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English magazine of the Secondary Technical School in Komárno



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ACES – Stop Being Puzzled by Diversity

"Diversity is the one true thing we all have in common... Celebrate it every day."

(Sir Winston Churchill)

Our school has been a particularly successful applicant for awarded ACES (Academy of Central European Schools) projects, and the sequence of accepted applications has not been broken this year either. Namely, this is the fifth time that our project has been found suitable for implementation!

"I and the others: Discovering diversity around and within me" was the theme of 2013 proposals for which our school had applied together with the Private Trade School from Varna, Bulgaria. The title of our project is "Stop being puzzled by diversity", and is based on interactive theatre techniques. The students from each country would create short theatre pieces reflecting on their own culture, with the focus on fighting prejudice and discrimination.

As the first step, *Beata Szabo* and *Kamilla Sánta III.D* attended a kickoff meeting in Bucharest, Romania at the end of September.

As a follow-up and an introduction to the topic, an interactive learning space was created and presented on the Students' Day on 15 November 2013. The Diversity Game was based on a large *Snakes and Ladders* board, the squares of which represented a site around the room where students had to perform different activities: solving puzzles, quizzes, writing poems, matching proverbs, drawing caricatures, doing Bingo and association games, examining lemons (for finding differences), etc. Each site was designed to explore different aspects of diversity, some of which are included below for you to have a go with. Test yourself then check your answers (look for them on other pages of this paper).

First project meeting in Varna, Bulgaria

Between **27 November – 1 December 2013** the first project meeting in Varna took place. Our school was represented by 1 teacher and 5 students: *Beata Szabo* and *Ildiko Skopp III.D, Matyas Marton III.K,, Csaba Jakab III.K, David Juhasz III.K, Mark Szentes III.E,* who flew to Bulgaria to meet our project partners. During their stay they visited a number of sights in Varna, and also a school for children

with special needs. They drew up a plan of action that will serve as a basis for further work.

ACES

Dialogue and cooperation of young people in Central Europe





QUIZ 1. Cultural Diversity Quiz

- 1. If you were travelling on the Shinkansen in Japan, which form of transport would you be using?
- A Train
- B Underground
- C Tram

2. Which is the world's most northernmost capital city?

- A Reykjavik, Iceland
- B Nuuk, Greenland
- C Ottawa, Canada

3. Which country has the largest English-speaking population in the world?

- A India
- B USA
- C Australia

4. Which city is dominated by Sugarloaf Mountain and a statue of Christ?

- A Sao Paolo
- B Brasilia
- C Rio de Janeiro

5. For whom did Shah Jahan build the Taj Mahal in India?

- A his mother
- B his wife
- C his mistress

6. Where can you find the Galapagos Islands?

- A next to Argentina
- B next to Ecuador
- C next to Brazil

7. Which of these areas is in Serbia and Montenegro?

- A Split
- B Warsaw
- C Kosovo

8. Which country has the largest population in Europe?

- A Germany
- B France
- C Italy

9. The people of which country catch and eat the most fish in the world?

- A Sweden
- B Japan
- C Australia

10. What is the capital of the Ukraine?

- A Belgrade
- B Zagreb
- C Kiev









QUIZ 2. World Awareness Quiz

1. In 1978, presidents of large corporations in the USA earned 35 times more than the average worker. Today, they earn _____ times more than the average worker.

- A 150
- B 240
- C 300

2. How many children around the world die each day from hunger-related causes?

- A 160,000
- B 16,000
- C 1,600

3. What percentage of the world population has regular access to the Internet?

- A 2%
- B 15%
- C 29%

4. The wealth of the 2 richest people in the U.S. is more than the wealth of:

- A the 25 poorest countries combined
- B the 40 poorest countries combined
- C the 60 poorest countries combined

5. How many people in the UK have a disability?

- A 1 in 5
- B 1 in 15
- C 1 in 45

6. If you were in a room with 100 people how many of them would you expect to have dyslexia?

- A 9
- B 22
- C 34

THE ABORIGINAL TEST OF INTELLIGENCE.

The *Thaayorre* people are <u>Australian aboriginal people</u> living in Queensland, <u>Australia.</u> They live a nomadic, <u>hunting-gathering life</u> with strong <u>traditions</u> of storytelling, <u>song</u> and <u>dance</u>.

The following items relate to their culture and their very special way of thinking. Try to answer these questions, but don't forget, the thaayorre are living out there in the bush, so their way of thinking may be very different from ours!

1. What number comes next in the sequence: one, two, three, ____?

2. We eat food and we _____ water.

3. S	uppose	that your	brother in his	forties dies	unexpectedly. What do you attribute his death to?
A G	od	B Fate	C Nobody	D Bacteria	E Somebody





The Bear Educational Theatre

The Bear Educational Theatre

This year we had the great opportunity to invite an English theatre company again. The Bear Educational Theatre is an international travelling theatre company from Prague. It specializes in teaching English through interactive theatre shows and other innovative techniques. It supports English teaching by producing interactive educational theatre performances and workshops for schools. The performances are produced with professional teacher/actors and are designed to be watched by groups of school students. The second graders saw The Detectives, the third graders saw the play Frank Novotny and the Case of the Present Perfect.

Frank Novotny and the Case of the Present Perfect

Two jealous twin brothers are fighting over the same girl. Eventually one of them commits a robbery and Detective Frank Novotny and the audience have to work out which one of them did it. The key to solving the case is understanding the how present perfect tense is used in English.

Frank Novotny and the Case of the Present Perfect is the story of two identical twin brothers who are fighting over the same girl. They both promise to buy her a pair of earrings that she likes, but the earrings finally get stolen. The students in the audience have to work out which of the twins did it. The key to the solution lies in how they used the present perfect tense. The main purpose of the show is to introduce and practice the present perfect tense, especially how it can be used to introduce news. The text of the show is full of examples of the present perfect and the main examples of how the present perfect is used in English are pretaught before the actual story is played. Finally the solution to the problem hinges around the use of the present perfect for presenting news and so the most significant grammar from the beginning of the show is repeated at the end. The story is very popular with students because of its main themes of love, drugs and jealousy. But the point of the show is to support English teachers by explaining this complicated piece of English grammar to students.

The Detectives

The Detectives is an entertaining and interactive lovestory/murder-mystery set in an English cabaret. One of the actors is murdered during a performance. The audience work with the actors to discover who the killer was.

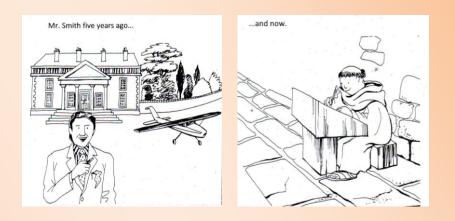
The Detectives is an interactive murder mystery, where the students in the audience are invited to work out who the killer is. The story is set in a cabaret in England with three main characters Michael Kay, a magician, his wife Sylvia Kay, a dancer and their colleague Christopher O'Connel, a clown. The show holds the audience's attention very effectively, not only because of the character of the clown and entertaining aspects of the cabaret itself, but also because of Sylvia's open flirtation with Christopher and Michael's jealousy. The Detectives is the most popular show in the repertoire of the theatre. It has been played hundreds of times in many different countries. (www.thebeartheatre.com)





Essay Writing Competition

The Essay Writing Competition took place on 14 November 2013, with the participation of 15 students. They received the task to write **The Story of the Century** in about 180-200 words, while using the pictures below as a starting point for their story.



Students have shown exceptional creativity and moral insight, but the writings of the following three students particularly stood out. So "the award goes to": Csaba Erdélyi II.K for *The Most Comprehensive Story* Péter Hodúr III.K for *The Most Gripping Story* Nagy Máté II.G – Shooting Star Award

The winning pieces can be read below, with the kind copyright contribution of the authors, who reserve all rights to their publication. Nagy Máté II. G

There is a man named Jonas whose story is a particularly interesting one.

Jonas was an average millionaire, trying to get more and more money to make him happy. But however hard he tried, he just couldn't buy happiness. He was desperate and didn't understand how it could be the easiest to become a billionaire and then achieve life's ultimate goal: happiness.

After years of sadness, he fell into depression. He wasn't doing anything for weeks, he was basically vegetating. His state go worse and worse by the day. In the end, he just couldn't take it anymore, for all the lies he had made, for all the people who had died because of his ill hunger for money. Jonas felt all this burden on his shoulders, he cracked and got insane. He donated all his belongings to charity and decided he would live the rest of his time alone, in the forest. Of course he couldn't last a month, but dying out of starvation wasn't his fate. Some monks gathering wood found him unconscious in the forest, and took Jonas back to the monastery. This is where he lives his life as a monk, finally in peace with himself and the world, finally happily. He had to take the route through insanity and back, to release the burden of a billionaire's life.





Péter Hodúr III.K

How the Bible was translated

Mr. Smith was a rich man, he lived in a palace in the millionaires' quarter of Oak Hill. He wanted to be a doctor, so he learned Latin for a while, but at the end he became a politician and became very rich. He also had a private plane with a private pilot.

One day he had to go to Europe on some conference with other politicians. He took his plane, which soon got into a storm just when they reached the coasts of Europe. The wind was so strong that the pilot could not hold control of the plane, and suddenly they got hit by a lightning. Something interesting, something strange was felt and after a few seconds they hit the ground. The plane got smashed completely. The pilot died, but Mr Smith survived. He was unconscious and by the time he woke up the storm was away. He climbed out of the wreck of the plane and looked around. He saw a small village. He went close and saw a man wearing clothes from old times. He asked him: "Where am 1?". The man answered in Latin. Smith was surprised that there is still somebody speaking Latin these days. The man told him that he name of the village is Little Babylon. Smith looked around: old housed, people dressed in old clothes everywhere. He got scared a bit and asked: "What year do we write?" The man said 890. "Oh my God" was Smith's reaction and he started running. He stopped at a monastery, trying to believe that he really had travelled back in time. He had no choice but to find a place to stay, so he went into the monastery. A priest asked him who he was and what he wanted there. Of course he didn't tell the truth. He told that his house and all of his money got burned, and he didn't have anywhere to go. The priest believed him because his clothes really looked burned, so he became a member of the monastery.

The priests found out that he could write and knew a lot of languages. They had a bible in Latin. This village was close to the border, where on the other side lived people speaking different languages and who had no religion. The priests wanted to translate the Bible and give it to them, and this is where Smith helped. He translated it not only to the local language, but many other languages of the world. He got famous and rich, and lived his life well in this old world. The truth is he liked it more than the world he had come from.

Csaba Erdélyi II.K

This is a story about Mr. Smith. Mr. Smith had a perfect life. As a kid he always wanted to have a succesfull career. He tought that he would be able to enjoy his life without any family, without any problems.

As a kid he never wanted a family. He saw his parents arguing, and getting angry with each other. He tought that a family would just hold him back and cause many problems. His friends abandoned him, bacause they couldn't keep up with him. They've all had families so they couldn't do the things Mr. Smith could. Mr. Smith was really into planes and any other flying machines, but a normal family man just cannot spend money on things like that. Mr. Smith's had to find new friends. He befriended the owner of the city's kid hospital, Mr. Parker. One day Mr. Parker wanted to show Mr. Smith the hospital, and the beauty of his work. He loves to help the kids. Mr. Smith hesitated, but then he accepted the invitation. "What could happen?"-He tought. Everything was fine until Mr. Smith saw a kid playing with a toy plane. There was something about that kid. Maybe he saw his old self in him. Who knows? He invited him to his house and flew a plane with him. He's never had so much fun before. The feeling that he felt was incredible. For a moment he felt that that kid is his "family". From then he supported the kid's hospital. Everything was going well. But Mr. Parker was getting greedy. The money drove him crazy. He's sued Mr. Smith for some tought-out crime. Mr. Smith went bankrupt. He was mad. He almost lost everything but he still felt the warm, that kid made him feel. He wanted to keep on helping the kids. He took all his money to help poor kids from all over the world. After he gave everything he could to the church, he joined them, and started to write books.

Years later he wrote his own story. He wanted to show people, that they can change and help others. It's true the book wasn't a bestseller but still, it's changed many people's mind.

On 3 December, 24 students of our school took part in our annual school round of the English Olympiad. At first everyone had to write a test where they could demonstrate their own knowledge in listening, reading and grammar.

Then on 9 December the best contestants created stories according to a picture and showed their creativity in role play.

The final results :

- 1 Máté Nagy II.G represents our school in the district round
- 2 Tibor Zauko IV.F
- 3 Timotej Bodzás IV.F







Here are some questions, the answers are all in the articles of the



Find the answers and send them to <u>leaflet.spskn@gmail.com</u>. (do not forget your name and class :D) Good luck!!!!

1/ What is the title of the ACES project?2/ What award went to Csaba Erdélyi?

Rules: The competition is open to all students of the Secondary Technical School in Komárno. You can vote only once. Closing date 20 January 2014, 20:00. The name of the winner will be published on 22 January 2014. What is the prize?! USB flash drive 8GB !!!

Answer key:

CULTURA	L DIVERSITY QUIZ	WORLD AWARENESS QUIZ
1 A	6 B	
2 A	7 C	1C 4 C
3 A	8 A	2 B 5 A
4 C	9 B	3 A 6 C
5 B	10 C	

THE ABORIGINAL TEST OF INTELLIGENCE

1. Many. *One, two, three, many....*the thaayorre system of counting only goes to three...*thana, kuthir, pinalam, mong, mong, mong,* etc. The word *mong* is best translated as "many" as it can mean any number between 4 and 9 or 10 after which *yuur mong* (many figures) would come.

2. Eat. Well, sort of. Where we make a distinction between "eating" and "drinking", kuuk thaayorre does not and they use the same verb to describe both functions.

3. Somebody. For the thaayorre, God is a mythological character and definitely not evil-minded. Fate and bacteria are concepts not known in the thaayorre belief system. Nobody dies without reason and suicide is also unknown to them.