School students, together with Giorgi Kekelidze, the Head of National Library, decided to pay a visit and took a computer and books with them. Students gathered money for these gifts by selling hand-made crafts and sweets. This gesture was met with joy by children living in the region.

“We got information that in a village near Russian border, students do not have a computer, so we decided to help. In 21st century, life without a computer is unimaginable” – said Lizi Akhalkatsi, European School student.

Students also visited Mereti school, met with peers and gave them computer and books to help with learning process.

“Books and education generally are the best keys to cross this border and occupation line” – said Giorgi Kekelidze.



## Classical Music Festival

On May, 14 the Classical Music Festival was held at the Main Hall. Participants competed in piano, violin and voice categories. Special certificates were awarded to the winners of different nominations. The best performers were announced by juries: composer Rusudan Sebiskveradze, music teacher Guliko omardidze, music teacher Nino Chalisuri and the Program coordinator Kato Bakradze. The audience reacted positively and rewarded all performers with applause.





## Flowers and Charity

Traditionally the European School held Flower Festival. Students sold different sorts of flowers and donated collected sum(700GEL) to the Youth House. The beneficiaries will spend money on purchasing paints and necessary resources. Charity Flower Festival is an annual event and will be held in the future as well.

On 3rd of June, traditionally the European School held Flower Festival interspersed with charity events. Students sold different sorts of flowers and donated collected sum to the Youth House.

At the same day, different events were planned: third grade students prepared informational posters about parts of the plants, 10 most beautiful flowers, and the most popular pot plants.

5th and 6th graders painted colorful flowers, young artists brought to life spring and summer landscapes, featured on easels; they painted a joint mural on a big cloth and took photos with a special "flower frame" to keep this day in memory. Students also painted on pots which were exhibited on a yard sale.

Flower Festival was enriched by a concert which was hosted by elementary school students. They sang songs and presented fun dances to the audience. An already pretty day was transformed into a wonderland.

Flower Festival will be depicted as a beautiful and impressive day in memories of European School students and guests.



## Easter Preparation at FabLab

The ES students use FabLab to create the desired products in a high-tech environment. During a period of preparation for Easter, they made modern and unusual Easter eggs using technologies. Georgian Program students from grade 3 had an interdisciplinary lesson in the FabLab, where the artworks created at Art lesson were converted into digital files and applied at wooden material with a laser cutter.

Easter egg activities were fun and enjoyable for all the students.





## PYP Exhibition

PYP exhibition was held in the main hall on May 17 th. The Exhibition is one of the most important and culminating academic events of the IB Primary Years Programme. 5th grader students showcased spectacular presentations of 8 weeks' projects based on a particular issue of their choosing and interest: recycling, types of pollution, homeless people, animal rights and advanced technologies as tools for improving communication.

The Exhibition was also the perfect way to visualize their research, action and the whole process through their performance, shadow play on environmental threats, printed brochures, video games and the final musical performance which perfectly matched the concept of the event.

The PYP students showed their great interest towards the environment, the students also showed that they became inspired to take action and act responsibly as global citizens.



## PYP Students' Council - Visit to SOS Children's Village Georgia

PYP is proud of its Students' Council, which was established this academic year. On May 16 th members of the student's council visited SOS Children's Village Georgia, supporting vulnerable children, young people, and families. The ES students planed different activities before the visit: educational games, science experiments, handcraft and planting activities.

They brought some presents to the beneficiaries of the Village. Kids played together, conducted fun experiments and became friends. PYP Students Council is looking forward to carry out many more similar actions in the future.





## Book Week in PYP

On April 1-5, PYP students celebrated Book Week. The PYP promoted reading skills by giving students an opportunity to express themselves in a variety of ways. The learning that happened was truly transdisciplinary as it extended beyond reading. The activities involved all aspects of language learning within and beyond the discipline. The aim was to make reading a habit and to develop reading skills. Students started to become more aware of the posters on the walls, road signs, newspapers, journals, comic strips, and even adverts.

Students conducted class surveys about their favorite books and authors. Students created questionnaires and collected data. Each class decorated their doors inspired by the covers of their favorite books. The Book Character Costume Parade was the best part. It was great how excited everyone was and how innovative people could be with their ideas and costumes. This parade demonstrated love of books, and of art and drama!



## Music Lessons by Norwegian Musicians

The European School hosted the Norwegian Academy of Music on April 8. Music Academy of Norway is leader in teaching music. The musicians arrived to Georgia within the Tbilisi Music Conservatory project and were invited to our school by the European School music teacher Nino Chalisuri, who visited Oslo Music Academy in February. She was introduced to innovative teaching methods during her visit and already applies them in practice at the European School. The Norwegian musicians conducted music lessons for PYP students from grades 3-5 using modern teaching methods. The Norwegian musicians held a concert after classes. Our guests and European School teachers are planning to continue collaboration in the future.





## Brussels and Strasbourg: European school Students on 36th session of European council

On April 1<sup>st</sup> students from International Baccalaureate Middle years program of European school went on a journey to participate in European council's 36<sup>th</sup> session in Strasbourg, as presenters of Republic of Georgia.

The aim was for them to present the problems Georgia is currently facing which stops them from joining the EU. Also, they visited different departments of European union to understand how EU politics works.

The delegation met Natalie Sabanadze - Ambassador to the Kingdom of Belgium and Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and Head of Georgian Mission to the EU and Mr. Lawrence Meredith - European Commission Director for Eastern Neighborhood. Additionally, meetings were held with officials from the European Council on Foreign Relations: Maria del Carmen and Marcus Ruiz. After discussions, students presented their resolution on environmental Issues in Georgia and the draft resolution on Youth Challenges.

It has been said through the history that „Children are the future of the world”. In order to let the future, do its job better we need to let it have experience.

After coming back from their journey Mishiko Gabaidze who was one of the 20 students who participated in this trip, quoted: „Being on this trip presenting my country made me feel very independent. I was using skills that I didn't even know I had before “.





## Baku Trip - Drama Students Travel to Azerbaijan

Drama class students from grades 9 and 10, dedicated 4 months of their academic year to stage a beautiful act based on the famous American play “West Side Story”.

With the help of the MYP staff, parents and the school they managed to organize a cultural exchange program with two schools from the neighbour country- Azerbaijan and attained the higher level of global citizenship.

British School and Donya School hosted our students on May 20th and students successfully delivered a beautiful play for both schools' students and staff members.

After students' return, on May 22nd, European School hosted a charity event for Tbilisi Youth Centre. Drama students raised money for the centre by selling tickets to the guests.

Eduard Teodor Jacob (one of the main characters of the play) said about his experience: “With all the long hours that we put into the play and all the sleepless nights to catch up with our studies; It was a roller coaster of emotions for all of us; but what we gained in the end was worth every moment of it.”



## March 15 - Let's build the future Today.

Anastasia Morelli from MYP grade 10 said: “I don't want to die when I'm 30 because someone forgot to turn off the light in their flat. There's no point coming to school when there is no tomorrow”.

Students in grade 10 decided to play hooky on March 15 to show their protest as part of the global movement. Students around the world come together in the act of not taking part in classes on that day and to show the world that global warming needs to be taken seriously for their own future's sake.

Students in Tbilisi gathered on Rustaveli Avenue and marched up to the Ministry of Environment with their hand made posters and flyers, hoping that the world would hear their voice.





## Startup Camp Youth Tbilisi 2019

On June 9, 2019 “European School” IB (DP) program and “Georgia’s Youth Entrepreneurs” organized Startup Camp Youth Tbilisi 2019 awarding ceremony. The 1st place winning project was “RoboKit,” an innovative startup idea created by students from “G.Zaldastanishvili American Academy Tbilisi”: Shalva Begiashvili, Sophio Chikhladze, and Tekle Khmidiashvili. The 2nd place winning project was “AutoTech,” created by the students from “American International High School-College Progress”: Afahg Mirvakili, Asma Kafashian, Aryan Zounghi, Ali Paziraei, and Zeynep Gulpinar. The 3rd place winning project was “HTS: Help To See” created by students from “School XXI Century”: Levan Gvineria, Luka Todua, Nikoloz Tuskia, Alexandra Lominadze, Liza Chantladze, Ketevan Janiashvili, and Keso Tsitskishvili. The leadership award was granted to three group leaders: Niyousha Biglar, Levan Gogritchiani, and Elvina Mamedova.

"Alright I can't help myself not to say couple of words about wonderful Startup Camp Youth Tbilisi 2019 event organized by "Georgia's Youth Entrepreneurs". With a support of qualified mentors and absolutely professional organizers, who made tremendous effort to make this event even more productive for youth generation, Startup Camp 2019 ended up with a huge success, as it was expected. My appreciation personally to main organizer Mariko and her wonderful team for making absolutely valuable 3 days for me and my team" - Luka Todua - "School XXI Century" student.

Startup Camp Youth Tbilisi was conducted at the European School where students from various schools participated, developed their startup ideas, worked collaboratively with their team members, gained experience and worked with professional mentors in technological as well as the business fields, and pitched their final products to the judges of the event. Many big companies such as: “WOLT,” “Iberia Business Group,” “EcoBina,” “Future Laboratory,” “Fab-Lab,” “European School,” “English Book Georgia” and “British Council Georgia” participated.



## CAS workshop in Bakuriani

The first, 3-day CAS workshop was organized by IB DP program from 7th to 10th of March in Bakuriani. CAS (Creativity, Activity, Service) is an integral part of the IB DP program, which aims to develop social responsibility together with practical skills in the students and is part of the service-based learning. Through the seminar, students were trained in social projects' management and developed intercultural team-working skills, by help of practical exercises. As the result, students demonstrated theory into the practice by creating and presenting different project, action plans, organizing First-Aid training, engaging in environmental cleaning activities and etc.

Taking into consideration the effectiveness of the workshop, based on the feedback from the students, it was decided that off-school seminars will be organized regularly throughout the DP program.





## Astro Camp in US

From March 3rd through 10th, with the initiative of the American High School, 19 students from the European School, accompanied by ICT teacher Davit Nozadze and FabLab teacher Guranda Gogoladze, visited Astro Camp based in Clover, Virginia. The students had a fun-filled one-week session and enjoyed the experience of learning science, developing new skills and having fun with newfound friends.

Through STEAM based activities offered at the Camp, the students broadened their knowledge in physics, chemistry, robotics and astronomy, and developed essential skills for future career paths. The camp pushes campers to deepen their understanding of science by participating in hands-on activities, playing in our state-of-the-art labs, building and launching rockets and searching the night sky with our large array of telescopes. The program has developed hands-on science at its finest with variety of core activities that everyone tried and lots of great electives that campers chose according to personal interest.

Astro Camp staff and the ES teachers developed a strategy for future collaboration. Sharing the information received at the camp with the rest of the ES STEAM team will support developing joint innovative projects.



## American High School Diploma

On April 17th, Dr. Kem Hussain, the Vice President of AdvancED- a North American Schools Accreditation Association and Dr. Ludwig van Broekhuizen, the Global Liaison with a background in research and development within AdvancED, arrived in Georgia from the US. The guests attended a meeting at the Ministry of Education and Sciences, focusing on the topic of recognition of the American High School diploma.

From Georgian Ministry, Kakhaber Khondolishvili, the Head of International Relationships and Programs of Ministry of Education, Eka Baghiashvili, the Vice Head of National Education Quality Enhancement Center and Lali Shaishmelashvili, the Head of General Education Quality Assurance of National Education Quality Enhancement Center, from the European School, American High School's Director Irma Barbakadze and Academic Director Natia Tevzadze were in attendance.





## Sports Events in American High School

This academic year, the Sports Commission of the European School Student Parliament, where many students from American High School were participating, was actively involved in planning and organizing basketball, football and rugby games within and outside of the school community. The students also took part in championships organized by other schools and institutions.

On February 14th -16th, basketball teams from international schools of Georgia, Azerbaijan, Armenia competed at SRAA Tbilisi Basketball Classic 2019, organized by QSI Tbilisi. The European School team became second place winner after the final match.

On March 22, The ES basketball team held a friendly game with IGS (International Georgian School) team. In a tense match, the ES team won 87 – 55 and excited their fans tremendously. On June 6th, they had a rematch. Once again, our school beat IGS with a score of 84 – 56.

Such games are always a great opportunity to promote school spirit, fair-play principles, and healthy lifestyle.



## Trip to France

On 17th – 22nd May, American High School 10th grade students went on an educational trip to France. They visited a coastal city of Cannes as well as the capital of France - Paris. The trip was organized and lead by the homeroom teacher, Nutsa Abashidze.

Throughout the trip in Cannes, students visited Cannes Film Festival and attended a showing of a short-film collection produced by German filmmakers. One of the short-film was dedicated to the conflict in Abkhazia, Georgia and showed the damage and destruction which Georgian side received from the aggressive foreign policy of Russia.

Excursion to Paris was also compelling and memorable for students. It lasted 3 days and incorporated visits in multiple major museums and attractions. Throughout the trip students managed to see museums of Louvre and D'orsay, as well as Museum of Modern Art Centre-Pompidou and Sacre-Coeur Basilica. Another significant location which students visited in Paris was the hill of Montmartre as it represents the artistic hub of the city. All in all, the trip was very engrossing and educational as both cities left students with unforgettable memories and experiences.

Such experiences enrich daily life of students in many ways. By introducing them to classical and modern art of different cultures, they stay aware of how global community functions and how certain topics they learn are important in their daily life.





## International Day of Forest

March 21 is the International Day of Forest, celebrated annually at the European Kindergarten.

Together we all talked about the importance of nature and worked in groups to do projects.

On this day, we had an exhibition at our playground; kids dressed up the trees as humans and took photos with them.

The children listened to birds with parabolic microphone and made nests for them. "I love birds, I always feed them. I am so happy that from today they will have a shelter and food in our playground" - said one of pupils.



## Rock Round the Clock

On 25-26 of June, the graduation party was held in "European Kindergarten". Four groups graduated our kindergarten this year. An amazing cheerful party "Rock around the clock", was organized at the school's main hall. With the Rock and Roll spirit, the children presented to their parents and audience cheerful poems, songs and dances. "It is very emotional for me to see my child wearing graduation gown and holding his first diploma" - said one of the parents. The manager of the kindergarten and the teachers congratulated our children and wished them a bright and successful future.





## Independence Day of Georgia

We celebrated the Independence Day at European Kindergarten.

In celebration of this important date, the children from both Georgian and English groups were involved. Specially for this day, they made Georgian flags, decorated our playground with red and white balloons and organized a special event where kids sang Georgian national anthem.



## Earth Day in European Kindergarten

On April 22, we celebrated The Earth Day at European Kindergarten.

The teachers explained to the children how important it is to take good care of our planet and showed them short animations about the Earth.

All week long, each group worked on a project where they used recycled materials. Later, we had the exhibition in our kindergarten and children took photos with their work. In this way the kids realized the importance of protecting the environment, how to reduce, reuse and recycle. It is our priority to increase awareness about environmental protection among our children.

