



June 2022

Dear students, parents and colleagues,

As the school year draws to an end, we would like to take this opportunity to look back at some very important extra-curricular activities which have taken place in the secondary school since our last newsletter in April. I would like to congratulate all students involved. I would like to sincerely thank all colleagues for leading these initiatives in spite of the challenges that remain as a result of Covid.

Nous profitons également de l'occasion pour vous souhaiter, à vous et à votre famille, un excellent été.

MEC 2022

MEC took place in Munich early in May. 10 students and two teachers (Mr. Klopp and Mr. Scharlau) travelled to Munich to attend and participate in the event. Our students represented Austria and Luxembourg and did an excellent job of expressing and protecting the respective countries' interests. We were very proud of them. Many thanks to Ms. O'Sullivan too for her work with the students before the trip. Below is an account of the event by one of our delegates Bea. Well done again to all involved.

Peter Garry

Deputy Director – secondary school

The road to Munich

Hi! I'm Bea, but for three days in May I was Xavier Bettel, the Prime Minister of Luxembourg, and this is how it happened...

You may or may not be aware that all European Schools take part in an annual Model European Council (MEC). Each school can send around 10 students to represent EU countries, the European Commission, the press or the media at an elaborate simulation of the European Council in one of the cities that hosts a European school. EEB3 was allocated the delegation of Austria and the delegation of Luxembourg for this year's event held at the Science Congress Centre in Munich.



Here is a picture of the MEC 2022 team from EEB3 (from left to right: the Austrian delegation: Lucie Pirklova, Bohuslav (Bob) Vrba, Phillippe Holsten, Kathleen Ryan and Alexia Currie Doyle; the Luxembourg delegation: Beatrix Butters, Samuel Hudson Brain, Sara Benito Terreros, Karl Manuel Schröder Segura and Valentina Skackova)

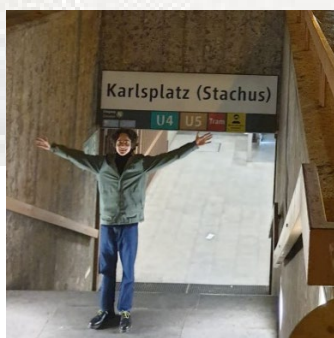
Before actually going to Munich, we had a few things to do and a lot of preparation. Last autumn, candidates from our school wrote an essay to qualify. Once selected, the preparation ranged from organising debates on Wednesday afternoons about current issues faced by the EU (for instance the formation of an EU army) to sitting at your laptop finding out Luxembourg's position towards reforming the Stability and Growth Pact. Although this may not seem like everyone's cup of tea, I can assure you that I found the latter fascinating, as you really get to know the country you are representing and could start to see things from a different perspective (as Sara, Luxembourg's Economic and Financial Affairs Minister, can vouch for vis-à-vis 'tax dumping' in Luxembourg).

After much work behind the scenes, we were ready to travel to Munich. The bus left Brussels at 5am on the 4th of May. We arrived 11 hours later and immediately made our way to an introduction session in a huge lecture hall called the "Audiomax" in the Science Congress Centre where we received a welcome speech from the European School Munich Deputy Director, Mr. Duggen. After that, we each went into our respective council (there were five in total), where the program for the coming days was explained. At the very German time of 6pm, we had dinner with students from all the other European Schools across Europe, which was a great experience. The food was divine too. That evening, we went to bed tired from the early start and the action-packed day, with our stomachs full of desserts.



(Bob's favourite dessert of all time)

On Thursday morning, we were addressed by European Commission President, Dr Ursula von der Leyen in a video message, the Director of European School Munich and the Director of EEB1. After their speeches it was our turn; each head of state was supposed to give an opening speech on behalf of their delegation. I found speaking in front of such a large group of people quite nerve-wracking at first, but with practice throughout the week this got significantly easier. Once every delegation had given their opening statement, we each went into our councils. From then on, the rest of the day was split into 90 minute long council debates followed by coffee breaks, much needed by EEB3's mildly exhausted ministers. In Council 1, several of those sessions were dedicated to making amendments to the presidency proposal of a Common European Defence Framework with some rather devoted neutral countries. By the end of the day we managed to come to a compromise and the exhausted delegates had time to go to Munich and explore the city. Us Ixellois had a great time trying to find our way around and discovering the large amounts of roads and plazas named after Karl (Luxembourg's Justice and Home Affairs Minister).



The next morning, we went back to the Science Congress Centre for another day of debates. We started the day with so called "urgent debates" on the removal of unanimity in the EU Council and on a complete economic embargo in the case of an invasion of an EU member state by the Russian Federation.



Things got heated between Cyprus and the presidency when Macron made a mistake concerning Turkish military presence in Cyprus. However, by the end of the day they left on better terms. After the urgent debates, which unfortunately did not lead to any EU wide action, the councils tied some of the loose ends left from the day before and the ministers and commissioners, fuelled by more coffees and desserts, moved onto other proposals. Both Austria and Luxembourg came to decisions they were satisfied with in each council, with both countries having a similar stance on nuclear energy. As we neared the dreaded end of the day, we concluded the proposals we were working on and started preparing our countries' closing statements. These were presented in the Audimax like the opening statements. Some countries made more controversial statements than others, but everyone agreed that MEC 2022 was iconic in its own right. The EEB3 team left Munich immediately after the last meeting in the Audimax (after changing into more comfortable clothes, that is), together with their fellow delegates from EEB1. The way back to Brussels was marked by little to no sleep, nostalgia over the last few days and pit stops at McDonald's. We arrived back in Brussels at around 5am on Saturday and most of us slept as long as we could for the rest of the day.

Overall, everyone from EEB3 who attended MEC 2022 enjoyed the 'fruitful' - to use a well-worn EU diplomatic euphemism - discussions and met countless incredible people with similar interests. Experiencing what it is like to come to compromises in the council meetings reiterated the importance of democracy and showed us how, although democracy is never easy, it is always worth it.

Maths Olympics

Samedi le 21 mai a eu lieu la proclamation de l'olympiade de mathématiques à l'ULB en présence de la ministre Caroline Désir.

Nos élèves ont obtenu d'excellents résultats. Alors qu'il y a 320 écoles participantes pour 118 places en finale, notre école avait quatre finalistes.

Tous appartiennent à la catégorie miDi regroupant les élèves de S4 et S5.

Les résultats sont les suivants:

- Stefan Andrian Albescu (S4NL): 2ème place
- Samuel Nuyts (S4EN): 3ème place
- Adrian Bernabeu (S5FR): 9ème place
- Emilie Groenvald (S4EN): 15ème place

Il terminent donc tous les quatre dans le top15 d'une compétition regroupait 6457 élèves au premier tour en janvier. Un grand merci à Monsieur Sebillé d'avoir organisé les olympiades.



Students also took part in the Cypriot Maths Olympics

The Cyprus Mathematical Society posted the results of the Math Olympiad 2022.

Our students were awarded two silver medals and one bronze medal.

More specifically:

Makridis Georgios (P3EL)- silver medal

Palamidis Artemis (P4EL)- silver medal

Luca Marinos (S3EL) - bronze medal

The Award Ceremony for the 23rd Cyprus Mathematical Olympiad 2022, will take place on Thursday, 7th of July 2022, at 18:30, at the "RODON Mount Hotel" in Agros, Limassol (Cyprus). Many thanks also to Mr. Christofi for encouraging the students to participate.

Czech Literature Competition



Třídy S1, S2 a S3 CSA se v rámci hodin českého jazyka zúčastnily mezinárodní literární soutěže Mladí humanisté, kterou pořádá Nadace Arnošta Lustiga. Velkým úspěchem je krásné umístění dvou studentů - **Klára Špolcová (S2)** získala třetí místo v kategorii povídka a **Max Montgomery (S3)** pak druhé místo v kategorii úvaha. Oba byli pozváni do Prahy, kde se v pátek 17.6. zúčastní slavnostního vyhlášení výsledků. Gratulujeme!

Students of the Czech section in the S1, S2 and S3 participated in an international literary competition organised by Arnost Lustig foundation (Lustig was a czech writer). Two of our students were very succesful - **Klára Špolcová S2 and Max Montgomery S3**.

They were invited to the final ceremony in Vaclav Havel's library in Prague on Friday 17th June. We wish them the very best for the final on Friday. Below is a link to the texts written by our students.

Suite a la compétition il y aura une exposition a planétarium de Bruxelles en septembre, avec un programme éducatif pour les élèves.

(texts are in czech and in german):

https://www.lustigfoundation.cz/wp-content/uploads/vitezne-texty-ceska-repu-blika_nemecky-preklad.pdf



Ma plume contre le racisme



mercredi 18 mai, notre école a reçu les 1er et 3e prix au concours

« Ma plume contre le racisme » organisé par le MRAX (Mouvement contre le Racisme, l'Antisémitisme et la Xénophobie)

Bravo aux élèves de S2 Morale FR pour leurs vidéos

Les élèves ont choisi de mettre en scène des cas de discriminations liées à la dyslexie et au rejet social.

Dans les vidéos, tout le monde a très bien joué. C'est excellent qu'on ait gagné. Je me sens fier de nous tous. Le harcèlement est bien plus grave que ce qu'on pense. On doit tous lutter contre.

Lukas

J'ai eu envie de participer car c'est important de parler du harcèlement, mais aussi parce que je trouvais amusant de faire un travail avec la classe. Tout le monde donnait des idées différentes !

Elya

J'ai eu envie de participer au concours car je trouve que le harcèlement et la discrimination sont des sujets importants. Cela blesse les gens et je me demande juste : Pourquoi ? Les personnes n'ont rien de mieux à faire ? Dorénavant, ces petites choses qui blessent, je les observerai mieux.

Léa

Je trouvais que c'était une bonne idée de réaliser des courts-métrages pour dénoncer le racisme. Je ne pensais pas au prix. Inventer l'histoire et puis la filmer étaient très chouettes.

Pablo

Un grand merci à Madame Stahlmans d'avoir mené ce projet.

Initiative de lecture avec le primaire



Dans le cadre du cours de français L2, les élèves de S2 de M. Vandamme sont allés faire la lecture de contes à leurs camarades de troisième année primaire le jeudi 12 mai. Devant le bon accueil des élèves du fondamental et de leur professeur, Mme Le Goff, une deuxième session sera organisée après le congé de mai.



Concours d'éloquence



la soirée de la finale du 35^e tournoi d'éloquence organisé par l'Athénée Royal Charles Rogier, un événement majeur de la vie culturelle et éducative de la Belgique francophone, a eu lieu samedi 21 mai à Liège. Les huit candidats ont passé quatre heures sur place à préparer leur discours, sans aucune connection internet ou lien avec l'extérieur, sur le sujet (annoncé à ce moment-là) :

« N'attends pas que les événements arrivent comme tu le souhaites,

décide de vouloir ce qui arrive et tu seras heureux » (Épictète).

Notre étudiant de la s6 Victor Pestanes, a subjugué son auditoire par une présentation originale, personnelle, puissante, expressive, dans un langage finement élaboré, avec des touches d'humour. Il a également traité avec aisance et dextérité le thème de l'improvisation : « L'échec est une chose, c'est l'abandon qui est inacceptable ».

Dès lors, il a vaillamment gagné la première place du podium, en amenant notre école au sommet de ce concours pour la première fois. Il a également emporté, parmi les prix spéciaux : le prix de diction offert par Wallonie-Bruxelles Enseignement, le prix du Gouverneur de la

Province de Liège, ainsi que le prix des Anciens Lauréats du tournoi. Félicitations chaleureuses à Victor pour ce merveilleux exploit, qui nous rend tous très fiers !

Un grand merci de nouveau à Mesdames Barbusah, Lefka et Wiedenmeyer pour leur aide et soutien.

BALMIS EXPEDITION: THE MOST MEMORABLE VOYAGE IN HISTORY



The Spaniards had brought the disease of smallpox to the new continent in the sixteenth century, and it was always a health problem of difficult control, due to its high lethality.

In 1796, the English physician *Edward Jenner* developed a vaccine against smallpox. It was the first vaccine in history. The Spanish doctor *Francisco Javier Balmis* set out to spread the vaccine from Spain to all the territories of the Spanish Empire. In addition, it intended to instruct local health workers to continue the practice of vaccination over time, and create "Vaccination Boards" as institutions to conserve, produce and supply active vaccines in order to maintain the campaign permanently.

The **Royal Philanthropic Vaccine Expedition**, also known as the **Balmis Expedition**, was a philanthropic expedition that went around the world and lasted from 1803 to 1806. The Spanish king *Charles IV* supported and paid with public funds the expedition, since his own daughter, the Infanta *María Teresa*, had died from the disease.

The Balmis expedition is considered to be the first international sanitary expedition as well as the first mass vaccination in history. Jenner himself said, in 1806, of Balmis' expedition: "*I don't imagine the annals of history furnish an example of philanthropy so noble, so extensive as this.*"

The *Balmis Expedition* is still very present, as it represents a feat and an example in the vaccination system. Today, we can affirm that the model of fight against covid-19 has its germ in this **pioneering medical epic**.

The project "BALMIS EXPEDITION: THE MOST MEMORABLE VOYAGE IN HISTORY"

The students of Biology of S6 (2 and 4 periods), Spanish Section, European School of Brussels "Brussels III", has been working during this course in this project in collaboration with the "Rodríguez Moñino" high school of Badajoz (Spain), whose fundamental objective has been to publicize this historical and scientific feat.

The students of S6BI2ESA have made a poster exhibition that can be visited in the entrance to the “pasarrelle” between building A and C



S6BI4P students have made presentations on the Spanish scientist Margarita Salas, DNA sequencing, PCR and CRISPR technologies, and vaccines and vaccination, all in relation to the development of new vaccines against COVID-19

To learn more, you can visit the website of the project developed by the "Rodríguez Moñino" high school: <https://sites.google.com/educarex.es/balmis-expedition/inicio>



Please see attached in the email, the final copy of this year's school magazine. The editor Valentina SKACKOVA Valentina would like to wish you all happy reading.

Finally, the very best of luck to our S7 students who finished their oral exams. We look forward to celebrating their success on Friday at the proclamation.

Abschließend möchten wir unseren S7-Schülern, die ihre mündlichen Prüfungen beendet haben, viel Glück wünschen. Wir freuen uns darauf, ihren Erfolg am Freitag bei der Proklamation zu feiern.

Peter GARRY

Deputy Director – secondary school



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