



THE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF POZNAN

Class of 2017



Congratulations!

Wielkopolska State Subject Contest - English - Laureates:

Bona Julia, G7; Buczyk Lena, G6a; Celmer Maja, G7; Kniola Agata, G7; Ładziak Natasza, G6a; Magierski Piotr, G7; Michalczuk Emilia, G6a; Pomieciński Adam, G7; Rzeźnik Zofia, G7; Sosińska Julia, G7; Tomczak Wiktor, G7



Ski and Snowboard

Antoni Potrykowski, G4b, Hubert Zyski, G4b, and Antoni Tokarczuk, G2a
- third place in the Poznań Alpine Ski and Snowboard Cup (YOB 2007-2009 category)!

Basketball



On Saturday, March 25, our International School of Poznan Rams men's basketball team took part in The British School of Warsaw Invitational Tournament and placed 3rd. Congratulations and GO RAMS!!!

ISoP RAMS: Jeremi Gawęcki, IBIIa; Viktor Gałęcki, IBIIa; Jan Sienkiewicz, IBIIb; Woo Jong Kim, IBIIa; Sinjae Kang, IBIIb; Tzu-Hsuan Lin, IBIIb; and Aleksander Sitarski, IBIIc.

KANGAROO MATH CONTEST

VERY GOOD:

G7: Wiktor Tomczak

RECOGNIZED:

G4a: Magdalena Popławska, Arkadiusz Dudka
G4b: Marta Gajewska
G5a: Himel Karim
G5b: Stanisław Jankowski, Ella Krick
G6a: Aleksander Żurkowski
G6b: Antoni Spaczyński
G7: Noale Buttner, Piotr Magierski
G10: Krzysztof Grykiel, Aleksandra Malicka

FOX Language Competition

VERY GOOD:

G3a: Jankowski Wiktor, Nwoko Pearl
G3b: Staniszevska Anita, Sunil Kumar
Shraddha, Thiry Raphaella

GOOD:

G5b: Baluta Antoni
G4a: Seung Min Ryu, Buttner Levi, Popławska
Magdalena
G4b: Grykiel Alexander
G3b: Molenda Malwina



2017 ISoP Art Contest

By Marta Niewiadomska, G4 Teacher

After the winter break, ISoP students took part in the Tree Art Contest. The students were given a topic connected with trees: *Magical Forest*, *Tree of Life* or they could interpret the following quote: *Like branches in a tree we all grow in different directions yet our roots remain the same*. The students had three weeks to create their artwork. The results were announced on Monday, March 13.

The winners in each age category are:

K-G0: Mila Kośmider, K; Borys Filas, G0b

G1-G2: Amelia Nowicka, G1a; Natalia Tabaczyńska, G1b; Ignacy Kulesza, G1a

G3-G5: Seung Min Ryu, G4a; Krzysztof Brożek, G3b; Ella Krick, G5b

G6-G7: Wiktoria Zatorska, G6a

The honourable mention awards went to: Aleksandra Sapalska, G0a; Wiktoria Pawłowska, G4b; and Helena Rzeźnik, G5b.

Congratulations to everyone!

2017 Poem Recitation Contest

By Katarzyna Richter and Marta Niewiadomska, the Poem Recitation Contest Committee

On Friday, May 19, we celebrated poetry with the ISoP's First Poem Recitation Contest!

Altogether 19 PYP students participated. There were two themes: K-G1 students recited poems about their *Mom and Dad* and G2-G5 recited poems about *Friendship*. Contestants chose poems they wanted to recite.

We would like to congratulate all the contestants for their wonderful performances! You are all genuine risk-takers. Bravo! We had a really tough task selecting top recitations and we are happy to announce five winners.

K-G1 (theme *Mom and Dad*):

Maria Ławniczak G0b

Sophia Sahin, G1b

G2-G5 (theme *Friendship*):

Hanna Seo, G2b

Maciej Mazur, G2b

Amelia Szygenda, G3a

We are looking forward to the next Poem Recitation Contest and we encourage more students to take part next year!



Stay Fit With G0b

By Wiesia Krysa, G0b Teacher

In May we welcomed one of our parents into our classroom. Mr. Łukasz Trałka, Franek's father and Lech Poznań football player, visited us twice and organized great activities.

First, Mr. Trałka talked to us about proper food and why it is so important to eat healthily. He explained how it influences our brain, body and strength.

Then on Wednesday, May 24, Mr. Trałka conducted a football practice with us! The girls played against the boys, then the boys had a fantastic short sparring. Finally we all could try to score a penalty. The team spirit is great among us and we all did our best. Thank you so much Mr. Trałka!!



G1s at the Theatre of Animation

By Monika Kasior, G1 Teacher

On Wednesday, March 22, G1a and G1b students, as a part of our Unit of Inquiry: *Stories Convey Meaning and Engage People's Feelings*, went to the Theatre of Animation in Poznan to see a play called *Hamster Tiger*. It was an amazing trip and all the students enjoyed the play. It was very entertaining: funny, a bit scary and very illuminating. While watching the play, the students laughed a lot, clapped their hands, sometimes screamed and jumped to the music. It was a very exciting day for the G1s.





G1s at the Ecological Gardens

By Monika Kasior, G1b Teacher

On Monday, April 24, G1 students went for a trip to the Ecological Gardens in Wiry. The trip was connected with our Unit of Inquiry: *Food Products Go Through Many Processes Before We Eat Them.*

Our students were really excited on the way there and on the way back. At the beginning we were divided into two groups and each of the groups listened to a presentation and got different tasks to perform.

G1 pupils had a chance to see, touch and smell flowers of various trees and plants. We took a tour around the beautiful gardens. We also saw preserves of fruits and vegetables in jars.



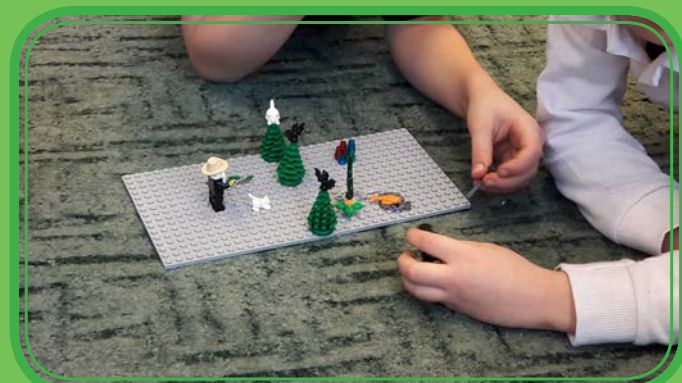
Later, the children had their first experience with planting their own seeds in the ground. They found it both challenging and entertaining. Sitting around a big table together, we tasted some jam, dry fruits and homemade vegetable chips, like beetroot chips! Yummy! There was also an element of fun – going through an obstacle course in the garden! Everyone managed to complete it, of course.

At the very end we got some sauerkraut and we put it in tiny jars to take home. The trip turned out to be a great adventure for everyone and we would certainly like to go back there one day.

LEGO IS FUN!

By Monika Kasior, G1b Teacher

G1b students really enjoy our lessons with Lego. Recently we practised additions through building towers, making gardens and planting flowers. The task was to complete a task using certain amount of Lego blocks and given colours. Everyone was willing to work. We also tried using Legos to make our own stories. We had lots of fun when the children presented their creative ideas in front of the whole class.



K's Unit of Inquiry: *Animals and People Interact in Different Ways and Different Context*

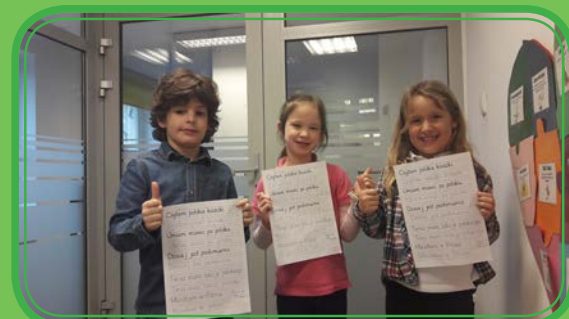


Polish Classes For International Students

By Monika Kasior, G1 Teacher

G1 and G2 international students who attend Polish classes have made great progress since the beginning of the school year. They know Polish alphabet well, can spell words and are able to write their own sentences. Writing the date, telling days of the week or months of the year, discussing the weather or clothes have become a routine in our class.

On Thursday, May 25, Luca Kinecki and Lilli Krick, both G2a, presented their first book written in Polish titled **Magiczna Muzyka**. The students had to include some given words in their story. Moreover, they wrote some spelling tests and did very well. I am so proud. Well done.





PYP Green Schools

K - Traperska Osada - June 8

G0 - Młodzikowo - June 21

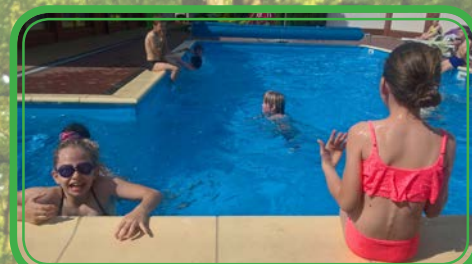
G1 - Żurawiniec - June 1-2

G2 - Dębogóra - June 7-9

G3 - Sienno - May 29-30

G4 - Sienno - May 31-June 2

G5 - Międzyzdroje - June 7-9



G3s at the Ławica Airport

By Katarzyna Jadzińska, G3 Teacher

On Thursday, May 18, G3 students went on a field trip to the Ławica Airport. The trip was connected to our Unit of Inquiry about cities. The students had a chance to visit the airport traffic control tower and learn how to read the surveillance displays with maps of the area and position of various aircraft.



G4's Concert





Trip to the Waste Disposal Site

By Maksymilian Przewoźniak, G4b

On Friday, March 31, both G4 classes went to the Waste Disposal Site, a landfill in Suchy Las. On the bus it was a little bit noisy because we were all excited about the trip. We rode for about 30 minutes and then we finally arrived at the landfill. Next, still on the bus, we needed to park for a moment on a huge vehicle scale and Hubert Żyski, who could see the scale out the window, yelled "We weigh 14 tons!"

First, we met our guide who showed us around. The guide explained where the trash is collected. They put the trash in special cells. If there is no space in a cell, they put the dirt on the pile of trash and then they move the trash to the next cell. If all cells are full with trash, they dig down to the trash. The trash goes then to an incinerator, where it gets burned. Then, we went to see one of the cells. There are special machines that crush the trash. We also saw the place where dangerous waste goes, for example: electrical devices, potions, furniture or metals.

The trip was really informative!



Trip to Café Sweet Surrender

By G4a students

The Unit about organizations was rich in guest speakers. However, the thing that was most fun for us was the trip to Sweet Surrender - a café in the center of the city, next to Most Teatralny, founded by a couple who helps in NCM (Nazarene Compassionate Ministry). G4a went there on Tuesday, April 25, and G4b on Thursday, May 4.

There we learnt about the structure of this organization, which is shaped like a pyramid. In this structure each team has a boss, then this boss reports to another boss and so on. We also learnt that the café itself is a non-profit organization. It means that the owners do not collect profit but they give it back, by organizing an event or buying something for the café. We were treated with delicious cookies and water, but additionally we also could order something to drink and eat. It was all yummy! That was definitely a trip to remember!



Guest Speakers Who Helped Us Understand Better Our Unit of Inquiry

By Mariia Boltenkova, G4b, and Katarzyna Richter, G4b Teacher

We have just finished our Unit of Inquiry focused on local and global organizations. The Central Idea is *Societies Need Different Organizations That Serve Various Purposes*. During this Unit, four guest speakers came to our class to help us understand the topic better.

First, Mr. Eby Nwoko (Music teacher) came to discuss the Igbo community in Poznan. This community helps Nigerian people who live in Poland to nurture their culture. We learned several words and expressions, for example, 'Kedu?' means 'How are you?'.

Next, Mrs. Katarzyna Jadzińska (G3 Teacher) visited us to teach us about the European Union, its history, function and member countries.



Later, Mr. Rob Taylor (Michał's father), who works at PEPCO, came to discuss the concept of organization (a group of people who work together in an organized way for a shared purpose). He also discussed types and structures of different organizations, for example: civilization, religion, sport and social.

Our last guest speaker was Mr. Przemysław Pawłowski (Wiktoria's father), who has a lot of business experience. During his presentation we learned about the business types: B2B (Business to Business) and B2C (Business to Consumer).

Both G4 classes would like to thank our guest speakers, who took their time to help us find out more about organizations. We love to learn from guest speakers!



Le Cafe Artistique and the Umbrella Cafe at ISoP

By Midia Saadoun & Zuzanna Sokolowska G4a

On Monday, May 22, G4a and G4b students organized two separate cafes in their classrooms, but with the same goal in mind. Those two cafes, Le Cafe Artistique and the Umbrella Cafe, were G4s' final projects, finishing the unit about organizations, which Central Idea was: *Societies Need Various Organizations That Serve Different Purposes.*



Our goal was to collect as much money as possible for Fundacja Parasolka that takes care of elderly people. Our cafes became organizations because of G4a and b students':

- cooperation
- communication
- teamwork
- good time management

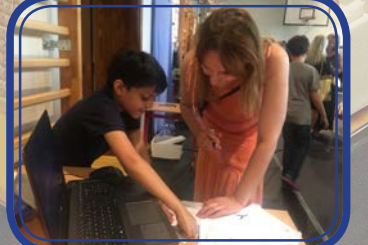
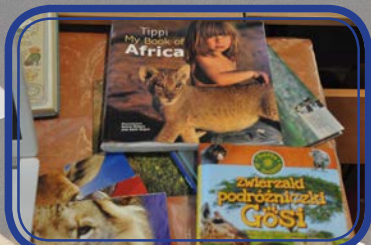
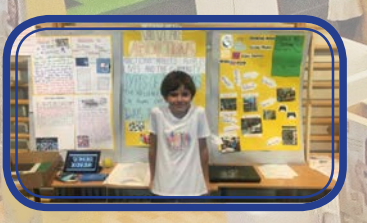
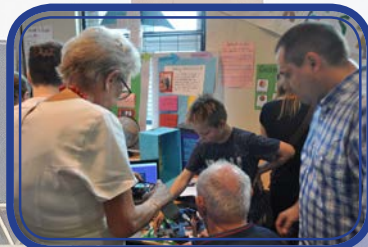
The students and staff enjoyed the cafes very much because of the great baked goods and wonderful art pieces we had for sale. Altogether we managed to gather almost PLN2,500! An official from Fundacja Parasolka came to pick up the money on Friday, May 26. To express her gratitude, she handed us some nice logo pins and both classes got diplomas for supporting the cause.



We are very happy we could help and we cannot wait for another event! We loved this final project. Thanks for visiting our stands and helping with us!

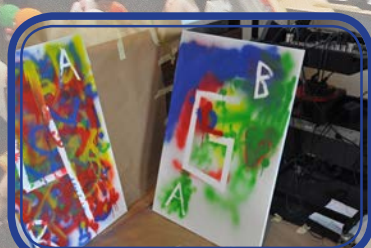
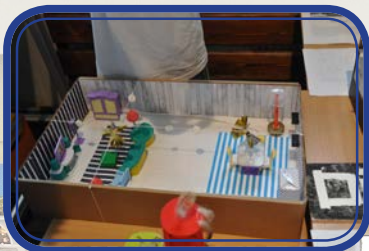


G5 Exhibition May



Exhibition

y 30



Unikids

By Patrycja Polowczyk, G6b

Every one or two months at the Poznań University there are special lectures for kids. Every lesson takes about an hour and a half. Young kids attend lessons given by real professors, experts in particular fields. Every child gets an index and a student license. Children get a stamp after attending each lecture. When you get three stamps you automatically pass. Of course, there are no quick tests and no major tests but there are quizzes with prizes. Kids learn by listening, touching and experimenting. These classes are fun and very creative. The lectures are intended for children 6-13 years old, that want to discover various interesting topics. The lecture topics are: astronomy, biology, mathematics, physics, medicine and many more.



I also attend those lectures and for me it is a great way to learn new things and get knowledge from specialists. I think that learning through experimenting is fun. I know that in life one day I will use that knowledge. I invite you too to join those special lessons and to be a young student in the big lecture hall!

G 7 Masquerade Friday, June 2





COURTROOM DRAMA - MOCK TRIAL IN G7

By Zofia Rzeznik and Emily Krejchik, G7

On Tuesday, April 25, G7 group A students held a mock court trial in their classroom.

Before we presented it and started to prepare, we had learned the most important vocabulary that all of us should know about crime and trials. Later on Mrs. Maria Dunajska-Buszkiewicz, our English Teacher, gave out the roles and it turned out that on the defendant's side there were only boys, and on the plaintiff's side there were only girls.

The case was about a poor father with five children and a star of the series called *Pretty Little Liars*. William J., the defendant, worked in the Drakes' property as a gardener. When Ms. Elizabeth Drake, the plaintiff, found out that William J.'s wife had died in a car accident and his children had got really sick, she gave him some money to help him. Later on William J. started to blackmail Ms. Elizabeth Drake. As she didn't want to give him more money, he got into her house with a knife, and attempted to kidnap her. Ms. Elizabeth Drake took William J. to court, and so the whole story began.



The judge, Zofia Rzeznik, gave her opening speech and introduced all the characters in the court as well as she gave out the roles of the jury, who had to decide whether the defendant was guilty or not. Later on the Prosecution Lawyer, the lawyer on the plaintiff's side - Emily Krejchik, along with the Defense Lawyer, the one on the defendant's side - Peter Magierski, gave their opening speeches. The first witness was called to give her testimony and it went on until all seven witnesses had given their testimonies. They all swore an oath that they would tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth.

A very important fact against Ms. Drake was that Ms. Elizabeth Drake broke the rules of her contract and she told William J. how the series would end, unfortunately, the defendant's lawyer forgot to mention that and the plaintiff had so many facts against William J. that he didn't have any chances. At the end the jury needed to decide whether the defendant would be proven guilty or not guilty. They went out and made the final decision that was later on passed on to the judge. After the jury's and the judge's final decision, the defendant was proven guilty but because of his hard time and good reasons for his crime he didn't go to jail but he did get six months of house arrest, one year under the supervision of the Family Department and he needed to give all the money that he had taken from Ms. Elizabeth Drake back.



We learned some interesting facts about how to become a lawyer, how a court case is organized, what professional vocabulary to use. All of us had great fun preparing it and presenting it to the G7 group b.

Science Experiments

By G7 class

On Wednesday, May 10, we went to the science lab and we had an opportunity to create our own experiment. We had different projects like a lemon volcano, lava lamp, crystal egg, metal melting, elephant toothpaste, chemical yoyo and oobleck. We had a lot of fun at the science lab!



Lemon Volcano - by Noale Buttner, Maja Celmer, Joanna Bułynko and Zofia Rzeźnik
We made a pink lemon volcano explode! We were very impressed that little amount of ingredients that you can find in your kitchen, can make a very fascinating effect. How did we do it? First we squeezed out juice of our succulent lemon. Then we poured the juice into a beaker. After that we added some pink food colouring to the lemon juice and we mixed it together. We added some baking soda and it started to fzzzzzzzzzz up!!! We were really happy that our experiment worked out and we had so much fun in our two lessons in the lab with the best science teacher in the world - Ms. Justyna Pęcherzewska!!!

Lava Lamp - by Tycjan Kowalski, Wojciech Glasser, Ernest Winkler and Wolfgang Babut
Our experiment was called the Lava Lamp. Items needed to make it: oil, water, magnesium, container, food dye.

How did we do it? We added a few food dye droplets to a glass with water. We poured the mixture into a glass filled with oil. Then we added magnesium. Bubbles started flowing up. Every time we added more magnesium, it started bubbling again!!!



Elephant Toothpaste - by Tatiana Burdzińska and Alice Gullstrom
Our experiment was called Elephant Toothpaste. The ingredients we used to make it were:

dishwashing liquid, food coloring (green & yellow), hydrogen peroxide 30%, potassium iodide, water. We used two beakers. In one beaker we added one teaspoon of potassium iodide into 0.25 ml of water. We added 75 ml of hydrogen peroxide into the other beaker. Later we added some dishwashing liquid and poured in some food colouring. We mixed it and added the liquid from the first beaker to the second one and we watched it expand! WOW!

Crystal Egg - by Maria Halasz

My experiment was the Crystal Eggshell. The idea was to put salt water into an eggshell and wait about 2-3 weeks for it to turn into a crystal!

First I heated up some water (just as if I were to make tea) and poured into a heat-safe container (no specific measurement) then I took a lot, mean, A LOT of salt and combined the two. Then I took an egg and cracked it open. If you do it at home, you can use the egg white and the yolk for cooking or baking. All you need for this experiment is the eggshell.

After the water cooled a bit, I poured the water inside the eggshell and put it on a stable surface. Then I just waited and waited until the crystal formed.



Gallium melting - by Wiktor Tomczak, Adam Pomieciński, Vincent Gosch, Bartosz Nowak
Gallium is a hard and brittle metal. It is NOT found in nature. We can only obtain it from other



ores. This experiment was only possible because gallium starts melting at 30°C. Gallium can melt in your hand but it melts much faster in hot water. This is what we did. We took solid gallium and put it in a container. Then we melted it in hot water. It was a really cool experiment.

Oobleck and Coca-Cola with milk

We made oobleck, which is a mixture of cornstarch and water. Oobleck is a non-newtonian material, which means that it can be liquid or solid. When you hit Oobleck, it acts like a solid material, when you just touch it gently, it is a liquid. When we made it, we didn't think it would work out because we used potato starch instead of cornstarch, but it did!

Our second experiment was to add milk to Coca-Cola. When you add a bit of milk to Coca-Cola, a sediment starts to form at the bottom and it looks disgusting.

Chemical Yo-Yo

The chemical Yo-Yo experiment was based on soda, oil, vinegar and beet juice. We used two cups. In one cup we mixed beet juice with vinegar, and in the other cup we put soda and poured in some oil. Next we slowly added droplets of the red mixture into the soda and oil. It looked awesome.



Elephant toothpaste #2 - by Laura Tomikowska, Agata Kniola and Emily Krejchik

The ingredients used were: hydrogen peroxide, sodium chloride, dish washer soap, warm water. First we took a beaker and poured in some hot water, then we added sodium chloride and mixed it with a utensil. In a bigger beaker we mixed together hydrogen peroxide and dish washer soap. We also added some food colouring. Later slowly we added the substances made of sodium chloride and observed the results. It was a very fun experiment.



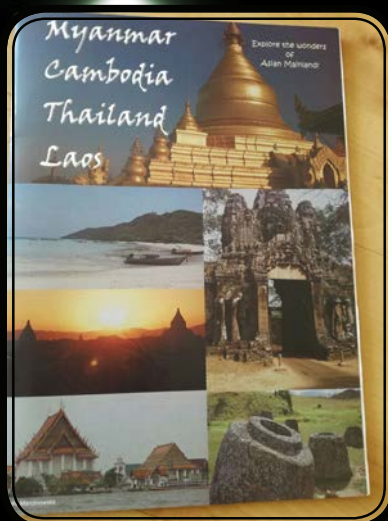
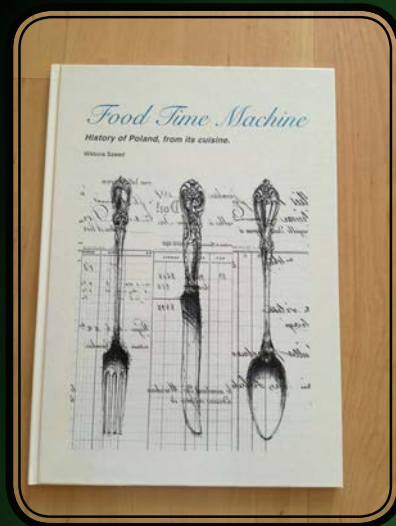
We all would like to thank Miss Justyna Pęcherzewska for letting us do experiments in the lab. It was a lot of fun.



G10 & G11 Personal Projects

By Nina Dubicka & Julia Marcinowska, G10

Personal Project is an essential task, which has to be completed by every G10 and G11 student. It consists of three parts: a process journal, a final product and a report. Every student is meant to come up with a creative, yet challenging, goal which he or she tries to accomplish during the time period of the whole school year. What is more, throughout the process, the student has to have a mentor (a teacher from our school) and needs to keep a diary/ journal with updates on his/her project.



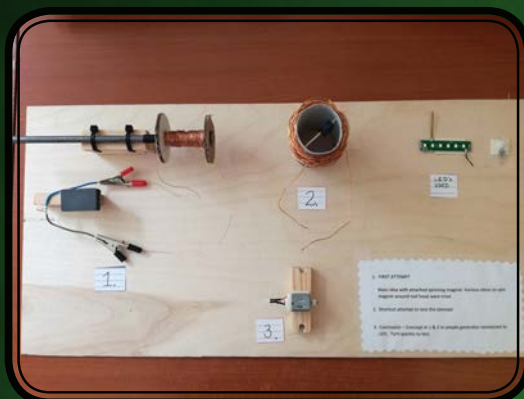
Personal Project is a great way to show off your interests, your abilities and your responsibility. Moreover, it is a great way to get to know more about the topic that you enjoy. Despite the fact that the project is due at the end of the school year, it is highly recommended to start working on it as soon as the school year starts because the amount of spare time throughout the year is limited, especially with the Middle School exams (egzamin gimnazjalne) and the IB Entry Exams taking place at the same time.

This project may seem very easy to finish for some and very hard to complete for others. The truth is, if you work systematically and are interested in the topic, working on the Personal Project might even be fun! There are many things you can do for your

Personal Project such as: a travel guide, a book, a blog, a board game, an experiment, a website, an action (for example: organizing a charity fund raising event), etc. The only requirement is that it has to benefit the community or others somehow.



This year our classmates presented some amazing Personal Projects. Congratulations to all.





Green Schools - MS, Gim, 0

June 2-13 - Italy - G8-G10, GI-GIII, 0

June 11-13 - Berlin - G8, GI

June 11-13 - Ińsko - G9

June 19-21 - Berlin - G7

June 19-21 - Farma Kalina - G6a, G6b



Trip to Austria - May 18-21, 2017

By Wiktoria Czech, IBIIa



A group of IB students, together with our German teacher - Ms. Magalena Musiał, took a part in a trip to Krems, a small and charming town located in Austria, about 100km away from Vienna. The excursion was organized by the European Union, as a part of Eljub project. Its aim is to write an e-book with themes: youth under pressure, the society of now and tomorrow, that is good, and literary ones; by students from schools from few European countries. The meeting in May was organized in order to prepare for the annual summer part of the project.

We arrived to Krems on Thursday in the evening, the weather in town was sunny and the view was beautiful with its hilly panorama, overgrown with vines. Throughout the two days, together with the organizers and other participants, we were preparing the programme and rules of the summer project.

The organizers made this stay more interesting by a great trip to Langenlois, where there was a wine cellar and wine museum, one of the biggest and oldest ones in Austria. I was amazed by this place and thanks to this excursion I had the opportunity to get to know the long-standing tradition of winemaking. In the evening, we were invited to a dinner in Heuerigen, which was a traditional restaurant in the Niederösterreich region. Together with the organizers and other participants, we could taste local dishes. It enriched my knowledge about Austria and especially this region. The next day, we packed our suitcases and got back to Poznań.



I consider the trip to Krems as a very interesting and worthwhile, not only due to the fact that we set up all the organizational details, but also I met new people and got to know more about this region. Now I'm looking forward to the end of school year and the summer trip to Krems, where I'll write my part of the e-book and be able to see my friends again.



Health Corner

By Anna-Maria Guner, IBllb

Ice cream trap

As summer is getting closer and closer, people start buying litres of ice cream. For some of the ice cream addicts, the ice dessert might be even the only food they consume within a day. That is why it is crucial to cautiously chose a brand of ice cream.

Always check ingredients.

Firstly, avoid ice cream which have artificial sweeteners, dyes, palm oil, and any chemical compounds that at first glance look repelling. Traditional ice cream include only cream or milk, eggs and sugar. Nowadays, we modify the recipe more and more to obtain better flavour or specific colours, which is not easily metabolised by our body and may be toxic. That is why you should choose ice cream without added food coloring and with basic content and low amount of sugar.

Remember that you are what you eat

Products which you eat affect both your internal and external condition. It is obvious that you would like to look amazing during summer. However, it will not be possible if you eat low quality ice cream. Consequences may be varous, including dry, older-looking, spotty skin, thin, not shiny hair and weight gain.

Homemade ice cream

A good idea might be also making ice cream by yourselves. You can find different recipes for specific flavours on the Internet. Here is one of them. The banana ice cream can be easily made and has only about 160 kcal per serving!

Banana ice cream

Ingredients:

- 1 small banana
- 3 tablespoons of 1% low-fat milk
- 1 tablespoon of chopped walnuts

Peel the banana, cut it into pieces and freeze it. Place the frozen banana and milk into a blender and mix it until it is thick. Decorate the dessert with chopped walnuts on the top.

Enjoy your summer!

Source: <http://www.health.com/health/recipe/0,,10000002002256,00.html>, n.d., Web. 05.2017



**YOU CAN'T
BUY HAPPINESS,
BUT
YOU CAN
BUY ICE CREAM.
AND THAT'S KIND OF
THE SAME THING.**



The Bio-Talent Project and Lectures on Plant Engineering

By Martyna Ciesielska, IBIIa

Thursday, May 18, ISoP IB students were invited to take part in laboratory activities at the Institute of Plant Genetics of the Polish Academy of Sciences (IPG PAS). Three weeks earlier, we also had participated in lectures on the topic of plant genetics and engineering.

The Institute was opened in 1954 and it consists of six different departments connected to plant biology and genetics. The Department of Integrative Plant Biology aims to deepen the understanding and expand the knowledge of the researchers on the issue of basic mechanisms in plant biology.

In 2014 this department launched an innovative and integrative Bio-Talent Project, which was funded partially by the EU (€1.9 million). The total funds granted were about €2.4 million. More importantly, the project is based on collaboration of many international students and researchers of different areas of specialisation. This will prospect in the future as it creates a variability of possible applications in research of the IPG PAS.



One of the main researchers involved in this project is Dr Jorge Paiva, born in Mozambique. He studied and conducted many researches related to plant genetics at the New University of Lisbon, Portugal, and the University Bordeaux, France. One of his most important investigations concerned the eucalyptus tree and the genes responsible for its growth and the components of its wood. This was an exploration of secondary cell wall for new biomaterials and industrial applications (e.g. production of paper, furniture etc.).

The issue of the Bio-Talent Project is concentrated around the plant of purple willow (*Salix Purpurea*), which is a commonly known shrub in Poland.

The project's main aims are to:

- Explore cellular and molecular processes underlying plant-pathogen interactions
- Develop the research tools for functional work with non-model plants
- Explore the regulatory networks of secondary cell wall to develop new biomaterials for industrial applications
- Develop new tools and resources to increase the efficacy of biomedically active substances
- Engineer new growth patterns



All of the above are possible to be explored due to relatively recent findings in technology. The most common techniques used are: PCR (Polymerase Chain Reaction), gene sequencing, gel electrophoresis and in vitro cultures. Most of these require highly specialised equipment, including microscopes and lasers, advanced computers and other.

Plant biology and genetics are nowadays very popular areas for investigation as the findings may serve in many areas of industry. The related specialisations include: biotechnology, plant physiology, biomathematics, bioinformatics, molecular biology and many others.



International Conference at the Poznań University of Medical Sciences

By Maria Witkowiak, IBIIa

On Thursday, April 27, IB students from our school took part in the international conference Youth in the World of Science. This Third Meeting of High School and University Students was held by the Poznań University of Medical Sciences. During the event the students had an opportunity to present their achievements in any subject belonging to Group Four, these came in a form of a poster or a Powerpoint presentation.

After submitting her abstract, Maja Matoga, IBIIIc, qualified to the poster session, where she presented her internal assessment from chemistry entitled Calcium Carbonate in Seashells.

As many as three ISoP students qualified to the Powerpoint presentation all presenting their accomplishments in chemistry. The students were: Wiktor Gałęcki, IBIIa, with his Laboratory Synthesis of Chalcone and Proving Its Structure With the Use of Modern Analytical Techniques; Piotr Sokalski, IBIIIb, presenting Synthesis of Sulfanilamide Using Aniline as an Initial Reactant and Proving Its Structure Using Modern Analytical Techniques: H-NMR Spectroscopy, IR Spectroscopy and Mass Spectrometry; and me, Maria Witkowiak, IBIIa, with my essay about The Effect of Temperature on the Decomposition of Ascorbic Acid (Vitamin C).

All students were successful in presenting their experiments and obtained results, however, the jury chose the extraordinary work of Piotr Sokalski to be the winner of the oral Powerpoint presentation in the high school category of the English session.

Taking part in this conference was a valuable experience not only because of presentations, but most of all, because it gave us an outlook on recent discoveries in 'the world of medicine.' As most of us want to link his/her future with medicine, chemistry or biochemistry, listening to these revolutionary presentations of university students was both encouraging and stimulating.



Our participation at the conference wouldn't be possible if it weren't for our Chemistry Teacher Mr. Aleksander Jędraszak, PhD, who, with full engagement, checked our abstracts, reminded us of deadlines and encouraged to take part in this event; not mentioning the support during the conference itself. On behalf of all the participants, I would like to thank Mr. Jędraszak for his devotion and support. I would also like to thank both Mr. Jędraszak and the ISoP management for the prizes.

I would like to encourage students, who decided to write their extended essays in scientific subjects, to take part in the conference next year, as it is not only a valuable experience, but also an interesting point to mention in your future personal statements, if you are planning to study abroad.



IBI's Trip to Warsaw

By Maksymilian Borowiak, IB1b

I recently had an amazing trip to Warsaw with our German teacher Ms Musiał. After arriving to Warsaw we had to take the tram, which brought us directly to our apartments. Those apartments were really huge - around 80 square meters. I was amazed by the quality of furniture there. Then we went out to the city center. We saw the Syrenka exhibition. We also visited the Hala Koszyki. Everyone was impressed by the architecture and gastronomy inside. I consider it to be currently the best place to eat in Warsaw.

The last phase of our trip was the National Theater. The play, which was by the way breathtaking, was almost three hours long. At the end we decided to eat something. Unfortunately, all the restaurants were closed but we found a good Kebab restaurant, which was still open. The next day we woke up at 7 am and after breakfast we headed directly to Warsaw Main train station. I will definitely attend the next trip organised by Ms Musiał.



By Monika Komar, IB1a

Contemporary art is, by definition, art that is created during our lifetime. As an era contemporary art is said to have begun in 1970s and is often called the art of the late 20th century and early 21st century. One of the largest difficulties that people face while being in contact with contemporary art is its diversity. It lacks a main principle, ideology or technique. That diversity was noticeable in the exhibition visited by a couple of our students on Sunday, April 1, in Warsaw. The exhibition was opened by The Museum of Modern Art in Warsaw and is entitled The Beguiling Siren is Thy Crest (in Polish Syrena Herbem Twym Zwodnicza). The title comes from a poem by Cyprian Kamil Norwid.

The exhibition shows off not only contemporary art works, but also pieces from the 19th and early 20th century, such as the works by Félicien Rops, Jacek Malczewski or Wacław Szymanowski, who were mostly connected to the Symbolism period. The siren mentioned in the title of the exhibition is depicted in a variety of ways. Pablo Picasso shows the greek mythology siren in his sketches, but others have chosen to show the siren in ways that may not come to mind at first, such as Him by the Danish duet Elmgreen & Dragset, which is a sculpture of the Copenhagen's Little Mermaid depicted as a man.

Though many of the works of art can be named a siren in the mythical, legendary point of view, another artist, Jerzy Szumczyk decided to take the theme literally and presented his installation called Syrena warszawska, whose base was the famous car. Although not all the pieces were easy to understand, I think it's safe to say that the exhibition was both intriguing and insightful.

By Maksymilian Mańko, IB1b

In the first weekend of April, the IBI German B class (only the courageous ones) went to Warsaw for a two-day trip. Although the main aim was to attend the play Mother Courage and Her Children performed by The National Theatre, we managed to see some other sites of the capital. After a three-hour journey by surprisingly punctual train, we arrived in Warsaw and rushed to





see a modern art exhibition. It was entitled *The Beguiling Siren is Thy Crest* and held at The Museum of Modern Art on the banks of the Vistula River, near the Copernicus Science Centre. We saw a lot of interesting pieces, which main topic was obviously the Siren, but presented in fresh and modern way. To shake off this intellectually satisfying but tiring experience, we lead our steps to the most important part of our day trip - Koszyki Food Hall. There the mind could rest, whilst the body enjoyed the feast of the delicacy from all around the world. Then, back at the hotel, we had to prepare ourselves physically and mentally for the next artistic experience. Finally, as the sun went down, the play began. Discussing difficult issues, but well played and innovatively produced, it kept us in deep catharsis for over three hours. However, it wasn't the end. Full of emotions, we advanced to conquer the Warsaw by night. We returned to the hotel late at night, having seen such important places as the Royal Palace, the Old Market Square and a random kebab bar at midnight. The next day was only the reluctant journey back to the grey reality, brightened only by the Dunkin' Donuts at the Warsaw Main Train Station. Looking forward to other trips like this!



By Julia Danieluk, IB1a and Weronika Miniach, IB1b
On Saturday, April 1, the German B group went on the trip to Warsaw to see a play titled *Mother Courage and Her Children*. The play was written by a German writer Bertolt Brecht in 1939. He came up with an idea for the play at the end of the World War II, which had a great effect on his life. *Mother Courage and Her Children* is the chronicle of the Thirty Years' War. It shows the life of the middle age woman with three children, who made money of war. Variety of activities on stage kept the viewers interested and curious throughout the play. Unexpected singing performances with strong voices were breathtaking and left the audience without the doubt that they have chosen the right play to watch on their Saturday evening.

By Hubert Sokołowski, IB1a

The Museum of Modern Art in Warsaw held an exhibition entitled *The Beguiling Siren is Thy Crest*. The exhibition presented different visions and interpretations of Warsaw's symbol, the Mermaid. We weren't surprised with the insanity of the artists' thoughts and their works. We were amazed about how a variety of different, contradicting emotions can be expressed in a single piece of art. We also managed to get a look at some perspective paintings, which featured distorted shapes looking like regular objects only from a certain viewing angle. The exhibition included paintings, photographs, sculptures, sketches, artistic videos and a lot more different ways in which art can be expressed. All of these masterpieces were exhibited in a single hall in a standalone sleek, modern-looking building right next to the Vistula River and the Copernicus Science Center. We could also enjoy warm, sunny weather when having a walk to and from the nearby metro station. The eerie looking pieces of art and the experience coming with it will for sure never be forgotten by us.



IBIII Student on the May 2017 Exams and the Past Few Years

By Alex Ney, IBIII

For those of you taking the IB final exams in the years come, I would like to wish you good luck. I hope that by sharing some of my thoughts and experiences I will be able to help you tackle the daunting ordeal which will face you far sooner than you think. My experiences with this year's exams were neither pleasant nor painless but were nowhere near as terrible as everyone makes them out to be.

How were the exams? For those taking 4 HL's like myself, 15 exams over the course of 3 short and stressful weeks was far from a walk in the park. Coupling this with the fact that on some days there were no exams and on other days there were three exams from two different subjects makes the whole task even more painful. However, nowhere near as painful as I thought. In fact, the advice given to me by teachers and parents was to not sit behind a desk till the small hours of the morning but to go for a walk or bike ride (or in my case mow the lawn) before the exam day. I took this advice despite feeling that running to Moscow would be insufficient to calm me down and found that it really did help. When actually walking into the exam room for the first time tensions do rise again, but quickly fall and the exam is over faster than you think. The content of the exams is also more pleasant than many would have me believe with few questions aiming to trick and many questions with rather binary answers making it easy to know what the examiner is looking for. Yet again this helps the otherwise nerve racking event pass by with relative ease.

Regrets or things I would do differently: Studying for any test is an ambiguous task. There is always theoretically some more that you can do, no matter how many sleepless nights or wonderfully sunny days you have spent inside looking at a history copy's pretty pictures hoping to absorb their information. Therefore, I do regret that I didn't study more but that really raises the question on how much is too much and whether any more is actually worth it. After all, there is only so much that can be crammed into a finite space such as the human brain before it becomes overwhelmed and next to useless. That is why studying should be planned in such a way that each evening after school is not devoted entirely to studying but also to enjoyment too, something I did not do but should have as there is only so much time one can devote before one's mind begins to wander. That being said, the IB is still a very demanding course, which requires a very great sacrifice from its students, therefore, I do not condone an irresponsible use of time either, such as one devoted entirely to non-school tasks.

Tips for future students: Pay attention in class, do the homework, adhere to deadlines, plan your week, don't ask Ms. Richter for a form you have just lost, and don't panic about any school activity. It's never too late to learn something properly and failing one thing or another (or even the entire year frankly) is pretty meaningless on a grander scale than just today and tomorrow. But those are all mostly self explanatory and generic.

More importantly though, I strongly encourage you all to undertake some form of sporting activity at least once a week, since after all the best way to learn is when you are relaxed. For me, Tuesday and Friday nights when I played water polo (a game where you pretty much have to drown your opponents while trying to score a goal) was the best way to relax and forget entirely about anything that may have been challenging at school. The values of a balanced lifestyle become surprisingly apparent when one does more than just write about its virtues on a poster.

I also strongly recommend avoiding too ambitious a plan for studying for anything. Of course, in order to achieve one must study a lot but there is a limit, as I mentioned earlier, which should not be crossed as it may become detrimental.

Finally, I suggest you savour these last few days before the exams with our truly world-class teachers, whose competence in their actions reflects in the schools above average level of education and final exam scores in comparison to other IB schools. Before we even step into the exam room, these teachers have instilled so much knowledge in a way that is easy to remember and highly likely to appear on the exams, which is why the sooner you acknowledge their efforts, the sooner you will be motivated to match and outdo their contribution to your own education.

What was my favourite part of school: Cynically speaking that would be leaving it. But now after leaving, that can only be classified as a lie. Despite what it may feel like for you now, under a stack of assignments and deadlines along with



the anxiety that your future life is at stake, school truly is as everyone says perhaps some of the best years of our lives, especially when in an environment such as ISoP. That is why my favourite part of school was all of it.

The famous “Bal Maturalny”: It would be incorrect to conclude any school story without the final ceremony, during which you can talk to your teachers as though they were your friends, knowing that they can no longer give you a minus or a bad grade for disorderly conduct or something of the sort. But that is an experience you will all enjoy soon enough for your own eyes.

IBIII's Prom Night and a Bittersweet Farewell

By Thomas Bush, IBIII

Ahh, summer! -- the season, which for many celebrates sunshine, the great outdoors, and family. But for me, summer has always been the season of freedom: getting released from school for a few months, not having to wake up early, and accidentally forgetting about those few bits of “summer homework” (set by a select group of teachers) until the last week of August!

This year though, summer means something different for me -- just like it does for all of us ex-IBIII students. From May 1 till May 18, we trudged through our International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme final exams - three weeks of long exams and last minute revision to get our schooling certificates - which is what our 10+ years of seemingly-endless schooling had culminated to. And so, just like that, our time at ISoP had ended.

It is without surprise then, that our summer represents a bittersweet feeling of having finished a significant and happy era in our lives - that of our primary and secondary education. That's right, no more early mornings (for the time being at least), no more hard work (for the time being), and no more surprise quick tests (forever)! But yes, that is right: no more satisfaction from learning, doing well on tests, and having automatically-structured days.

That's why, on behalf of all former ISoP students, who graduated high school this year, I would like to extend a cordial farewell to all those who have helped us, supported us, and, in any way - directly or otherwise, contributed to our success.

Now, if you paid attention to the title of this article, you'd have guessed what I will next talk about - the lovely prom night, which accompanied our formal graduation.

Those both took place on the 19th of May, and if you're lucky enough and quick enough, you'll find a photo of our graduates in dress on the ISoP website.

Our prom night was quite the experience. Taking place only a few hours after our graduation ceremony and arranged by a fellow student - the skilled Robert Wlodarski - our prom offered a chance for us graduates to celebrate the end of a fantastic age in our lives, to share memories and advice, and to interact with our most crucial IB teachers on a more informal level.

I am sure that the students and teachers alike would attest to it being a fantastic event. With good food and drink, tasteful company, and some wonderfully warm weather, we commemorated years of education and thought together not only about the past but also about the future. We discussed our plans for further education, employment, and our biggest goals and dreams.

Once again, I would like to express our gratitude as former students of ISoP to all those involved. It was not only, and could not possibly be, the work of ourselves. Without our teachers, we would never have reached the final exams; without the school's administrative staff, we would never have been lucky enough to attend ISoP; without our parents, we would never have been motivated to do what we have done; without everyone who has ever contributed to the school, be them a highly-disciplinary groundskeeper or a helpful citizen of Poznan, we would not be where we are. Thank you for everything!

IBIII Graduation - Friday, May 19

