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CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Our Christmas Bazaar was once again a huge success! The Christmas Bazaar was organized by the Parent Group Association on December 17th, 2018. Many workshops and games entertained our little friends. The ISA choir gave a great performance and Ms. Peterson (ISA parent) performed many interesting experiments in a fantastic Science Show. Moreover, visitors had the opportunity to do their Christmas shopping while enjoying the Christmas spirit and the great food. Like every year the Christmas Bazaar ended with our lottery draw where the PGA gave more than 100 prizes! Part of the proceeds went to MERIMNA (Society for the Care of Children and Families Facing Illness and Death). We would like to once more thank our PGA for organizing such a great event!!



ANATOLIA MUN CONFERENCE BY YILIN WANG GRADE 11



Not long ago, some of us from the ISA MUN club attended the ACMUN Conference of Anatolia College in Thessaloniki for 3 days. We felt it was a really good trip, learned a lot and at the same time we had fun with our peers, made friends and enjoyed the conference as a whole. We took the train from Athens to Thessaloniki which took more than 5 hours, a bit too long but acceptable. During the last hour on the train, we played a game together with our teachers, by putting one person on the spot but not letting the guesser know, then the selected person had to ask questions like "if they were a book, what book would they be" and from the received imaginative answer to be able to detect the person that we were describing. Laughs, giggles, happy smiles were everywhere! After we put our things in the hotel, we went out for food. It was Tsiknopempti, the local people were celebrating by eating souvlaki, everything was tasty after several hours of hunger. The three days of the MUN were an amazing experience! We started getting to know each other by introducing ourselves and getting involved in the conversations, meeting people from the same ages all around the world, discussing the current issues



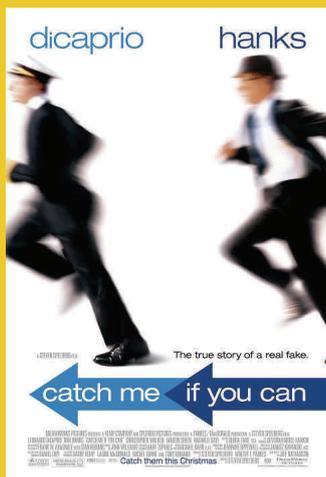
happening globally because the more we --- as teenagers-- know, the better we will understand and be willing to solve the issues, with the power that we humans have to create a helpful solution for the world we've been living since the day we were born. The topic of this year's conference was the rise of populism and the effects of that globally. We made mistakes, caused laughs, no matter how embarrassed we felt at times, we learned. Learned through our mistakes, through our experiences and after all, we developed ourselves in a more mature way, to be more critical thinkers! In spite of difficulties, I personally believe that the food provided by Anatolia College was much higher than my expectation, there were salads, pasta, rice, beef, chicken, drinks and even dessert appeared on the tables, different meals every day. It even became one of the motivations for the delegates to hurry up with their work and get to the dining room to enjoy their food. In the end, I would like to comment on the MUN as a journey not to learn stuff that we cannot learn at school, but also a great opportunity for students to meet other students from different countries and make new friends and develop existing friendships even more.

CATCH ME IF YOU CAN

MOVIE REVIEW

BY ARETI GEORGIADI
GRADE 11

Along with two Oscar nominations, a top-billed cast and of course a renowned director, I believe "Catch me if you can" proudly deserves the title of one of the most fascinating and memorable movies of all times. Based on a true story, the movie brilliantly unfolds the course of Frank Abagnale Jr. (Leonardo Di Caprio) into becoming America's most wanted fugitive at the time, before his 19th birthday. When his parents (Christopher Walken & Natalie Baye) file for divorce and Frank must choose between them for custody, the feelings of anger and suffocation bring out the worst in him, resulting in his flee. Unfortunately, being a boy of only 17 years old, he isn't qualified enough to ensure a respected and well-paid job, so he sees Furthermore, the supporting cast is filled with Hollywood stars such as Christopher Walken, Martin Sheen, Amy Adams, Jennifer Garner, Ellen Pompeo and Elizabeth Banks, all of whom give eminent performances. This review coming to an end, I would like to recommend this film to anyone seeking a thought-provoking movie to keep them wondering till the very end...



HARIS VLAVIANOS VISIT AT ISA

BY ARETI GEORGIADI GRADE 11

A few weeks ago, one of Greece's most renowned poets, Harris Vlavianos, visited our school as an extension of the subject "Modern Greek". In order to listen him, all 11th and 12th graders who attend Greek classes were gathered in the library, where the presentation took place. As one would expect, the vast majority of teenagers are not admirers of poetry, so, most of us had already formed an idea of what kind of person he would be like or what he has going to talk about (to make a long story short, most of us didn't have high expectations).



However, I dare to say, that not only did he exceed our expectations, but redefined the term poet in our minds. Having a very simple style and attitude, (not seating on a chair but on the table), he began explaining how poetry has been misunderstood as something very difficult and incomprehensible, even though this is not always the case. So, in order to prove his point he started reciting various poems from poetic collections he had translated. He read many, some of them with funny context and others with deeper meaning, but each one of them aimed to reach out and touch every different taste someone might have in the room. His approach to the presentation was quite interactive, as he asked us many questions, as well as humorous once, not being afraid to tease the students with witty comments.

One could remember many highlights of his visit, but my personal favorite was the part where he expressed his view that poetry isn't about trying to understand what the poet aimed to express or say, but to seek a more personal meaning and what the poem has to say in accordance to your personality. This truly was a mind-boggling concept coming from a poet, as someone would expect the exact opposite. That comment by him was thought-provoking and made me understand why maybe poetry seems so difficult and unapproachable to us...Sometimes, we may lose ourselves within our effort to deduce what the poem wants to say and diverge from the true meaning of it, which can be unique to each and every one of us. After all, poetry is a form of art, and all art is subjective to the mood, feelings and beliefs of the person coming into contact with it.

INTERNATIONAL FOOD DAY - "DEIPNO AGAPIS"

BY MRS. AURORA DEL HOYO VENTURA

On Friday February 16th. all the MYP students and teachers organized an International Food Event in the school. They cooked delicious dishes from many different countries, as well as contributing with more than 100 portions of homemade food, along with bread loaves and fruit juices, that were distributed to homeless people in Athens. The donation was made in collaboration with the organization **DEIPNO AGAPIS**, founded by **Ms Marianna Peppas**. It was a commendable effort that had a wonderful outcome, as not only did it enhance the true international spirit and philosophy of the school, but it also offered everybody involved an opportunity to show their solidarity and dedication to community issues. Thank you to all!



SPEAK TRUTH TO POWER BY MRS. LOUKIA KEFALLINO

The Speak Truth to Power curriculum, based on the UN's principles of human rights education, is taught to millions of students around the world. Using the stories of human rights defenders in an innovative, flexible manner, Speak Truth to Power's lessons are designed to fit any subject, teaching students that they, too, can learn to self-identify as a human rights defender and have a role to play in the global fight for justice. This human rights education programme strives to create a global citizenry dedicated to the highest standards of justice and equality. Our school is participating in this programme and supports human rights with different activities. Ms. Kapsabeli and Ms. Kefallinou presented these activities in a seminar organized by the M. Vardinoyianni Foundation on Tuesday, March 6th in Plaza Hotel.



POETRY DAY BY VASSO SMYRNI GRADE 11



International Poetry Day has been an annual school event for many years. Poems, songs, dances and distinguished guests come into contact with our students every year and contribute to the celebration of Poetry. Students from all grades and all language departments share some of the most well-known and unique pieces of poetic art with the rest of us.

This year's theme was "Poems we know from Songs". The idea was influenced by the traditional Greek folk songs, known as "Rembetika, specifically those by Markos Vamvakaris, some of which were performed by our fellow 11th graders as part of the Greek Department's contribution. The show began with the

distinguished music critic and historian Mr. G. Monemvasitis giving a short but captivating talk on the history and role of Rembetika in Greek culture. The music performance which followed, encompassed a virtuoso bouzouki player, Mr. Sakkas and Ms. Grammatikou on the guitar, whose talent, along with a surprise dance choreography, amazed the audience. Then, a real treat: a surprise vocal performance by some of our teachers and staff singing "Charamata I Ora Treis" by Markos Vamvakaris. Settling the excited audience into a more reflective mood came the touching recital of foreign poems, Arabic, German and Spanish. Students from middle and high school joined together to honor the poets' lives by reciting some of their most recognized work. The final climax in the show was organized by the English department. It was when Mr. Papatasos with his guitar, along with the two seventh grader guitarists Emilios and George and Ms. Grammatikou on the piano performed Bob Dylan's "The Ballad of a Thin Man", thrilling the audience. Dark clothes, black glasses, electric guitars and low lights created the perfect atmosphere and an extraordinary ending to this celebration.

All in all, it was a remarkably multicultural celebration of Poetry through collective work and unexpected artistic collaborations.



PLAY ON PLAY BY VASSO SMYRNI & ARETI GEORGIADI GRADE 11

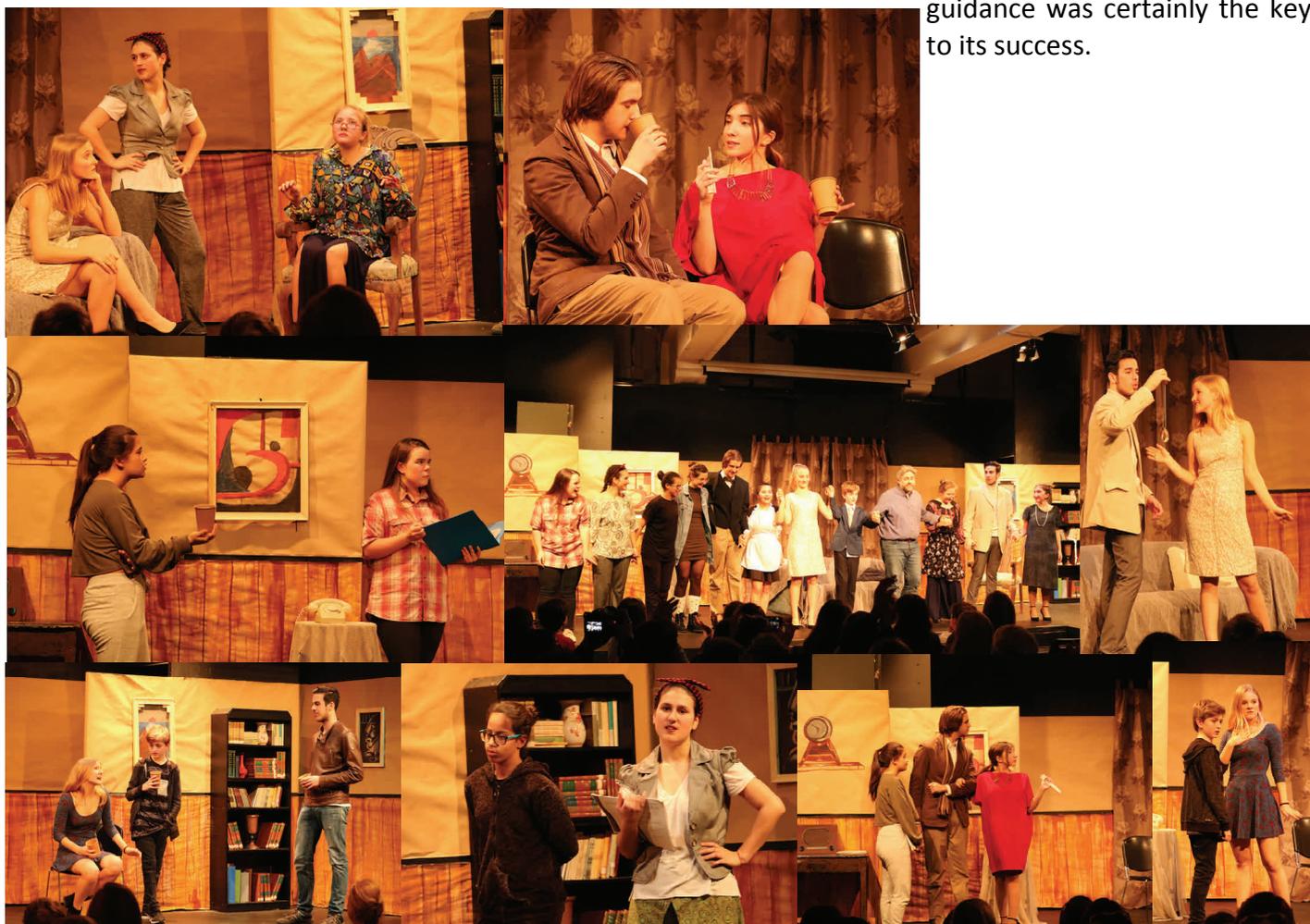
Just like every year, ISA was proud to present an outstanding performance in our theater. Talented students from all grades joined the After-School Drama Club and worked hard, with passion and determination, to produce this memorable and unique performance, leaving their mark on ISA. The play was directed by our great drama teacher, A. Burk.

This year's play is called "Play On" by Rick Abbot and is a comedy. Play On, is about a small group of actors who are preparing a new play called,

"Murder Most Foul". While the actors are doing their best to learn the script and the director is desperately attempting to get everything ready for the upcoming performance, the author decides not only to rewrite the play and add new lines but also to add new characters. This change is devastating for the play and anyone participating does not see a bright future for the end result. The casting of the lead and supporting roles was masterfully done, as each student appeared to be extremely comfortable with the script and managed to truly immerse themselves into the character and his personality, producing thus work of high quality. However, it was not only the actors' mesmerizing performance that amazed us all, but also the costumes and the background set. Some may underestimate their importance, though, we believe that they contribute a great deal to the "suspension of disbelief", which constitutes a vital element in a great theatrical performance. Therefore, the fact that they were well made and with great detail is commendable! This article coming to an end, we would like to congratulate - once again - all the members of the After-School Drama Club who collaborated in order for this play come to life and of course Mr. Burk, whose



guidance was certainly the key to its success.



CAREER DAY BY YILIN WANG GRADE 11



This year our school organized a new event inviting people who are experts in some areas that our students would like to consider for their future life to come to our school and have a talk with us. There were only 8th to 11th graders participating in the event which was aimed at helping students in their future applications and career considerations. Every one of the students could choose 4 areas that they are interested in and had the opportunity to prepare and ask questions of the person they would meet about their career, such as the difficulties of getting this job, number of years needed to complete study, the salary, difficulty of applying for the job, etc. For many people, this event was really helpful, not only for the Grade 11 students who have to decide what they want to do and apply to universities next year, but also for the younger kids helping them discover their interests and what subjects they might keep in mind for the IB.

Personally speaking, for me, this was really helpful, all 4 people with whom I talked, gave me an idea of what life would be if I followed that career. During the day, I even decided what I want to study at university and planned my life in a more organised way.

Finally, congratulations to this year's organisers for a successful Career Day! Hoping and looking forward to an even further improved Career Day next year.



PGA NEWS - FAMILY BONDING TRIP TO ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM OF THEBES



The Parents Group Association organized a Family Bonding Trip to the Archaeological Museum of Thebes, on March 11th. Unlike many regional museums in Greece, which focus on a small selection of Mycenaean and classical objects, Thebes' USP is that its museum is a diachronic museum. This means that it has regional objects on display right from the Palaeolithic (2.6 million years ago) through to the Ottoman period (1460s-1822 AD). Once more a lot of families responded to the invitation and had the opportunity to see the splendid exhibits with the help of a tour guide. The

weather was fantastic so many families decided to have lunch together in the central square of Thebes. A special thank you to the Association for this great excursion!!



PGA NEWS — SAVE THE DATE FOR THE LAST BONDING TRIP FOR THIS YEAR

The **PGA** is organizing the **Last Bonding Trip** for this Academic Year, at Lake Heraion in Loutraki on May 13th.

Get ready for a day full of fun & beach games!

More information — Coming Soon !

