

Kuntatt mal-iskola ta' wliedkom

MESSAĠġ MILL-KAP TAL-ISKOLO

Id-diversità li tgħaqqadna

Bħala parti mill-kors fl-Arti Performattiva offrut f'kollaborazzjoni mal-MCAST, l-istudenti tad-drama fl-iskola tagħna ħasbu u fasslu produzzjoni bit-tema tad-diversità. Kienet tassew okkażjoni specjalji nhar il-Ğimġha 9 ta' Marzu meta dawn l-istudenti taw wirja qawwija li sammret lil kulħadd mas-siġġu b'messaġġ b'saħħtu li daħħal lil kulħadd f'qoxortu.

Hafna drabi, id-dinja ta' madwarna toħnoqna b'mudelli ta' kif l-aħjar għandna nkunu u jekk ma nidħlux f'dak il-mudell naraw x'naghmlu ħalli nirranġaw lilna nfusna biex tal-inqas inqarrbu lejn dak li tambru f'moħħna li hu normali. Iżda x'inhu n-normali? Fil-verità n-normali ma ježistix!

Immaġinaw għal sekonda waħda li kieku kulħadd kien ta' tul wieħed, kulur u stil ta' xagħar wieħed, kulur t'għajnejn wieħed – kulħadd l-istess. Kif nista' nqabbel lili nnifsi? Kif nista' ngħid li jien itwal jew iqsar minn ħaddieħor? Li xagħri u għajnejja differenti minn ta' ħaddieħor? Huwa l-fatt li teżisti d-diversità li tagħti sens lill-identità tiegħi! Jien naf li raġel għax jeżistu n-nisa. Naf li twil għax hemm min hu iqsar minni. U nista' nibqa' sejjer hekk bil-paraguni.



...kompli fuq paġna 3

Kullegġ San Benedittu, Skola Sekondarja, Hal Kirkop

Shaħ fl-ispirtu u fil-ħidma

2598 4400, 2598 4414

sbc.kirkop.ss@ilearn.edu.mt

<http://www.kulleggsanbenedittubs.com>

EDITORJAL

"Spring is the time of plans and projects."

Leo Tolstoy

Welcome Spring! It's that wonderful time of the year when the weather starts getting warmer, nature comes to life and you can feel that new burst of energy that was severely lacking throughout our cold, humid winter.



I think we are rather lucky to benefit from weather which is typical of the Mediterranean region. I don't quite fancy being in the North Pole, where in spring a person would see the sun skimming across the horizon, beginning six months of uninterrupted daylight. At the same time, a person in the South Pole would see the sun skimming across the horizon, signalling the start of six months of darkness. Definitely not what I look forward to in spring!

By now, most of our January New Year's resolutions have fallen by the wayside. Don't feel too bad about that because according to research, only 10% of people actually keep them. Spring comes with the idea of rebirth and renewal, and most people see it as a time of change. So why not make a few spring resolutions which might actually make more sense?

With more hours of sunlight, warmer weather and vibrant colours to brighten our days, for me spring is about enjoying the outdoors. Why not go for a walk in the countryside and enjoy a breath of fresh air while admiring the trees and flowers in full bloom? Another option for those with seasonal allergies would be to relax on the beach, or for the more daring, take your first dip in the sea. Since the weather permits, why not opt for some form of physical exercise, be it sport, a dance class or maybe yoga? You will find it not only helps you physically but it will also relax you mentally.

Good nutrition affects our mood and energy level. Spring provides an abundance of fresh fruit and vegetables we can use in a variety of recipes. Typical of the season are broad beans for *kusksu* (a vegetable and pasta dish) or chickpeas (*ċiċri*) as a healthy snack. You can also feast on seasonal fruit such as loquats (*naspli*), mulberries (*ċawsli*) or blackberries (*tut*).

There's never a shortage of activities in Malta and Easter is definitely one of the biggest celebrations. Churches are decorated and important functions are held, especially in the last few days leading up to Easter Sunday. Probably the most popular are the visits to the seven churches on Maundy Thursday, the Good Friday processions and the Easter Sunday resurrection celebrations. And for those who fast throughout Lent, the *figolla* (a traditional Easter sweet made of almonds) is definitely worth the wait.

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There are numerous other activities to look out for this spring. Mid-April marks the start of the Malta International Music Festival, with classical music in many varied forms, such as solo recitals, chamber concerts and grand orchestral

concerts. Firework enthusiasts will be eagerly awaiting the Malta International Fireworks Festival, to be held between the 22nd and 30th April in Valletta's Grand Harbour. This will be the perfect setting since it also marks the anniversary of Malta's EU membership. Another interesting event in April is the annual Medieval Mdina. The entire city is enveloped in an atmosphere from the Middle Ages, allowing visitors to travel back in time to the days of knighthood. Musicians play on street corners and the entire city is decorated with flowers spreading a lovely spring feeling.



As the late actor Robin Williams once said, "Spring is nature's way of saying, 'Let's party!'" So let's take advantage of our weather and abundance of activities in order to enrich ourselves physically, mentally and culturally.

Ms K. Callus
Teacher of English

...ikompli minn paġna I

Dawn il-paraguni ma jagħmlun ix-aħjar jew agħar minn ħaddieħor. Il-problema tinqala' meta naħseb li l-identità tiegħi hi aħjar minn ta' ħaddieħor, meta nipprova nitgħolla billi nbaxxi lil ħaddieħor! Meta naħseb, per eżempju, li għax jien raġel għandi drittijiet iktar minn mara. Meta naħseb, per eżempju, li għax jien abjad għandi drittijiet iktar minn persuna ta' karnaġġjon skur.

Fil-ħajja hemm bżonn nifħmu li l-jien tiegħi ma ježistix mingħajr ħaddieħor. Wisq nibża' li ħafna drabi n-nies jittolleraw lil xulxin iktar milli jirrispettaw lil xulxin. Int ma ttinix fastidju mela jien ma ntikx fastidju! It-tolleranza mhix rispett. Ir-rispett jiġi meta jien naċċetta l-persuna l-oħra kif inhi, meta fil-persuna l-oħra nagħraf nifhem jien min jien. U meta naċċetta lili nnifsi verament kif jien, inkun nista' verament nirrispetta u naċċetta bla ebda kundizzjoni lill-oħrajn – huma min huma, huma kif inħuma. Meta ježisti dan ir-rispett reċiproku nibdew ngħixu ferm aħjar.

Dan kien il-messaġġ li ppruvaw jgħaddulna l-istudenti bil-produzzjoni tagħhom. L-istudenti bdew billi ppruvaw jifħmu lilhom infushom, billi rrisspettaw l-identità tagħhom. B'kuraġġ kbir dawn l-istudenti kitbu fuq sidirhom karatteristika tagħhom li tagħmilhom differenti mill-oħrajn – li tagħmilhom uniċi. Għax ippruvaw jifħmu lilhom infushom u feħmu li huma individwi partikolari jistgħu jifħmu ferm iż-żejjed l-individwalitā u l-partikolaritā tal-persuni ta' madwarhom.

F'dinja mifnija b'egożmu sfrenat fejn kulħadd jimpurtah biss mill-jien tiegħi u mhux minn ħaddieħor, dan kien messaġġ qawwi ta' tama. Tama li mhux kollox mitluf. Tama li ż-żgħażaqgħ tagħna jemmnu li d-diversità għandha tgħaqquadna u mhux tifridna.

Is-Sur M. Bondin
Kap tal-Iskola

TAĦDITA MINN AWTUR MALTI

Nhar I-Erbgħa, 10 ta' Jannar, fl-iskola tagħna kellna attivitā differenti minn dik tas-soltu. Magħna kellna lill-awtur Malti Vincent Vella. Vella huwa awtur ta' bosta xogħlilijiet, kemm bil-Malti kif ukoll bl-Ingliz. Huwa ġie jkellem lill-istudenti tal-ħames sena dwar innovella tiegħu 'Bl-Irħis' li tinsab fl-antologija *Bejn Haltejn* u li qiegħda fis-sillabu taċ-ČES. Matul it-taħdita, l-istudenti kellhom iċ-ċans isaqsuh dwar il-kitbiet tiegħu, dwar x'jispirah biex jikteb u dwar l-aħħar premijiet letterarji li rebañ kemm f'Malta kif ukoll lil hinn minn xtutna. Ma naqsux ukoll mistoqsiġiet relatati man-novella nnifisha u mat-tema ewlenija tagħha. Żgur li għall-istudenti kienet esperjenza sabiħa aktar u aktar għall-fatt li setgħu jitkellmu mal-awtur tan-novella nnifsu u jsaqsuh b'mod dirett dak li xtaqu jiċċaraw miegħu dwar in-novella 'Bl-Irħis'.



Id-Dipartiment tal-Malti

KELMTEJN MID-DIPARTIMENT TAL-FRANCIŻ

Kompetizzjoni Valletta 18

L-Assocjazzjoni tal-Għalliema tal-Franċiż (APFM) nediet kompetizzjoni għall-istudenti tal-Franċiż marbuta mal-okkażjoni tal-V18. L-istudenta tad-disa' sena Christine Scicluna ġiet it-tielet f'din il-kompetizzjoni fost l-iskejjel ta' Malta u Għawdex. Christine ġibdet filmat tal-monument ta' Dun Mikiel Xerri li jinsab fil-Belt Valletta u tkellmet bil-Franċiż dwar il-perjodu kemmxejn imqanqal tal-Franċiżi f'Malta. Christine kienet mistiedna flimkien mal-ġenituri tagħha fiċ-Ċentru tar-Riżorsi tal-Franċiż fl-Imsejha fejn iltaqqħet mal-ambaxxatriċi Franċiż u ngħataat premju mill-Isbaħ. Bravo Christine!

II-Galette des Rois



Hekk kif joqrob Jannar, l-istudenti jibdew jistaqsuna għall-famuża *Galette des Rois*. Din hija torta tal-lewż li fiha jkun hemm moħbi pupu taċ-ċeramika li bil-Franċiż jissejja ħekk 'fèv'. Il-familji Franċiżi jieklu din it-torta fil-festa tal-Epifanija jiġifieri fis-6 ta' Jannar u anke matul ix-xahar ta' Jannar kollu. Min isib il-pupu taċ-ċeramika ikun dikjarat re jew reġina u jinkurunawh b'kuruna tal-karti lewn id-deheb b'tifkira tat-tliet slaten Maġi li marru jżuru lil-Ġesù Bambin. Din it-tradizzjoni tinżel tajjeb ferm mal-istudenti tagħna.

Kulħadd bit-tama ovvjament li jsib il-pupu taċ-ċeramika u jsir re/reġina! Dan minbarra l-fatt li





jduqu torta mill-itjeb ipreparata għalina mill-koki Franċiżi ta' Frensh (Fresh & French Bakes). Prosit lill-studenti kollha li għal-darb oħra reġgħu attendew bi ħarhom għal din l-aktivitā.

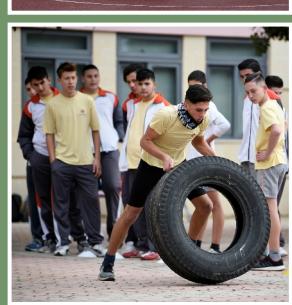
Id-Dipartiment tal-Franċiż



FORM 5 SPORTS DAY

A Sports day for Form 5 students was held on 15th January. A good number of students participated in this event.

By giving youths the opportunity to try a wider variety of sports, we can try to increase participation levels, widen the talent pool and help young people lead a healthier, more active lifestyle. Exercise and sports participation has long been established as an important factor in reducing the risk of many physical problems such as cardiovascular disease and obesity. Besides having many physical benefits, sport can become an important part of each individual's life. Schools have the opportunity to inspire and help young people get active and participate in sport.



Taking part in sporting activities can be very satisfying. Our Sports Days are designed to be fun, exciting, challenging and rewarding. Students participated in Track & field events and Team Games (football, handball, basketball, volleyball and badminton). Overall it was a successful event.

Below are the results of each event and the winning class:



Overall winners: 5.2

Strongest man competition:
Abdulkader Alshlash

High Jump:
Jean Polidano

Long Jump:
Gary Mifsud

Throw:
Liam Pace

50m:
Gary Mifsud

50m:
Nicky Busuttil

100m:
Gary Mifsud

200m:
Gary Mifsud

400m:
Glen Calleja



L-AMBAXXATA AMERIKANA F'MALTA



L-10 ta' Diċembru hija l-ġurnata internazzjonalı ddedikata għad-drittijiet tal-bniedem. Bħala čittadini li ngħixu f'soċjetà fejn id-drittijiet tagħha jiġu mħarsa, għandna nkomplu naħdmu biex kull persuna, kemm f'Malta kif ukoll f'pajjiżi oħra fid-dinja, tgawdi mid-drittijiet kollha tagħha. Għandha tiġi trattata b'mod ugwali daqs persuna oħra, irrispettivament mis-sess, l-età, ir-razza jew ir-reliġjon tagħha.



Biex tiġi cċelebrata din il-ġurnata u biex jiġu apprezzati d-drittijiet li aħna ngawdu minnhom f'pajjiżna, l-istudenti tat-tielet u tar-raba' sena tal-Istudji Soċjali Option żaru l-Ambaxxata Amerikana f'Malta li tinsab Ta' Qali. Din il-ħarġa kienet marbuta mad-drittijiet fundamentali tal-bniedem. Id-Dikjarazzjoni Universalis tad-Drittijiet tal-Bniedem kienet saret mill-Ġnus Magħquda fl-1948 wara l-attroċitajiet li seħħew wara t-Tieni Gwerra Dinjija. L-iskop ta' din id-dikjarazzjoni kien li l-inġustizzji li seħħew ma jerġgħux jiġru għax kull persuna għandha tgħix 'il bogħod mill-biża' u t-theddid iż-żda f'libertà u sigurtà.

Matul din iż-żjara, l-istudenti fehmu x'inhu l-irwol ta' ambaxxata f'pajjiżna, fosthom li tagħti għajjnuna u protezzjoni lill-persuni Amerikani li qed jgħixu f'Malta. Pereżempju din tipprovdilhom il-permessi neċċesarji biex jaħdmu f'pajjiżna. Irwol ieħor importanti li għandha l-Ambaxxata hu li żżomm relazzjonijiet tajbin bejn Malta u l-Istati Uniti fosthom relazzjonijiet ekonomiċi u politici bħal pereżempju meta jsir ftehim biex kumpaniji Amerikani jinvestu f'Malta.



Bħala drittijiet fundamentali, kull persuna tgawdi minn ġerti affarijiet bažiċi bħad-dritt li tgħix, kenn fejn toqqghod, ikel u xorb, li kulħadd għandu jiġi stmat daqs ħaddieħor u m'għandux ikun hemm diskriminazzjoni minħabba sess, età, kulur tal-ġilda, razza u reliġjon. L-istudenti huma konxji wkoll li għalkemm insibu ġerti minoritajiet f'pajjiżna, bħal persuni b'diżabilità, omosesswali u nies ta' ġilda skura fost oħrajn, dawn in-nies huma kollha intitolati għad-drittijiet kollha tagħhom u biex jgħixu b'mod ugwali u rispettat fis-soċjetà. Però irridu nżommu f'mohħna wkoll li fid-dinja hawn madwar biljun persuna li qed jgħixu f'faqar estrem, fejn f'kull minuta qed imutu mijiet bil-ġuñ u bil-mard u oħrajn li għaddejjin minn esperjenzi koroh bħal gwerer u persekuzzjoni.

Iż-żjara fl-Ambaxxata Amerikana kienet interessanti ħafna. Filwaqt li l-istudenti ħadu pjaċir jisimghu u jiddiskutu dwar id-drittijiet tagħħom u ta' persuni differenti minnhom, ħadu interess ukoll jaraw kif inhi mibnija l-Ambaxxata, l-uffiċini minn fejn jaħdmu l-ħaddiema, fejn joqogħdu s-security guards Amerikani u anke l-affarijiet ta' rikreazzjoni li għandhom il-ħaddiema bħal gym u swimming pool.

Is-Sa S. E. Cachia

ŻJARA GO SQALLIJA



“Esperjenza indimentikabbi”, “Qisna familja”, “Grazzi ta’ kollox” kienu ffit mill-kummenti li ntqalu kemm mill-istudenti kif ukoll mill-ghalliema u LSA’s dwar il-mawra ta’ ġurnata fi Sqallija nhar is-Sibt 3 ta’ Marzu.

L-istudenti tal-Form 5 sena li qeqħdin fil-programm tal-Prince’s Trust hadmu bi sfieg biex jiproduċu l-Ġulepp tal-Ħarrub u jbiegħi waqt il-Parents’ Evening u l-breaks. Bħala għalliema xtaqna li mill-profitt li l-istudenti għamlu nużaww b'mod li l-esperjenza tkun waħda unika. Iddiskutejna, argumentajna imma fl-aħħar qbilna li ġurnata Sqallija tkun ideali. Bdejna nfittxu fejn nistgħu mmorru, l-aħjar prezzi li nistgħu nsibu u naraw li kulħadd għandu passaport validu. Insomma, avventura mill-bidu sal-aħħar. Għal uħud minna kienet ukoll l-ewwel darba li raw is-silġ. Kien hemm ukoll xi wħud li siefru għall-ewwel darba. Morna wkoll Taormina, belt mill-isbaħ b'vedu u storja interessanti. Ma jonqosx ukoll li xtrajna l-kannoli ta’ Sqallija u xi ġelat ukoll.

Bħala għalliema bqajna impressjonati bl-imġiba eċċelenti tal-istudenti u nhassett ukoll is-sens ta’ familja li kien hemm bejnietna l-adulti kif ukoll l-istudenti. L-espressjonijiet tal-učuh jixhdu dan kollu.

L-Għalliema tal-Prince’s Trust



Kull sena l-istudenti tal-għaxar sena jkollhom jagħmlu għażla importanti. L-istudenti jkollhom jiddeċiedu bejn jibqgħux l-iskola tagħna fejn ikomplu jistudjaw għall-eżamijiet tas-SEC jew jagħżlu li jmorru fi skola fejn il-linjal tkun waħda aktar vokazzjonali, l-iskola tal-ALP.

Il-proċess jibda meta t-tim tal-*Guidance* jitkellmu mal-istudenti tal-għaxar sena u jinfurmawhom fuq din l-iskola. Biex wieħed ikun jista' jagħmel għażla tajba, l-istudenti interessati neħduhom żjara f'din l-iskola ta' Raħal Ġdid. L-ġħan ta' din iż-żjara hu li l-istudenti jkunu konxji ta' x'korsijsiet varji toffri din l-iskola kif ukoll jaraw oqsma differenti li wieħed jista' jagħżel. Fost dawn il-korsijsiet wieħed isib il-kors tax-xagħar u s-sbuħija, fuq karozzi u kors fuq l-agrikoltura. Il-kors tal-ALP huwa ta' sena u jwassal sa ċertifikat ta' livell 1 jew 2, jiddeppendi mill-marka tal-istudent. Din l-iskola toffri sena oħra f'livell post sekondarju-ALP Plus. Minn din il-ġurmata l-istudenti joħorġu sodisfatti għax ikunu feħmu aktar fejn tista' twassal din l-iskola tal-ALP u minn hemm, bl-ġħajjnuna tal-ġħalliema tal-*Guidance* jgħinuhom jagħżlu l-linjal li jkunu jixtiequ.

Nixtiequ nagħlilqu billi ngħidu prosi lill-istudenti kollha li ġew magħna din iż-żjara. L-imġiba tagħhom kienet waħda tajba u l-mistoqsjiet li għamlu lejn l-aħħar taż-żjara kienu juru l-interess tagħhom. Prosi lill-istudenti kollha.

*It-Tim tal-*Guidance**



FOREIGN STUDENTS IN OUR SCHOOL

During the scholastic year, there is a yearly intake of foreign students coming from different countries. The school staff and students do their utmost so that these students, besides receiving the best possible education, are also made to feel welcome in our school. These students bring along with them their own languages and cultures. This provides a wonderful opportunity for Maltese students to learn in an informal way, about different ways of life and traditions as well as to practise a variety of foreign languages. This will also help us realize that although there are certain differences due to our various backgrounds, we are all human beings with feelings and emotions. Today, we are going to meet three of these students who have made Malta their home. Let's see what they had to say...



Name: Gabriele Massignan

Year: 10

Country: Italy

I came from Italy two years ago. I had some problems at first but it wasn't that difficult to make friends. Now I feel a bit nostalgic for my homeland but I am still happy here. I feel that this school is better than the one in Italy because the teachers care more about their students even if in Italy classes were smaller. When I grow up I would like to become a biologist.



Name: Constantin Catalin Alexandru

Year: 10

Country: Romania

As a foreign student, I find the Maltese schools as being easy and efficient. The homework given by the teachers is easy to do and teachers here do not waste a lot of time. The teachers are very kind to me, they always offer to help me whenever I don't understand something. Furthermore, the students offer to help me as well. My classmates have managed to blend me in without any problems. At the beginning of the year, every time I got lost, someone came for me to show me the way to the respective classroom.

On the other hand, I find the half-yearly and annual exams very annoying. I have to do all of them, even though in the future they may not be of use to me. In addition, the uniform is not very comfortable. Regardless of the weather and temperature, it makes me sweat a lot. However it is not a big problem as the uniform is not really that important. I come to school to study. Last but not least, the waking up is a serious problem for me. The school starts very early in the morning, I have to wake up at 5.00 a.m. to prepare for school.



Overall, there are good and bad points about everything. Despite the exams, the uniform and the schedule, I still enjoy coming to this school.

Name: Suzana Bulić

Year: 10

Country: Serbia

I come from Serbia. I joined this school three years ago. At first I felt confused and lost but now I have lots of friends and I feel very happy at school although I have to admit that it was a bit difficult to make friends at first. When I compare Maltese schools to the ones I used to go to in Serbia, I think that here it is easier. After year 10, I would like to join the Alternative Learning Programme and then go to MCAST.



IMPORTANT DATES*

Date	Time	Event
26th March	08:00 - 14:00	Parents' Day
28th March - 5th April		Easter Holidays
6th April		First Day of Term 3
10th April	08:30 - 13:30	Trekking for Year 10 students
13th April	09:00 - 10:30	Career Exposure Celebration
16th April	08:00 - 14:20	Sports Day for Year 10 students
19th April	08:00 - 14:20	Casual Day
20th April	08:30 - 13:30	Trekking for Year 9 students
27th April	18:30	Celebration Day
28th & 29th April	18:30	Musical Joyful Joyful for the general public
2nd May	School ends at 11:50	SDP (Staff)
4th May	08:00 - 14:20	Sportsfest
23rd May	NO SCHOOL	SDP (Staff)
6th June	19:00	Festa Komunità
12th June - 28th June		Annual Exams
22nd June	19:00	Students' Bash
4th July	19:00	Form 5 Farewell

*Information is subject to change

NIDDISKUTU L-VJOLENZA DOMESTIKA FIL-PARLAMENT



Lejn l-aħħar tal-2017, saret kampanja ta' sittax-il ġurnata f'Malta biex il-poplu jiġi aktar konxju tal-vjolenza domestika f'pajjiżna. Matul din il-kampanja, aħna l-istudenti tal-Istudji Soċjali u tal-Istudji Ewropew minn skejjel differenti f'Malta ġejna mistiedna għal dibattit fil-Parlament mal-Membri Parlamentari biex niddiskutu x'jista' jsir biex jitnaqqas dan l-att kriminali li ħafna drabi jkun moħbi bejn l-erba' ħitan tad-dar.

Il-Vjolenza domestika tirreferi għal kull att ta' vjolenza li jsir minn membru domestiku wieħed fuq membri oħra tal-familja. Din tista' tkun emozzjonal, fizika, sesswali jew finanzjarja. Illum il-ġurnata, pajjiżi fl-Ewropa, fosthom Malta, qed jindirizzaw din il-problema bis-serjetà u qed jirrikonox Xu li din mhix problema tal-familja kkonċernata iżda tas-soċjetà ingenerali. Fl-2016, f'Malta ġew irrappurtati kwaži elf u tliet mitt każ ta' vjolenza domestika, fejn elf minnhom kienu vjolenza fuq in-nisa, iżda l-Ministru tal-Ugwäljanza Helena Dalli qalet li ħadd m'għandu idea kemm hi kbira din il-problema peress li ħafna min-nies ikkonċernati, jiddeċiedu li jżommu din il-problema għalihom personali u ma jirrapportaw.

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Fost l-opinjonijiet li tajna aħna l-istudenti fil-Parlament huma li rridu naħdmu biex neliminaw il-kultura maskilista li għandna f'Malta u tiżdied aktar



I-ugwaljanza. Eżempju ħafna drabi r-responsabbiltà tad-dar u tat-tfal taqa' għand l-omm, opportunitajiet fuq il-post tax-xogħol jingħataw aktar lill-irġiel peress li min iħaddem jaqta' qalbu jħaddem mara peress li din għandha dritt għal madwar erba' xħur liv tal-maternitā. Infatti xi membri parlamentari wkoll tkellmu li għalkemm kontra l-liġi, għad hawn postijiet tax-xogħol fejn certi ġħalliema, sempliciment għax huma nisa, jitħallsu anqas mill-irġiel għall-istess xogħol li jagħmlu. Mod ieħor ta' kif subien u bniet jiġu trattati differenti hu fl-iskejjel fejn għad hawn skejjal tal-bniet ma jipprovdus suġġetti meqjusa tas-subien bħall-Inġinerija u skejjal tas-subien li ma joffrux il-Home Economics.



Fil-Parlament, ivvutajna favur ħames mozzjonijiet. Iddiskutejna u qbilna dwar intervent fil-bidunett ta' meta tiġi rrappurtata l-problema. Tingħata l-ewwel għajjnuna kemm lill-aggressur u kif ukoll lill-vittma minn psikologi, counsellors u social workers. Jekk il-problema terġa' tirrepeti ruħha mill-aggressur, aħna qbilna li għandu jkun hemm pieni aktar ħorox biex jitwassal messaġġ li l-vjolenza qatt ma għandha tiġi accettata.



Tkellimna wkoll dwar il-vjolenza bejn il-koppji (*dating violence*). Sfortunatamente, qed jiżdiedu l-kaži fejn żgħażaq bejn it-tanax u d-dsatax-il sena qed jiġu mhedda minn ex-boyfriends tagħhom minħabba għira. L-istudenti qablu li l-vjolenza bejn il-koppji trid tkun meqjusa bħala reat daqs dak tal-vjolenza domestika. Il-vittmi tagħha għandhom isibu kull għajjnuna biex jirrapportawha mingħajr xkiel.

Mozzjoni oħra li qbilna dwarha fil-Parlament hi li l-Ġudikatura, il-Pulizija, l-Edukaturi u professjonisti oħrajn, bħal psikologi, counsellors u social workers għandhom jingħataw taħbi regolari u professjoni biex ikunu kapaċi jaħdmu bis-shiħ kontra l-vjolenza domestika u dik fid-dating u hekk il-vittmi ma jħossuhomx skomdi li jmorru jirrapportaw għax ikunu jafu li ser ikun hemm min jifhimhom.

Aħna l-istudenti qbilna wkoll li jibda jkun hawn kampanji kontinwi ta' kuxjenza soċjali (awareness) u programmi edukattivi ta' prevenzjoni huma meħtieġa biex iwasslu għal bidla fis-soċjetà u tinbena soċjetà verament bi drittijiet indaqs. Dawn jinkludu edukazzjoni minn età żgħira, korsijiet biex iħejju għaż-żwieġ, korsijiet għall-ġenituri fit-trobbija tal-ulied u korsijiet fuq relazzjonijiet sani mingħajr abbuż. Qbilna li dawn il-kampanji jridu jsiru permess tal-midja kemm tradizzjonal kif ukoll dik soċjali, messaġġi u attivitajiet pubblici oħra biex ikollhom l-aqwa effett fuq is-soċjetà. L-aħħar mozzjoni li vvutajna favuriha fil-Parlament hi l-liġi biex telmina d-differenza fil-pagi bejn is-sessi u kif ukoll biex tinkoraġġixxi lis-subien u l-bniet jidħlu għall-korsijiet li minnhom huma tradizzjonalment esklużi fuq bażi ta' ġeneru.

Din kienet esperienza sabiħa immens għalina l-istudenti għaxx mhux biss rajna kif jiġi mmexxi l-Parlament imma wkoll stajna nagħtu l-opinjoni tagħna u nivvutaw biex nuru jekk naqblux jew le mal-mozzjonijiet. Ejja bħala soċjetà naħdmu lkoll flimkien biex neliminaw il-vjolenza domestika.



Rachel Abela, Martina Sammut, Maya Schembri, Milagros Galea, Amy Buttigieg

Studenti tal-Għaxar Sena

MALTA JUNIOR SCIENCE OLYMPIAD

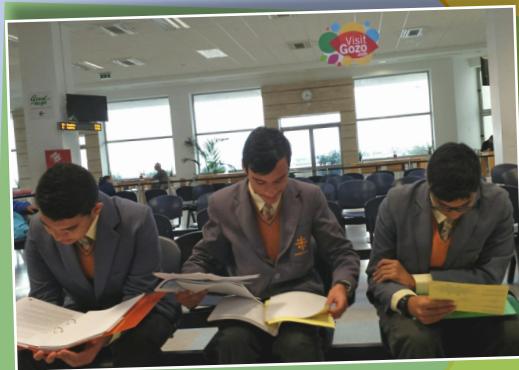


On Friday 24th November, Nikolai Agius, Karl Vella and Gerard Zammit Young, accompanied by their Chemistry teacher, Ms G. Schembri, represented our school in the fourth edition of the Malta Junior Science Olympiad. This event that targets gifted and talented Form 5 Science students was held at Gozo College Secondary School, Victoria Gozo and our team competed against twenty-eight groups coming from State, Church, Private and Independent schools. Our team of young scientists managed to achieve second place in this interschool competition and it was the first time that a group from our school managed to make it to the podium. In order to celebrate this success, Ms G. Schembri and Mr J. Azzopardi interviewed the team. The following are the students' replies:



Why were you so keen to participate?

When we were still in Form 1 and Form 2, the three of us took part in various science events and national competitions, one of which was a science competition organised by the NSTF where Nikolai, along with other students from Form 4 of that year, placed third. The same year, the Science Safari was won by the team which Karl and Gerard formed part of. After experiencing these events, we were keen on taking part in the Malta Junior Science Olympiad.



How did you prepare yourselves for the competition?

Each of us was assigned one of the sciences; Nikolai had biology, Karl had physics and Gerard had chemistry. We had extra 'training' lessons during the mid-day breaks about each subject from Mr Spagnol, Ms Grixti, Dr Gauci and Ms Schembri, who were a great help and provided very valuable information which we used during the competition.



What did the competition involve?

The competition involved going to the Gozo College Secondary School where we were given space in a laboratory and three booklets, one for each science subject. Each booklet consisted of two or more experiments which we had to perform. From the results of these experiments we could answer questions in the same booklet. We had to manage to do these experiments in three hours and after that we came back to Malta on the ferry.



What challenges did you encounter?



In the Biology part of the competition, one of the experiments involved a celery stick, which had been cut quite some time before the experiment. Consequently, some of the results were not so good. Cross-contamination was also a challenge as we only had a definite amount of beakers and test tubes which we could use.



How did you feel during the Award Ceremony?

Before arriving at the venue of the ceremony, we were all very excited, and we arrived just in time as it was about to begin. After a short feature about the competition and a talk from previous participants, the results were out! We had placed second. We felt really good about the podium place, but we were disappointed as the first place was within our reach.



Did you find this experience enriching?

We found this very enriching as we learnt a lot of new things both from training and the competition itself. We got valuable experience for the future and learnt how to think strategically to solve problems.

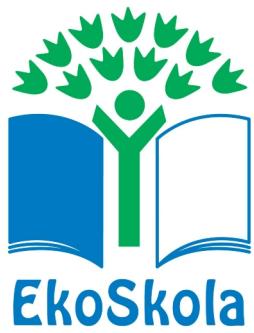


Did this experience lead to any opportunities?

Our participation and placement in the Science Olympiad led to an internship at the University of Malta next summer. We will be working in the Faculty of Science, each of us specialising in a different science subject. Furthermore, although unrelated to the Science Olympiad, Karl and Gerard will be embarking on a week-long trip to Romania at the beginning of August along with three other biology students and two teachers. They will shadow scientists carrying out their research in the Natura 2000 park in Transylvania. Both

these experiences will surely lead to more hands-on education which will surely help us in the future.

CHOOSING THE RIGHT FLUSHING SYSTEM



The Eco-Schools committee members at St Benedict College, Kirkop Secondary School carried out an assessment where it was found that the toilet flushing system throughout the school was consuming a lot of unnecessary water due to their button flushing. A survey was carried out by the same students and reported.

From this survey a three-year plan was proposed. This involves the changing of all the flushing systems from button flushing to cistern flushing of a specific floor, each year. This change will drastically reduce the amount of water consumed when flushing. To save even more water, the committee members proposed the installation of a tank on the rooftop to



collect rainwater, which would supply the water needed for the new cistern flushing toilets.

This proposal would not only greatly benefit the students and faculty of the school, but also the surrounding community that makes use of the school premises after school hours for football and sports activities, lifelong learning programmes and other extra-curricular activities.

The first year of this project is being funded by HSBC Malta Foundation in support of the Water Explorer Project coordinated locally by Eco-Schools/Nature Trust FEE Malta.

'The Eco-schools Committee'

TIKKA MATEMATIKA

This year our school hosted the national conference "Tikka Matematika" which was organised by the Directorate for Learning and Assessment Programmes in collaboration with the Institute for Education. This two-day conference was attended by a number of secondary school Mathematics teachers together with other primary school teachers and members of the SMT. Its main aim was to disseminate examples of sound pedagogical practices in teaching mathematics.



This conference, held on Tuesday 20th and Wednesday 21st February, was partly financed through funding from the European H2020 research & innovation programme – project Scientix³ coordinated by European Schoolnet (EUN).



The programme included different presentations and various workshops on both days. The 160 participants attending the conference were addressed by Hon. Evarist Bartolo, Minister of Education and by the Director General, Mr Stephen Cachia. They also had the opportunity to participate in an interactive presentation and in a workshop prepared by Prof. Colin Foster who is an Assistant Professor at the Centre for Research in Mathematics Education in the School of Education at the University of Nottingham, UK. Teachers and members of the SMT also prepared presentations on the good practices organised in their own school. These presentations varied from whole school approaches to class based systems in the teaching and learning of mathematics.



One can say that this conference was an outstanding achievement. It was a good opportunity for people involved in mathematics education to share ideas and experiences and create networking opportunities. The underlying perspective of the conference was quality mathematics teaching and learning for all.

'The Mathematics Department'

L-GħANJA TAL-POPLU ŻGħażagħ 2018

L-Għanja tal-Poplu Żgħażagħ



Nhar il-Ğimġha 2 ta' Marzu it-teatru tal-iskola sekondarja tal-Kullegg San Benedittu ra fih għall-ewwel darba festival nazzjonali b'xandira diretta fuq TVM2. Dan wara li l-iskola tagħna ġiet mistiedna tkun il-co-producer tal-kumitat I-Għanja tal-Poplu biex torganizza dan il-festival immirat għaż-żgħażagħ wara nuqqas ta' tnax-il sena.

Fost il-kantanti finalisti, li ikoll kellhom bejn il-ħdax u s-sittax-il sena, kien hemm żewġ cantanti li rrappreżentaw lill-iskola tagħna. Thea Aquilina, li kantat il-kanzunetta *Kieku Nista'*, ikklassifikat fit-tieni post fis-sezzjoni għal studenti li ġejjin minn skola sekondarja, filwaqt li Aidan Jay Drakard kien ir-rebbieħ ta' dan il-festival bid-dwett *Dwell* li kanta flimkien ma' Eliana Gomez Blanco. Bħala parti mill-premju, Aidan u Eliana se jkunu qed jirrappreżentaw lil pajjiżna f'festival I-Italja iktar tard din is-sena.

Il-kantanti kollha kienu akkumpanjati minn grupp ta' sittax-il mužičist mill-*Malta Concert Orchestra*, taħt it-tmexxija ta' Maestro Joe Brown. Il-preżentaturi ta' dan il-festival kienu wkoll żewġ studenti mill-iskola tagħna, Kayley Cuschieri u Nathan Aquilina, flimkien ma' Corazon. L-eks-student tagħna Tristan Zammit kelli wkoll sehem fil-ġbid ta' kartolini li ntwerew qabel kull kanzunetta u filmati oħra li ntużaw għall-promozzjoni.

Filwaqt li nawguraw minn qalbna lir-rebbieħa ta' dan il-festival u nawguraw lilhom u lill-kantanti kollha l-isbaħ xewqat għall-futur tagħhom, inheġġu aktar żgħażagħ sabiex jitħajru jieħdu sehem fil-edizzjoni li jmiss, mhux biss bħala cantanti imma b'iktar sehem fil-kitba u l-kompożizzjoni ta' kanzunetti bil-Malti immirati għaż-żgħażagħ.

Is-Sa R. Mamo
Performing Arts

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B.U.

BE YOURSELF

B.U. – Be Yourself. Kienet rappreżentazzjoni teatrali maħsuba u mtellgħha kollha kemm hi mill-istudenti bħala parti mill-kors li qed isegwu fil-Performing Arts

b'kollaborazzjoni mal-MCAST. L-istudenti kienu preparati ħafna u rnexxielhom iwasslu messaġġ verament qawwi permezz tal-korjografija tagħhom. Matul iż-żewġ rappreżentazzjonijiet kien hemm skiet perfett u kulħadd kien qed jitpaxxa bil-ġmiel ta' żfin u effetti tad-dawl. Imma l-aktar importanti, kulħadd kien qed jgħarbel il-messaġġ li riedu jwasslu l-istudenti tagħna.

Kulħadd għandu l-karatru tiegħu, kulħadd għandu l-istil tiegħu kif ukoll id-differenzi tiegħu, kulħadd jaħsibha b'mod differenti...imma dan m'għandu qatt iħallina ninqatgħu għalina. M'għandniex niddejqu nuru minn aħna jew kif naħsbuha, kif nidħru u kif inħossuna. Wara kolloks id-diversità tista' tgħaqqadna.

L-istorja hi dwar koppja li t-tnejn jappartjenu għal stil ta' ħajja differenti minn ta' xulxin. Għall-bidu ma kinitx faċċi speċjalment meta jinkixef il-vera karattru tal-persuna. Imma wara kolloks fid-diversità, il-ħajja tista' tkun isbaħ u aktar interessanti. Basta nuru rispett u tolleranza lejn xulxin.

Ir-rappreżentazzjoni kompliet b'monologu miktub u interpretat minn Samuel Sacco, student fl-iskola tagħna. Sacco qasam mal-udjenza l-esperjenza personali tiegħu. Però l-kliem magħżul kien mirqum b'tali mod li kulħadd seta' jaddatta l-istess kliem għalihi personali. Kien mument li litteralment sammar lil kulħadd mas-siġġu jaħseb biss fuq ħaġa waħda. M'għandna qatt nittimbrar jew niġġudikaw lil ħadd. U kulħadd għandu jkollu l-kuraġġ sabiex juri hu min hu basta ma jweġġa' u joffendi lil ħadd.





L-ewwel parti għalqet b'kanzunetta originali: Wake Up – B.U. miktuba, komposta u interpretata minn Maria Bellia, studenta tal-għaxar sena. Il-kanzunetta, ukoll b'messaġġ qawwi, kienet animata b'filmat mill-isbaħ u kienet milqugħha b'ċapċip kbir minn dawk preżenti.

Din ir-rappreżentazzjoni kompliet b'forum. Filgħodu kellna 3 żgħażaqgħ ta' kuraġġ u ispirazzjoni. Minkejja n-nuqqasijiet fiżiċi tagħhom, huma żgħażaqgħ li verament inisslu fiduċja. Kellna wkoll l-unur li magħna tingħaqad l-Eċċellenza tagħha, il-President ta' Malta, Marie-Louise Coleiro Preca.

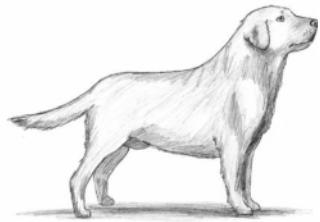
Filgħaxija l-forum tmexxa minn Mark Laurence Zammit u kelli miegħu jiddiskutu lil Oliver Scicluna, Kevin Cutajar, Chuck Bartolo u Deborah Schembri. Id-diskussjoni kienet waħda interessanti ferm fejn kulħadd, fil-qasam tiegħu, seta' jiddiskuti aktar dwar kemm hu importanti li naċċettaw lil kulħadd hu kif inhu.

B'sodisfazzjon, innutajna wkoll li kienu diversi sorsi ta' midja li taw prominenza lil din l-attività u dan jimliena aktar b'kuraġġ biex sena oħra nerġgħu ntellgħu produzzjoni b'messaġġ bħal dawn l-aħħar sentejn.

*Is-Sur K. Scicluna
Performing Arts*



Dar misterjuža



Kont id-dar waħdi u ma kelli xejn x'nagħmel, għalhekk mort passiġġata bil-kelb fl-imwarrab qalb il-kampanja. It-temp ma tantx kien jidher li se jippermetti. Fil-fatt, qabdet traxxax wara ftit u kulma jmur bdiet iżżejjid. Kont ninsab 'il bogħod mid-dar, għaldaqstant fittixt post fejn nistkenn sakemm tbatti x-xita.

Fil-vičin rajt dar kbira b'parapett. Mort nistkenn hemm, fuq l-ewwel tarġa li sibt. F'hin bla waqt smajt ħoss ta' bieb iżaqżaq u xħin indur, insib il-bieb tad-dar imbexxaq. Dak il-ħin, qomt biex mingħalija niskuża ruħi ma' sid id-dar talli qbadt u poġġejt bilqiegħda hemm, iżda ħadd ma tfaċċa. Il-kurżitā għelbitni. Dħalt ġo din id-dar antika bil-kelb miegħi biex nara x'hemm u x'm'hemmx. Kif dħalt ma stajt nara xejn ħlief dlam ċappa u ħassejt degħħxa bard ma' ġismi kollu.

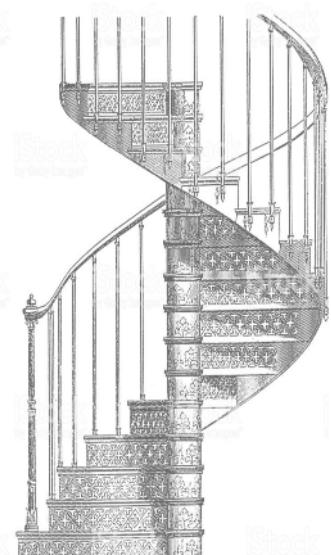
F'daqqa waħda smajt il-pjanu jdoqq waħdu melodiji antiki u drammatiċi li jqanqlulek sens ta' biżże'. Anke l-kelb beda jibża' u jinbaħ bla heda iżda jien ridt inkompli nesplora din id-dar misterjuža. Għalhekk, bqajt dieħla fil-kċina u msarni niżlu f'saqajja hekk kif il-kxaxen bdew jinfetħu u jingħalqu weħidhom. Ħassejt xi ħadd jimbuttani minn dahri u jħaxwex ġo widnejja kliem li m'għandix minn xiex nibżza' u biex inpoġġi bilqiegħda u nieħdu kafè flimkien. Iżda hekk kif rajt is-siġġu ta' mal-mejda jersaq waħdu, twerwirt u ħrabt niġri 'i barra mill-kċina b'kemm kelli saħħha. Jien u ħierġa waqtaft soptu. Rajt bħal dawl ħiereġ mill-kamra tas-salott u mort nittawwal.



Id-dawl kien ġej minn ħuġgieja b'ħafna xemgħat madwarha. Kienet kamra lussuža b'ħafna nkawtri antiki miksijin bid-deheb, purtieri mill-isbaħ disinn u materjal, ritratti ta' nies li kienu jidhru ġejjin minn żmien żemżem, ġojjelli u linfa kbira f'nofs il-kamra kollha deheb u kristalli. Bqajt impressjonata bis-sbuhija li kien hemm, iżda mbeżzgħha fl-istess ħin. Snieni bdew iċekċku bil-biżże' xħin rajt is-siġġu ta' qrib il-ħuġġiega jiċċaqlaq waħdu. Tirt 'i barra fil-kuritur. Kien hemm garigor u kont se nitla' fuq biex niskopri x'sigrieri oħra taħbi din id-dar. Imma malajr biddilt fehimti hekk kif meddejt l-ewwel pass fuq it-tarġa.

Passi neżlin it-taraġġ bdew jinstemgħu ġejjin. Indunajt li kemm jien u kemm il-kelb konna fil-periklu. Ħriġt 'i barra mid-dar u ġrejtha kemm flaħt lura lejn id-dar.

B'nifsi maqtugħi, smajt leħen ommi jgħajjatli u tistaqsini xi ġrali. Qomt u sibt ruħi fis-sodda fil-kamra tiegħi! Mid-dehra għamel bija l-film li rajt qabel tlajt norqed!



Minn fuq iz-zuntier tal-knisja

X'ma tarax minn fuq iz-zuntier tal-knisja? Il-biċċa l-kbira ta' kull min jidħol jew joħroġ mir-raħal irid jgħaddi minn quddiemu. Is-solitudni għaż-żuntier ma teżistix ħlief għal xi sigħat tard billejl, għalkemm hemm nofs tużżana qtates dejjem jippassiġġaw min-naħha għall-oħra.

Fi żmien l-iskola, ta' kull filgħodu, prajvits u vannijiet jieqfu maġenb iz-zuntier jiġbru l-istudenti li jkunu qed jistennew biex jitilqu għall-iskola. Min ikun bilqiegħda nofsu rieqed fuq it-taraġ taz-zuntier, min ikun qed jiekol xi biċċa ħobż jew inkella jagħmel ix-xogħol tad-dar tal-iskola li jkun nesa jagħmel. Fuq in-naħha tax-xellug taz-zuntier hemm stejġ tal-karozza tal-linjal li ffit li xejn ikun vojt min-nies. Fuq kull naħha taz-zuntier hemm il-bankijiet tal-injam fejn kull ġenerazzjoni tpoġġi fuqhom. L-anzjani jħobbu jqattgħu xi siegħha hemm jgħidu kelma u jaraw x'inħu għaddej mit-toroq madwar iz-zuntier, filwaqt li klikek ta' żgħażaq għad-dan.

Fis-sigħat bikrin ta' filgħodu minn fuq iz-zuntier tara ċ-ċumnija ddaħħan u ffit wara tibda xxomm riħha taqsam ta' ħobż. Aktar tard ir-riħha tinbidel f'pastzzi, pizza, timpana u issa anke kejkijiet. Maġenb il-furnar hemm tal-kafè tat-tisjir u meta r-riħ ikun jagħti għal fuq iz-zuntier, timmaġinak qed tieħu xi kikkra. Ffit 'l-isfel hemm il-każin tal-banda tar-raħal u minn fuq iz-zuntier tista' ssegwi xi programm tal-banda fiż-żmien il-festa filwaqt li tittpaxxa tara l-ġmiel tal-bini jew kif jgħidulu l-'palazz'. Fuq ix-xellug taz-zuntier hemm tal-ħaxix li kuljum tarah iġib il-ħnejx u frott frisk tal-ġħalqa tiegħu mill-vann. Minn fuq iz-zuntier tara wkoll il-ħanut taż-żeġbha kif ukoll il-barbier li Alla jbierku dejjem għaddej jaqta' x-xagħar bl-amment.

Fuq kull naħha taz-zuntier hemm erba' siġriet li għandhom għomor ta' bniedem. Mijiet t'għasafar tal-bejt joqogħdu qalb il-friegħi ħadrana tagħhom. Minn fuq iz-zuntier tisma' tgeġwiġija sħiħa ta' tisfir u weraq jiċċaqlaq 'l hemm u 'l hawn. Barra minn hekk, mal-ħin jiġi l-ħamiem inaqqar mill-frak tal-ħobż li jkun fadal. Fil-pjazza ta' quddiem iz-zuntier isiru bosta attivitajiet speċjalment fil-Milied, fil-Karnival, fl-Ġhid u iż-żejed matul il-ġimgħha tal-festa. Minn fuq it-taraġ taz-zuntier tara l-atmosfera tal-festa b'mod speċjali n-nart tal-art u dak tal-ajru li jtuh eż-żarru minn quddiemu.

Insomma, minn fuq iz-zuntier tal-knisja tara kull tip ta' spettaklu. Nies ta' kull lewn, min mghaġġel jew min miexi bil-lajma, min jgħajjat jew isaffar, min jaqsam bl-adoċċ u min jgħaddi jsuq qisu f'tellieqa. Bla dubju minn fuq iz-zuntier tal-knisja żgur tisma' ħin jew ieħor l-ilħna tat-tfal ikantaw jew il-mužika taż-żgħażaq għad-dan waqt xi quddiesa jew laqgħa.

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Skola Sekondarja, Kirkop.**

B'risq: Qalb it-tfal

Segwuna fuq is-sit tal-fb **Benedittu Productions** għal aktar dettalji

Bord Editorjali:

Editur:

Claire Camilleri

Disinn:

Adrian Galea

Issettjar:

Jurgen Azzopardi

Fotografija:

Għalliema varji

Qari tal-Provi
u tajpisti:

Desiree Dimech,

Elizabeth Grech Scicluna,

Evangeline Azzopardi,

Francesco Bonello,

Joseph Spiteri,

Kirsty Callus,

Sue Ellen Cachia.

Stampar:

CopyServ Ltd.
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77 940 904
info@copyserve.com

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