



## School News

## October/November 2012

### Operation Christmas Child A Gift for a Smile

The International School of the Algarve again this year joined the global campaign of solidarity Operation Christmas Child. Parents and students delivered 173 boxes with donations to put a smile on disadvantaged childrens' faces in poor communities of Bosnia, Croatia and Romania.



"Many children receiving these boxes have never had a Christmas present. Every single box matters because each one will put a smile on a child's face", said Gill Rhodes, representative of the charity Samaritan's Purse.

Gill Rhodes visited the School to collect donations placed in shoe boxes that were decorated and prepared by our students. The coloured boxes formed a beautiful Christmas Tree during the Primary General Assembly which joined all students up to Year 7 in the School Gym, on the last day before half-term.

Students heard Gill Rhodes talk about the importance of charity and teacher Pennie Best awarded students of the week certificates for good performance. The House captains for Bragança, Camões, Moniz and da Gama were named. The assembly ended with everyone singing happy birthday to children who celebrated their birthdays that past week.



## V Cup Inter-class Festival of Sport

The atmosphere at our School during the month of October was marked by healthy competition and support from all the students involved in the V Cup Inter-class of girls' football and boys' basketball.

For three weeks, classes from the National (Years 7 to 12) and the International (Years 7, 9 and 10) Sections played quick matches lasting 15 minutes between 13:00 and 13:30 in the two fields of the enclosed sports center. The teams counted on the support and encouragement from their classmates creating a party atmosphere with great enthusiasm.

The matches were well played, in an environment of healthy sportsmanship and under the watchful eye of our physical education teachers who acted as referees. The teachers also took the opportunity to evaluate talent already thinking about our School representation in the Fall Tournament, International schools sports tournament to be held at CAISL School - Carlucci American International School of Lisbon, in November, from the 15th to the 17th.

Congratulations to the winners and to all the students for having transformed the contest into a genuine festival of sport which greatly dignifies the tradition of our School.

**Winners (top to bottom):** Girls Football: 6<sup>º</sup>B, 9<sup>º</sup>A and 12<sup>º</sup> / Boys Basketball: 6<sup>º</sup>B, 9<sup>º</sup>A and 11<sup>º</sup>



## Primary Life in Photos

At the start of another school year, pupils shared stories about their holidays and made new friends. Year 2 students of the National Section presented their life story through photographs chosen with the help of their parents.

Reliving the past of the child is part of the Environmental Studies curriculum providing parents with an excellent opportunity to be involved in school activities and also strengthening family ties. "I asked the parents for help and they cooperated. There were some who sent me messages saying they enjoyed to relive the past through the photos", commented teacher Marisa Nunes.

The work was presented on cards with captioned photos and shared in the Year 2 classroom. "I really enjoyed doing the work. My parents showed me the pictures in the computer. It was the first time I saw some of those pictures and I really enjoyed to share my life history with my friends", said Guilherme Ferrolho, 7 years old.

## World Food Day Lesson in the Dining Room

Years 1 to 4 of the National Section joined together in the School's Dining Room to celebrate World Food Day, October 16, with a breakfast of chocolate laced fruit kebabs.



The playful group breakfast and the tasty fruit kebabs set the tone for a day of class discussions about the importance of healthy nutrition for the body and mind.

Teachers also reminded students that there are many hungry children in the world today. It was a pedagogical alert for solidarity but also to counter food waste, as so many people do not have enough food for a decent meal each day.



## Little Scientists Adventures in the Lab

Project Little Scientists is the delight of the Primary. Started three years ago by teacher Rute Oliveira (Physics and Chemistry), it aims to generate interest in Science. This year, adventures in the School Lab started with Mrs. Marisa Nunes's Year 2 pupils.



The first scientific adventure of this school year was held under the theme "1 + 1 is not 2". The mathematical reasoning says that 1+1 is 2, but what will be the answer when we ask for the result of the sum of a glass of water and a cup of sugar? The lab experiment has shown that the materials can be mixed without increasing volume. As such, '1 +1' is not always equal to 2.

"I loved these experiments", "can we do more?" These were comments from the students as they finished the first adventure in the laboratory. "They really like the experiments and they always go to the annual Science Fair", concluded teacher Rute Oliveira. Adventures in the Lab also doing experiment with lights and it is available from Year 1 to Year 4 (pictured above).



## Artistic Expression Primary Paints Autumn

Pupils of Artistic Expression from Years 1 to 4 painted Autumn using the theme Wine Harvest and gave color and forms to the walls of room 41.

Students learned how to use various art techniques with coloured pencils, watercolor and glued paper clippings with which they 'gave life' to dry leaves and grape clusters on paper. "I like watercolors. I painted a picture with leaves and grapes and I enjoyed it," said Guilherme Navalho, 8 years old, student in Year 3.



## Field Trip – Secondary Surprises at the Museum of Portimão

*by Carolina Gramacho (Year 12)*

Secondary students conducted an educational visit to the Museum of Portimão, incorporating topics studies in the subjects of History and Economics. The versatility of the exhibits, which were useful to the development of skills in both areas of Languages and Humanities and Socio-Economic Sciences, caused great expectation on teachers and students, especially the Exhibition 'EU 50 Years of History', a theme so in place with the socio-economic situation we face.

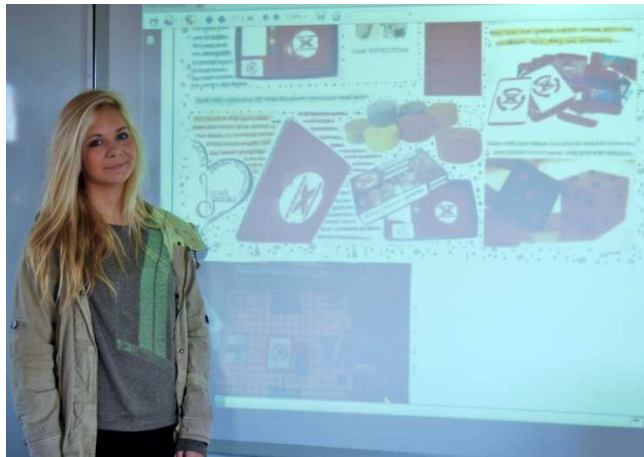
The biggest expectation turned out to be nothing more than a disappointment. At the entrance of the Museum stood a timeline that, despite containing notorious documentary and rarities collection, failed because it was not appealing to the visitors.



The enthusiasm was restored in what is the genesis of the Museum of Portimão, the city and its origins. In a journey through the life of the penultimate President of the First Republic, Manuel Teixeira Gomes, an intimate insight that delighted students' curiosity. In the rooms of the ancient canned sardines factory, which cemented the conceptions of a society organised by capitalism. In the scenes from Pre-History, where Alcalar would be a city-state of great importance in Iberian territory.

Students also had the opportunity to see an exhibition of Portuguese guitars and works of contemporary sculpture by Sara Navarro, which gave the Museum the role of representing not only Portimão, but also Portugal from yesterday, today and tomorrow.





## Sarah Goodchild – Design Worldwide Standard

The work done by Sarah Goodchild for last school year exams in Design & Technology were selected as exemplary by the international examinations commission Edexcel for this academic year.

Three works presented by Sarah around the theme X-Factor were placed on the Internet by Edexcel international commission to establish the global standard for A Level Design & Technology graphics works for GCSE exams. "I'm very proud. The school prepared me well and teacher Leona Robinson helped me a lot," said Sarah, 17 years old. The former student of Year 11 is currently studying in London to enter the University of Fashion and develop a career of "hairdresser and makeup artist for film and television." Another success in Design & Technology, after Thomas Drenth, who entered the best Dutch university of Architecture and Holly Burgess, who interned in New York Fashion School with supermodel Tyra Banks.

## Carolina Ferreira National Champion

Carolina Ferreira, athlete representing the International School of the Algarve Sports Club (CDEIA), won the Indoor portuguese championship in speed skating cadets.



The young skater, 12 years old, won the four races in her age group (cadets) that scored for the national Indoor title disputed on the 27th October, in Aljezur. Carolina Ferreira adds this championship to her 14 individual national titles and 7 collective earned this season, on Road and Track, supplementing a career with national titles at all age levels so far.





## Secondary Deciding the Future

Secondary students are on the verge of making one of the most important decisions of their lives: choosing a career. The option begins with the selection of the university they will apply to and the International School of the Algarve takes care to provide the best information to help the students make their decision.



GCSE and 'A Level' examinations open the doors of foreign universities to our students. In room 13, students can always find information on various international universities. The School promoted the visit of a representative of the International School of Hotel Management Les Roches, who presented the Laureate worldwide network, with 62 'campus' dedicated to train managers for the hospitality industry.

More than fifty Secondary and Sixth Form students listened with interest and raised questions to the speaker during the presentation held in the School Library. "These sessions are very important for career counselling," stressed teacher Elizabeth Viana.

**Writing for Peace:** Portuguese literature students of Year 9 (National Section), challenged by teacher Ana Ribeiro reflected on the theme of Peace in written works for a Lions Club contest. "Peace is only a dream", concluded Luis Arnaut (Class A), but not for Mafalda Martins (Class B), which saw in the "fight for our desires" a way to "return peace" to her own family. Rita Januário (Class B) also was inspired on her personal experience, on a day she was walking her dog in a park and noticed two children fighting over a swing. Rita arrived to the conclusion that the problem is that "we do not teach our children to solve their problems peacefully".





## Improvements Construction Works

During half-term the International School of the Algarve underwent a construction works plan to improve the comfort of our students, especially around the Dining Room and in the Library.

Partitions were installed in the Library, to give Secondary and Sixth Form students a dedicated room for study; and in the Pre-Reception Class, to provide more comfort for the sleep of our youngest pupils.

In the Dining Room, doors were widened and accesses improved to ensure greater fluidity in the movement of students in this área. The Gymnasium was also improved with a new outside exit.

## Pre-School Hallowe'en

During half-term, which did not affect Pre-School, the younger decorated their classrooms with pictures and clippings depicting Hallowe'en.



Pumpkins, spiders and stars painted on paper by the children were cut and hung by the teachers and assistants in the Pre-Reception (up to 3 years old) and Reception (4 years old) classrooms, where teaching is bilingual.

"We did a lot of work because of the Hallowe'en tradition," said Fernanda Gonçalves, an emblematic educational auxiliary at our School. In 2010, she received the Father Nuno Burguete Award for more than 25 years of distinguished services and rigorous dedication to children at the International School of the Algarve.



## Upcoming Events:

- **School Cross-Country** – International School of the Algarve (November 7)
- 2nd Round of the **Indoor National Speed Skating Championship** for the younger age groups – Lagos (November 10)
- **Magusto** – International School of the Algarve (November 12)
- **Fall Tournament**, inter-schools sports event at Carlucci American International School of Lisbon – Lisbon (November 15-17)
- **Christmas Bazaar** – International School of the Algarve (November 24)
- **Snow Trip** – Grandvalira, Andorra (December 8-15) – Registrations open

