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“The future depends on what you do today.”
Mahatma Gandhi

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Editorial

Motto:

"Life can only be understood backwards; but it must be lived forwards."

Søren Kierkegaard

How many times have you wanted to accomplish something overnight? How many times have you been disappointed that you weren't able to get what you wanted right then, on the spot? Well, apparently, we've all been there at one point. It seems we've been programmed to have little to no patience. The good news is that we can learn the art of endurance and expectation. Let me explain.

The year is 1977. Prehistoric times for you, right? Well, not quite so for a team of scientists at NASA who, back then, launched two "space vehicles" to travel across the solar system and beyond. The aim? To yell out loud that we exist and maybe even be heard. Forty years have passed and the two vehicles, *Voyager 1* and *Voyager 2*, only left our solar system at the end of last year. Currently, they are the only man-made objects travelling beyond the area of influence of our sun. Yet, they carry the message of the entire humankind to whoever or whatever might, one day, intercept one or both vehicles.

Will the missions be successful? We can't say for sure. The results will be assessed only by looking backwards from a potential, very distant moment in the future. Still, the scientists on the project have only looked forwards. They couldn't have done otherwise.

This is exactly what you should do while in school. Set a goal, make the most of whatever opportunities arise, and be patient enough for the results to start coming in. After all, tomorrow depends on what you do today.

Dorel Toduț

Being a freshman

Freshman year taught me how to be responsible and independent. I have never worked as hard as I did to earn my grades like during freshman year. I think my elementary and secondary school teachers spoiled me through the fact that every assignment I did, I worked hard, put effort into it, and got an automatic A+. I learned, however, that life is not always about endless success. It takes trials, failure and much learning in order to achieve something. The experiences I had during this year showed me that it is time to grow up.

Alexandru Bondrea, IX C

Expectation: I first thought that teachers won't be friendly, and they will try their best to make our life harder in these 4 years.

Reality: After the accommodation period, you will find out that here, teachers are really friendly and will try to help you with whatever you need.

Expectation: I thought that grades will be around five or six because we all know that this is the best High School in the city!

Reality: In reality, you can get a ten very easily if you study a bit, and the teachers will often give you chances to improve your mark in a test paper.

Expectation: When I first came here I thought that I won't have any friends, just because here everyone has his old friends and I am new.

Reality: You will find someone to talk with very easy and you don't have to be afraid.

Cătălin Feier, IX C

It is a remarkable experience. I am glad that I came to this school and from the first step into the class, into the school better said, I felt that this is where I've always meant to be. Overall until now it has been an astonishing experience and I think that the teachers play an important role for that.

Marcian Șuta, IX B

English My Love

Being a freshman

Au début de l'année, quand j'ai mis mon pied dans la cour de l'école, je savais que je l'adorerais. Être un nouvel élève dans une école dont vous ne connaissez pas grand-chose, surtout quand vous êtes dans la 9e. Pas à pas, j'ai appris de plus en plus sur le lycée et je me suis senti comme s'il en faisait partie. Le Collège National „Ioan Slavici" est un lycée magnifique (et une école) et je suis heureuse d'être venu ici pour apprendre.

Georgiana Filip, IX C

Since I heard of this school, I decided I wanted to come here to continue my studies. When I first arrived here I was only thinking about how I could keep up with the others. After some time I understood that I am not that bad. Now I only think about what I would do if I had not chosen to come here. Where would I go? I cannot wait for the other challenges that this school will launch. I am happy that I've chosen to come here!

Georgiana Filip, IX C

My experience as a freshman was a beautiful one, I spent many moments I will never forget.

Denis Bumba, IX B

This school year I've become a freshmen at this awesome school. At first, I was scared of what's to come, not knowing the teachers, my classmates and the school itself that well. As the weeks and months have passed I got to know the wonderful teachers at this school , I have made a lot of friends through different activities and clubs that the school has. I was pleasantly surprised by the friendly atmosphere all around the school. This school year I have discovered new things that I like thanks to the different competitions that the teachers present us with. It was an amazing experience being a freshman and being new to everything!

Casia Hoduț, IX B

Quand je suis arrivé ici pour la première fois au lycée, je pensais que ce serait beaucoup plus difficile, mais l'apparente tricherie.

Je pensais que personne ne me compterait, mais je me suis fait beaucoup d'amis. Tout semblait très étrange et incompréhensible, mais je m'y suis habitué et maintenant je trouve toutes les choses plus normales que je ne le pensais.

Darius Cîcău, IX B

Literary Works

Who?

Who are you going to lie to

When all you need is truth?

Who are you going to cry yourself to

When all you need is love?

Who is the person who always stays

When they could choose to leave?

Why are you hiding from the light

When fights are taking over?

Who are you to stay away

From the happiness that's given?

Am I gone or are you me?

Who am I talking to now?

So many questions, so much pain

And still I'm holding on to.

No tears can tear me down

When feelings are like stone

But when all falls apart

I'm like a rainy storm ...

Who are you going to lie to

When all you need is truth?

Who are you going to cry yourself to

When all you need is love?

Andra Cojocariu, X A

Articles

The Christmas Fair

The Christmas Fair was an event specially organized to raise funds for some less fortunate children. We were happy to plan it, prepare for it and design a special display, always having in mind that our actions will help those children who, unfortunately, do not have everything they want. The students who wanted to help brought various goodies (cake, cookies, muffins, hot chocolate, etc.) which, for a certain price, were sold to our schoolmates and teachers. Everyone brought their contribution to this fair, no matter how small, and this event

will stay forever in our minds and soul. We are grateful for the support that our teachers and colleagues gave to us and we hope that this fair will take place next year too.



Antonia Şipoş, Diana Dănciuţ, Maria Barbu, 7th grade

La Roumanie surprenante

La Roumanie surprenante? Je dirais que les Roumains par la façon dont ils savaient être unis, ont créé un vrai moyen d'attrait indépendant, libre.

Il est vrai, nous ne nous sommes pas toujours remarqués par la paix et le bonheur, mais il ne peut pas tout être totalement parfait. Peut-être, juste le chaos et la frustration que nous avons supprimés, sont ce qui nous ont approchés, lors des protestes de la rue, par exemple.

Le long du temps, la Roumanie a été surprenante de plusieurs façons. J'ai été blâmé, jugé pour négligence, soumission, échec social, éducatif ou autre. Mais nous ne sommes pas comme ça! Nous sommes de la rue et l'âme de la révolution, nous sommes des jeunes avec des rêves, des aspirations qui nous sont incroyables et les citoyens d'un pays aux paysages qui peuvent voler le regard et qui rend la vie étonnante. Et si elle mérite d'être vécue?

Roxana Goie, XI D

Un séjour de rêve

J'ai eu la chance d'avoir participé au Concours de rédaction en français « Le Printemps de l'écriture » et le jury français m'a offert un prix. Cela veut dire, un séjour à Valence !

C'était une expérience unique que je ne regrette pas d'avoir vécue.

J'ai appris de nouvelles choses et j'ai rencontré des gens chaleureux et accueillants avec lesquels j'ai eu la chance de passer des jours merveilleux.

Les musées et les bâtiments historiques sont dans un état exceptionnel et conservés dans leur ancien air; on a donc l'impression de les parcourir depuis longtemps.

Tout le monde en France fait très attention à ce qu'ils mangent, leur frigo étant chargé de produits bio.

Je suis reconnaissante de cette chance et j'invite les étudiants qui remportent ce concours à ne pas abandonner cette opportunité.



Pop Iulia, X E

European Youth Parliament

Going to EYP as an introvert person was a big deal for me. I went on a journey in which I learned how to manage my anxiety when it comes to public speaking.

My subject was about vaccinations. I had to convince all the people over there that they NEED to get the MMR vaccine. Like you could imagine, it wasn't easy for me.

Me and my team had to work together in order to fulfil the task. But first we had to play games for teambuilding. Three days I only slept for 2 hours, but it was worth it. I would go to bed all exhausted and wake up excited for a new day, new projects, new challenges. You could say I had the most fun, but I also worked hard and never missed a deadline. Moments like that I will cherish all my life.

First day there, we just got closer as a team and presented our city to the other teams. Second day, we worked so hard on getting our resolutions done and be prepared for the actual contest. Third day, we presented our resolutions and defended our team's subject with all our might. It was so consuming, but in the end our subject didn't pass. I guess we didn't convince the others.

We arrived home sad because after you leave EYP, you really miss it.

Bianca Anton, XI C

The National English Olympiad 2019

Many people asked what participating in the National English Olympiad means to me. The answer is four simple words: a dream come true. I loved every second of it from the minute I got on the train to the moment I returned home and parted with my colleagues.



The competition was, while hard and quite demanding of us, a thrilling experience. It helped me develop many skills and establish my level of knowledge amongst the best students. I believe The English Olympiad is very focused on developing our speaking skills and this can help anyone become more sociable and communicate with many more people because English is such a widely known language. Also, it teaches you creative writing and this way you can explore your imagination and discover yourself in a better way. Many of us attending this competition have a true passion for this beautiful language and it allowed us to explore it at its full potential, through reading, writing and speaking.

The people I went there with were absolutely amazing. I discovered some great persons with genuinely good intentions and nice personalities. No one talked bad about the others or tried to bring them down, in fact we encouraged

and congratulated each other every chance we got. I knew some people from before the Olympiad and it was super easy to integrate into the group. We talked, laughed and shared our experiences and hobbies; there wasn't one time of awkward silence when we were all together. I found myself at ease amongst these students, but also around the teacher that accompanied us. She was laid back and truly let us enjoy the experience.

Atmosphere is another important thing I want to touch upon. At the two ceremonies I attended the speeches and the message transmitted were impactful. The important figures put emphasis on the fact that all of us are great whether we are the first place or the last. One person said she would rename the Olympiad B.E.S.T. meaning Brilliant English Students and Teachers. At the opening ceremony they praised excellence in all fields and showed us how beautiful art really is, starting from singing, dancing and even cheerleading. The award ceremony was another example of appreciation for every student, once again empowering the message that we are all winners.

Overall, I would classify this National Olympiad as one of the best times in my life. It was everything I aspired it to be. This experience helped me grow as a person, it opened many doors for me and allowed me to get great acquaintances.

Ştefania Silaghi, X A

Me and Geography

Geography is the science of our beautiful planet. By studying it, we learn from how our planet works to its population. Geography is, for all the competitors, the Olympics of the passion, so as it is for me.

I remember 3 years ago, in the 8th grade, my biggest dream was to go to the

Geography National Contest. My dream came true when the teacher called me and gave me the big news. I was the happiest kid on earth that day. Then came the national stage of the contest. There I met beautiful, intelligent colleagues, people and beside this I was in my world, surrounded by people with the same passion and that spoke the same language: geography language. I loved so much the experience that I went to the Geography National Contest the following 2 years too.

This year was my 3rd participation and I can say that this was the most beautiful week and experience in my life. I had been preparing for this stage 10-12 hour per day for 3 weeks. There I lived the biggest emotions so far, because the "battle" for the first place was very tight. When I saw the final results, I could not believe that I was on the first place! I felt like crying, screaming, jumping... It was unbelievable! Everybody was so so happy for me. What's more, I think we had the most amazing, united team and we stood as one from the beginning to the end.

Geography opens up a lot of your vision of the world you live in, of what's going on with it and on it. Therefore, it has changed my life, the way of living, and now I can only thank all those who helped me discover its beauty.

Daria Ștefănescu, X A



RoboTeach 4 Future

Hello! We're the RoboTeach 4 Future team and we're here to present you our project and ourselves! Let's start with the beginning and talk to you about the process of building up the team and coming up with a promising idea. As most of the school projects start, ours also did so with the cliché: "Who is interested in joining this kind of project?". The ambitious 10 members of course volunteered and so a team full of ambitious and persevering students came to life. Soon the concept of a smart home came up and we went with it. We



realised that before making any important decision we should decide more precisely what the smart home functions should be. So, we came up with the actual idea of the project: building a miniature smart home and then control its functions by using an app.

The first step to building the smart home was a 2D projection of the house and thinking what features it is going to have. Right after having that general idea, our job has been divided into two big parts. First, to build the actual house and its furniture, and second to write the programme and connect the wires. Arduino uses C language, which is similar to C++, a computer programming language that we manage quite well.



Speaking of the first part, it is worth mentioning that the walls of the house are made of wood, which ensures the longevity of the miniature. The house and the garden are placed on a slab of about 90 x 100 centimetres. The windows of the house were made of plexiglass, and the yard is based on artificial grass decorated like a real garden. It was hard enough to buy the furniture, because there were few suitable models found in the stores, so we have completed it from various materials. I have to admit that a very beautiful and fun part of the house building process was the painting of the walls, because it was a messy job and the situation quickly became funny when we were making mistakes.

In the second part, when we focused on programming, we had the joy of learning new things and how important IT is to a better future. Also, classes in physics and computer science have been put into practice, which has helped us to better understand them.



Now the house has different functions such as switching the lights on and off, a fireplace, a fountain in the yard that can be controlled by the remote control. We also used many sensors, such as light, temperature, motion sensors etc. As part of our project, we also have to go and introduce ourselves to the middle school students. Surely this project has been a beautiful experience for all of us, and we thank teacher Kabai Timea for her guidance.

Miruna Pop, Alex Turbuț, X B

Letter to anyone dealing with life

I know that at school we are supposed to find out things and information to make our brain smarter and to acknowledge facts but has anyone thought about our hearts? I mean I understand that we are pupils and teachers and everybody have their roles but has someone took a minute and asked yourselves how we are, how we feel, how we deal with feelings? I also know that I am just a pupil and I haven't seen so many parts of life yet, but I am sure that it is hard dealing with life and you have to make mistakes until you learn, even the strongest ones went through the hardest times. I look at us, at the people in our school and I see people smiling, hiding their problems and their flaws, which is somehow sad but also beautiful, and those people who are going through the biggest problems and are still doing good and are still kind deserve all the appreciation, we all have ups and downs, someday we are all messed up and we say that we can't do this anymore but we are also here, living our lives despite all the problems. Even though you think that life hates you, believe me, life doesn't hate you, it's only testing you, if you love yourself, life will do the same. First, we have to fix ourselves and then everything will get fixed too.

"You need chaos in your soul to give birth to a dancing star" - Friedrich Nietzsche.

Adriana Tărcan, XI C

Dog affection

Dogs express their emotions in a variety of ways ranging from super subtle to totally obvious so, sometimes, it can be tough to tell whether an expression is positive or negative.

Some ways dogs show their love:

-eye contact: when your dog looks at you, her brain releases oxytocin. Known as the "love hormone," oxytocin is the same hormone mothers' brains release when they're first bonding with their babies.

-they lean against you: whether you're sitting on the floor or couch, if your dog leans against you, it means he feels safe, secure, and totally comfortable. Sometimes dogs will lean against their humans when they're feeling scared or anxious, but that only means he sees you as his protector.

-they want to sleep in your bedroom: wanting to be close to you while you're sleeping signals that they are totally loyal and don't want to be separated from the pack.



-they are super happy when you get home

-they "Check In" on you when you're not in the same room

Maxim Bianca, XII D

Adopting a pet

To rescue a pet is to take care of a pet that was abandoned or lost by his previous owner. This kind of pets can come from a shelter or many non-governmental organizations involved in saving pets all around the world.

Until now, I adopted one dog from the shelter and over 10 cats from the street. From my personal experience I can tell you that this is one of the best things I've done in my whole life.

I adopted Aisha from the local shelter. In the beginning she was a problematic dog, she ran away from home every night and we had to search for her over and over. She was scared of everything and after 6 years of being part of my family she is still scared of people. She only lets me, my brother and my parents to pet her. I think I achieved my greatest goal with her because 2 weeks ago she let me hug her without trying to escape from my arms.

One year ago, I received as a gift from my brother a dog. Jethro was very spoiled from the beginning. He took car rides with us, ate only expensive food, had a lot of toys and so on. I cannot say that I don't love him and he doesn't love me back, but the joy I see in Aisha's eyes every time she looks at me is bigger.

Now I have 2 cats adopted from the street AK – 47 and Beretta 74. Before them my first pet was a cat, Agath. He was so spoiled! One day he just disappeared. After losing him I didn't want any cats around me, until my tomcats came around. I didn't t make the same mistake as with Aga and I can tell that every time I look at them I feel happier knowing that I didn't give them all the toys in the world and they still love me.

By taking a pet home you'll change a homeless animal's whole world. In general, animals at shelter or on the street were abused or the owner didn't care about them because they were just some animals that come and go or they have too many of them, but you can condemn those people because they don't understand how the bond between a human being and a pet works.

Compared to the cost of purchasing a pet, adopting one from an animal shelter is relatively inexpensive. Adopting a pet is not about giving them toys and expensive food, it's about the love you receive only by looking in their eyes.

Maria Bota, X A

CNIS Girls' Volleyball Team

CNIS has an amazing volleyball team. We are very motivated to win every match we play together, but that comes from all the laughs and fun that we have together during practice.

We have known each other for a long time now and we have formed strong bonds and amazing friendships. During practice there is no pressure, only smiles and the echo of our laugh through the gym. Our coach is a very kind and patient person, who gives us great advice and he confides in our team captain's decisions.

We have won last years' and this years' volleyball Olympiad in our city and we have no doubt that that will be the case for next year as well. This year we had an amazing gallery from our colleagues and friends from the school, which helped us a lot and determined us to give our best. We are all extremely grateful for this great family that we have formed. I love my team!!

Arianna Lucuț, XI C

Soccer – America's new favourite sport

In 2019, America's presumably most beloved sport, the football, would be preparing for its historic night, as the New England Patriots would take on the LA Rams in SuperBowl 53, the final of the NFL playoffs. The attendance was remarkable, scarcely over 70000 fans would invade Mercedes-Benz Stadium in Atlanta, ready to watch this illustrious sports event. But, as



surprising as it may seem, America preferred another sport during this time, as thus dethroning football as the most adored sport in the US. At the 2018 MLS Cup final, which was disputed between Atlanta United and the Portland Timbers, over 73000 fans

flooded the same stadium where the Superbowl was to be played, making this MLS Cup final one of the most memorable ones so far.

But what exactly turned soccer into such a phenomenon in the United States of America? As Peter Vermes himself said, the United States Men's National Team (also known as the USMNT) would be the away team even in their own backyard! It all goes back to the 1994 FIFA World Cup, the moment when the American public finally learned about the beauties of soccer. The US were the hosts of this highly prestigious tournament, and men like Tim Meola, Cobi Jones and many others showed the public what their own countrymen were capable of onto the pitch, even managing to make it out of the group stage after defeating Colombia! Ever since then, the soccer culture in the US could not help but explode, the impact being so big that the Major League Soccer (MLS) had one of the biggest headstarts in terms of success in the history of the United States professional sports leagues!

As of today, the United States have imposed themselves as a power in the soccer world, and players such as Landon Donovan, Tim Howard and Clint

Dempsey have left their mark forever into one of America's favourite sports. The USMNT has made it to almost all the World Cup final tournaments, almost every time making it out of the group stage. And with the forever increase of soccer amongst teenagers and young children alike, it seems like there are no obstacles that the United States won't pass when it comes to soccer.

Paul Vasvari, XI C

Die positive Folgen von Videospiele

Das Aufkommen von Computern hat für die Menschheit große Fortschritte gebracht. In den letzten Jahrzehnten ist daraus eine neue Unterhaltungsindustrie entstanden: die Videospiele. Da sie so populär sind, wird oft gesagt, dass Videospiele nur zweifellos negative Folgen haben. Ich glaube jedoch, dass Videospiele von Vorteil sein können, wenn man regelmäßig (aber nicht übermäßig) spielen.

Erstens ist ein Vorteil von Videospiele die schnellere Reaktionszeit und bessere Hand-Auge-Koordination, die man entwickeln kann. Dies ist das Ergebnis der anhaltenden Aufmerksamkeit und des schnellen Handelns, die Spiele erfordern. Mit der Zeit wird man im Allgemeinen wacher, die Aufmerksamkeitsspanne steigt und die Reflexe werden besser.

Zweitens haben heutzutage Videospiele auch eine soziale Seite. Viele Spiele werden in Gruppen gespielt und als Teil eines Teams lehrt man den Wert von Konkurrenz, Kooperation und Fairplay.

Zum Schluss ist es wahr, dass Videospiele manchmal negative Folgen haben können, aber man muss erkennen, dass Moderation wichtig ist. Wenn man das akzeptiert, kann man gleichzeitig Spaß haben und lernen.

Daniel Meszaros, XII C

Books and what they truly mean to us

What are books really? All these pages presenting people, places, ideas, thoughts, experiences. The writer connects with the reader on a deeper level, as the writer pours his heart out, showing readers that each one of us is human and we make mistakes, because, by doing so, we are living our lives, we do not just exist in this space.

Often, books are a way of escaping to an alternate world, a world made just for us, where we feel free and time just stops for a moment. Different characters are presented to us, each dealing with struggles and having goals. We empathize with what they are going through. Thus, we learn from their journeys and we live every moment with them.

Books show us the way, working as a torch, guiding the path in the "tunnel of life". By reading, our minds keep expanding and we grow as individuals.

Daria Șerban, XI C

How can books change our lives? Well, they can change our lives in many beautiful ways like they can distract us from our human problems, they can help us grow with the characters and learn from them. As you continue reading books, you continue growing and being a good version of yourself, a smarter you and a peaceful you.

The books can be a second life and you can be the main character, you can write your own book which improves your creativity. Books can be the replace of medicine, they are some type of drugs for some people.

Also, our life is compared to a book of life and you are the writer even though you can't control what is happening, you control your reaction to it, which is similar to the writer because you decide almost everything. Books have been with us since the earliest life on the Earth, the fact that makes them better than technology when it comes to comparing the two.

Adriana Tărcan, XI C

Books are amazing. They make me feel very happy and determined. Depending on the genre of the book I get different feelings. Books with a lot of action keep me captivated, some characters resemble my personality, therefore keep me intrigued. Lately I have been reading a lot of books of personal development that help me in taking a look into my own future and motivate me to change for the better. What I really love about books is that no matter what the subject is they take me on a journey, a different one every time. I also get very excited when I order books online and I can't wait for them to arrive and get lost in them.

Arianna Lucuț, XI C

Reading is one of the most pleasurable and attractive pastimes which provides young and aged minds alike with information and food-for-thought. A book shall always find its spot in a person's bag, and it should always make its way to one's heart. Many amazing adventures that could only be seen to be believed, theories that start a train of thought or poetry that takes the reader hundreds of years back in time always appear in these marvellous creations.

As an avid reader, I feel like books have unfortunately been neglected in recent times in favour of video games, films or TV shows or outings with friends! But the beauty of reading a book will always remain. Nowhere else will someone be able to find tales of chivalry, fantastic creatures or breath-taking historical novels that, without doubt, get the reader addicted to them. But not in a negative way mind you. The reader is going to find themselves enthralled by the story, and the love developed for the characters is always convincing the above mentioned to continue their lecture.

All in all, I believe that books are a magnificent way in which someone can spend their time in a very productive and cultivating method.

Paul Vasvari, XI C

Buecher gibt es schon lange und waren wichtig fuer das Speichern von Informationen. Sie sind unsere Geschichte und verfuegen ueber alle Informatione, die wir entwickelt haben Buecher koennen unseren Wortschatz erweitern. Durch regelmaßiges Lesen erweitert sich der Wortschatz automatisch. Je haeufiger man mit unterschiedlichen Woertern konfrontiert wird, desto leichter praegen sie sich auch ein. Buecher gibt uns Kreativitaet und bereichern die Vorstellung, so ist Lesen eine billige Art zu reisen. Der Grund dafuer ist die Tatsache, dass Buecher uns an verschiedene Orte bringen: real oder imaginaer. Eine weitere Bedeutung von Buechern ist die Tatsache, dass sie Unterhaltung bieten. Viele Menschen sehen darin den Hauptgrund, warum sie gerne lesen. Es gibt jedoch mehr Gründe wie den Komfort und die Ruhe, die es bietet, und die allgemeine Entspannung. Schließlich glaube ich, dass es viele Gründe gibt, warum Bücher wichtig sind und dass jeder Mensch unterschiedliche Gründe hat, zu lesen.

Pop Sergiu, XII B

Meiner Meinung nach ist das Buch das wichtigste im menschlichen Leben. Das Buch hilft uns mit vielen Informationen, die wir für unsere Zukunft brauchen, Mit dem Lesen von Büchern haben wir das Schreiben und das Lesen gelernt. Sie entspannen uns, sie bringen uns auf eine Reise in eine fantastische und abenteuerliche Welt. Sie hilft uns professionnell voranzukommen und einen bestimmten sozialen Rang zu haben. Mit ihrer Hilfe haben wir uns zur heutigen Technologie entwichelt. Man denkt, ein Buch zu lesen ist etwas Unmodernes wegen der neuen Technologie. Aber ein Buch in die Hand zu nehmen, es riechen, es umblättern gibt uns ein gutes Gefühl. Die Jugendlichen benutzen heutzutage das virtuelle Lesen und können dieses Gefühl vom Umblättern eines Buches nicht fühlen. Ohne Bücher wären die Informationen nicht benutzbar. Ein Mensch kann alles Lesen aber er kann sich nicht so lang

konzentrieren, er braucht ab und zu Pause. Das Buch ist der beste Freund des Menschen, ohne es wäre der Ort, wo wir leben, nicht existieren. Es wäre so schön, wenn alle Menschen die Leidenschaft des Lesens fühlen könnten.

Berner Bianca - XII G

Das Buch ist das Beste, was Menschen geschaffen haben.

Das Buch öffnet Türen, an die man nicht denken kann. Es ist sehr wichtig für die Leute, weil das Buch unsere Geschichte, unsere Kulturen, unsere Welt und unsere Weltall erzählt.

Ich mag so viel Geschichtsbücher und SF-Bücher lesen, weil die Geschichtsbücher über unsere Vergangenheit erzählen, wie unsere Urgroßeltern lebten und die SF-Bücher erzählen so interessante und fesselnde Geschichten.

Im Moment lese ich die Bücherreihe "Das letzte Königsreich" von Bernard Cornwell und es ist sehr interessant.

Ein Mensch sagt: Wenn das Buch nicht existieren würde, würden unsere Länder und unsere Städte auch nicht existieren.

Wenn du die Bücher nicht liest, dann musst du sie sofort zu lesen beginnen.

Das Buch ist sehr wichtig für deine Entwicklung und für deine Geist. So musst du mit dem Bücherlesen beginnen.

Santa Gabriel, X B

Die Bücher spielen eine wichtige Rolle im Wachstum der Menschen. Wenn man klein ist, lernen wir auch von unseren Eltern und auch von den Lehrern, dass die Bücher sehr wichtig sind. Man soll viel lesen, um einen reichen Wortschatz zu haben.

Als ich kleiner war, mochte ich sehr viel lesen. Ich habe viele Bücher gelesen, die Bücher der Kindheit, wie zum Beispiel „Schneewittchen“ oder „Rotkäppchen“. Ich fand sie sehr spannend, weil ich keine andere Dinge

zu tun hatte. Als ich schon im Gymnasium oder im Lyzeum war, erschienen viele andere Verantwortlichkeiten wie mehrere Hausaufgaben oder Projekte und auch verschiedene Prüfungen. Ich habe mehr zu lernen und nicht so viel Zeit für Bücher zu lesen.

Ich mochte das Lesen nicht mehr, weil die Bücher, die wir für Schule lesen mussten, sehr langweilig waren. Ich habe eigentlich Glück mit meiner Rumänischlehrerin, weil sie uns immer sagte: „Diejenigen, die lesen, werden diejenigen führen, die nicht lesen“ und sie schlägt uns immer spannende Bücher vor. Ich schätze sie sehr viel, weil sie sehr klug ist, und das kommt von viel lesen.

Diese Menschen finde ich ein gutes Modell, um ihnen zu folgen. Die Sage, die meine Lehrerin immer sagte, werde ich nie vergessen und es ist eine gute Motivation für mich und es soll für alle sein, weil die Bücher eine sehr wichtige Rolle in unserem Leben spielen.

Ardelean Andrada, X C

Books, or the craft of bookreading is something that I rarely touched on throughout my childhood and early teens, a decision I came to later regret. Up until 2, maybe 3 years ago, I was very indifferent towards reading, or just... books in general. In my narrow-minded head at that time, I just couldn't be bothered with such trivialities, finding it but a waste of time and whenever I had the mere attempt to pick up a book and give it a read, I just couldn't bring myself to finish it. I was just simply bored and uninterested.

Now you are probably asking yourself: "Well, alright, but how does this, in any shape or form, celebrate books and reading?". Well, after years of indifference, I stumbled upon this book with a Spartan and an Athenian on its cover. A book called "The Peloponnesian War". And something just... clicked inside my brain. I picked it up out of mere curiosity, and mostly because I've always been a fan of history. I just didn't know how much of a history fan I was until I started reading. The book is about the famous war between the Spartans and Athenians some 2300 years ago. As soon as I picked it up I was

so engulfed and immersed in this fascinating and mesmerizing story about the greatest Athenian generals and fleets and the strong, fearless Spartan soldiers fighting for dominance in the Greek world. It's as if all the disregard I had towards reading had simply vanished like magic and all that mattered at that point for me was to finish the book and explore the vast library of information confined within the book's pages.

That was a couple years ago, and since then, I've had this constant thirst for knowledge and the need to find out more about our world and our history, civilizations long gone, conspiracy theories, facts, myths, legends, battles... I could continue forever. Reading also made me love travelling and nature and appreciate the world we live in. Reading, dare I say, changed my life and gave me a fresh pair of eyes.

Claudiu Băeșu, XI C

Essays

On tradition

Although tradition eludes precise definition, it is generally understood as a set of rules, norms, practices, and beliefs that have withstood the test of time and are therefore adopted indefinitely and integrated into the culture of a group or of society in its entirety. In order to gain a thorough understanding of this notion, its advantages and its drawbacks, one must explore it from a multitude of angles, given that it presents social, political, and economic implications, at the very least.

To begin with, from a social point of view, tradition takes on the form of societal expectations and norms. It is a definite fact that humans have been creating and enforcing social norms that prescribe the guidelines for "socially acceptable" behaviour ever since ancient times. Today, social norms have permeated nearly all aspects of life, with varying meanings depending on context: in a romantic relationship, they might materialise into gender roles (that is, a set of rules that dictate how one should think or act depending solely on one's sex); at school, they equate to expectations of orderly and compliant behaviour; with regard to establishing our priorities in life, it is generally expected that we work towards stability and security. While the purported aim of these societally sanctioned directives is to foster stability and predictability, they also inevitably suppress individuality and restrict personal freedom and expression.

Secondly, tradition can also be addressed from a political perspective insofar as the concept of a state's dominant political current is accepted to exist and taken into account. Political tradition can be said to arise when certain political figures are elected to governmental office on a recurring basis, thus promoting an enduring and largely unchanging body of ideas and policies, accompanied by similarly rigid political discourse. Indeed, numerous nations display a dynamic in politics that can be characterised as traditional in relation to their own history. These range from the United States (where power alternates between the Conservative and the Democratic parties), to the United

Kingdom (Conservatives vs Labour), and to the European mainland (for instance, in Hungary, Fidesz has been the ruling party for nearly a decade). Under these circumstances, it is worth noting that, on the one hand, such consistency may aid in restoring a country's stability or in resolving an acute political crisis, but, on the other hand, it is only the natural ebb and flow of politics that can ensure the long-term prevalence of democracy.

Finally, tradition is perhaps the most salient in the field where every fluctuation is regarded with extreme importance: the economy. Needless to say, the economy of any state is necessarily predicated on its workforce, whose very existence is threatened by humanity's steady march towards automation. As technology progresses and human intervention becomes increasingly obsolete, workers' free time increases, and professional standards decline as a result. If technological developments can bring about such a sharp rise in efficiency, then the question of whether to keep employing the same number of people for the sake of tradition and stability naturally arises. However, presently, no wholly satisfying answer exists to this question, as a balance between workers' rights and the pursuit of efficiency and profit has yet to be struck.

In conclusion, regardless of the importance we place on tradition, we must bear in mind that time waits for nothing and nobody. In view of this fact, there is a question that all of us must answer: should we cling to the past for as long as possible for the sake of stability, or concede that tradition itself is to yield to time and become a mutable notion?

Daniel Vasile Meszaros, XII C

On perfection

The elusive concept of "perfection" can bear no rigorous definition, yet dictionaries widely delineate the term as the absence of any and all flaws, defects, or faults. However, what constitutes a flaw is largely dictated by context and frame of reference, meaning that perfection itself is not an

undifferentiated state, but rather a dynamic notion. Under these circumstances, it transpires with ease that exploring it from multiple angles is a prerequisite to gaining a well-rounded understanding of it.

To begin with, from a psychosocial standpoint, perfection, as it relates to humans, is frequently viewed in its physical dimension, thus giving rise to socially constructed appearance and beauty standards. It is virtually undeniable that many, if not most, people aspire to reach the standards of physical perfection set by society. These, though, are outside the realm of possibility in their vast majority and tend to sow the seeds of personal inadequacy, disappointment, and generalised body dysphoria: when we look in a mirror and scrutinise our own visages and bodies, we are disproportionately prone to finding minute flaws and subtle blemishes. On the other hand, the quest for physical perfection can be beneficial insofar as it can fuel people's drive for self-improvement and ensure long-term commitment by virtue of being practically unattainable.

A moral and religious perspective on perfection can unveil more of its facets: perfection of character and perfection of the soul. Most societies place considerable value on morality and strength of character, which revolve around the ability and willingness to differentiate between "right/good" and "wrong/bad" behaviour. In this sense, it is notable that humans strive to develop sound moral judgement to the largest extent possible and are desirous of leaders and governments that can enact justice in a manner that aligns as "perfectly" as possible with their morality system. Furthermore, in the case of numerous peoples and nations, morality is inextricably intertwined with religion, whose principles and teachings promote the idea that a perfectly moral (free of major "sins", that is) life leads to the absolution of the original sin and ultimately to salvation. In light of this, the proponents of character-related perfection argue that, at least in theory, it ought to be achievable and therefore desirable. Conversely, it is also claimed that meticulously and incessantly moderating one's behaviour can effectively flatten or deflate one's personality, thereby detracting from a unique element of humanity: the diversity of thoughts and consciences, even within the same person.

In conclusion, perfection remains a nebulous, abstract idea that presents intriguing implications for humans and for the world. More importantly, however, it is only sensible to conclude that, in a universe that naturally gravitates towards chaos and disorder, achieving perfection may very well be either devoid of any use or downright impossible.

Daniel Vasile Meszaros, XII C

On masks

“Virtue has a veil, vice a mask.” (Victor Hugo)

Masks, known to humankind since ancient times, are, by their very definition, objects whose purpose is to completely cover or partially obstruct one’s face, whether to protect, hide, or adorn it. However, both the concepts of faces and masks can be considered beyond the bounds of the physical realm, which can in turn give rise to abstract and perhaps more profound meanings and interpretations. In light of this, a thorough examination of masks and their intricate significance is bound to be elucidating.

Firstly, masks can be viewed within the context of the inherently social framework that enables collective human life. In a society where frequent interaction is a foregone conclusion, people have developed "social masks" to control the extent to which they reveal their true identity and character to other social actors, typically to facilitate a favourable perception or image of themselves. This behaviour owes to humans' natural tendency to seek social acceptance, which drives them to repress or hide emotions, traits, and opinions that do not conform to societal expectations. Thus, we wear proverbial "masks" on our "faces" (personalities) to gain approval among our peers and others. With regard to this fact, a commonly expressed thought is that wearing social masks is inexorably disingenuous and that doing so dilutes interpersonal relationships, while the opposing viewpoint relies on emphasising the necessity

of moderating one's behaviour in order to maintain a functioning society (manners, common courtesy, avoiding conflict etc.).

Historically, masks have been a part of human culture ever since the first forms of cohesive social organisation emerged. Early tribes of humans are noted to have practised rituals and ceremonies involving masks as a representation of gods, heroes, ancestors, animals or other spiritual beings with significance to their culture. Furthermore, masks have also served military purposes throughout history, with armies employing them as symbols of their origins and as a means of intimidation and protection - to this day, masks and helmets are still distinctive features of military uniforms.

From an artistic standpoint, masks also possess some aesthetic and entertainment value. For instance, theatre has benefited greatly from the use of masks in plays as they allowed more varied and convincing performances. The now ubiquitous sad mask of tragedy and the happy mask of comedy have eventually become the universal symbol of theatre.

In conclusion, the very concept of masks is inextricably linked to human culture and nature. The precise causes for this propensity of humans remain unknown, but it is readily obvious that we have always taken great delight in shaping our own version of reality, be it social or physical.

Daniel Vasile Meszaros, XII C

On being an accomplished person

The pursuit of success, and, indeed, success itself, have always been two of the major conundrums fervently pondered by humanity; the notion of success and accomplishment has been repeatedly addressed by the greatest and most insightful philosophers throughout history. Accordingly, the question of what being an accomplished person entails has not escaped the notice of every one of us either, thus giving rise to myriad ideas that coalesce to form a multidimensional definition of success.

From a social perspective, being accomplished can equate to having fulfilling and mutually beneficial relationships in one's life. If the assertion that humans are an innately social species is to be believed, then it follows that we need intimacy, companionship, and support not only to be successful, but also to be able to function on a basic level. Indeed, friends, family, and possibly a romantic partner comprise the support network and security net that enable the world's most successful people to fully and wholly dedicate themselves to their endeavours. Similarly, the connection that develops between athletes and coaches, students and teachers, and even fellow scientists, for instance, is integral to their success.

Success can also have a moral component in that one may feel successful when reflecting on their life and feel proud of the way they have led it. Though the state of being morally "successful" may be viewed by some as the result of inaction rather than direct, quantifiable measures, this interpretation belies the conscious and deliberate choices made following careful introspection and lucid reasoning. With this in view, upholding one's moral principles to the detriment of conforming to societal expectations and peer pressure, for example, may count as a success.

Economically, success implies the accumulation of wealth. While this generally holds true in principle, the threshold past which economic or financial success is considered to be achieved varies: some contend that being able to afford basic necessities is sufficient, some add the requirement of a comfortable life and access to disposable income, still others insist on striving for enough financial means to satisfy all their desires. At any rate, wealth is the most widely recognised indicator of success, and many believe that success is necessarily contingent on it.

In sum, it is easily observable that society recognises and legitimises certain forms of success more than others. However, being accomplished is in fact a conclusion drawn subjectively, with no immutable criteria other than one's own value system.

Daniel Vasile Meszaros, XII C

Reviews

Art for art's sake

Art is a very large subject that you cannot comprehend until you think about it as just simply beautiful. The concept of art being just art is not explored in many novels, but the Wattpad author Pixie022 has created a story revolving around the subject of "Art for art's sake".

The protagonists of the story are very unique and well built. The main character deals with a lot of issues and writes poetry not to portray reality or escape from it, but only because poems are beautiful. The other one deals with struggle in a much simpler way, very common for us, trying to ignore it and look for happiness everywhere. We see many other perspectives of side characters and their simply beautiful, relatable storylines that tie in together at the end. These two characters form a very powerful bond that seems to mend their heart and erase all their struggles. But their aching is still there and love only distracts them, but at the end they try to do better even if it's not always easy.

The storyline itself is very simplistic, yet compelling. The author presents everyday problems of teenagers such as high school, friends and first love. The events are told chronology and they show a natural progression of a relationship. Firstly, the two leads barely know each other and one of them is indifferent to the other one's attempts of getting to know them. Then, due to an unexpected event they become friends. As they spend more time together they realise their growing feelings for one another and proceed a romantic relationship. Even in the crazy world surrounding them, the bond they have manages to survive. They are supported by their friends and still maintain the relations. One powerful moment in the story is when the main character writes a poem about the other and submits it for a competition. This moment shows that the character has grown enough and is ready to present a piece of themselves to the world.

A very big problem of today's society is the way it treats mental illness. In my opinion, the author handled it very well and portrayed it in a respectful way. The protagonist deals with depression and an eating disorder. Instead of glossing over this and saying love can save you the writer showed him taking his medication and trying to get better. The connection with the other person truly helped, but it was not the only thing that improved their mental health.

In my view, this story deserves a lot of appreciation for its writing, characters and realistic plot. It shows that love is a powerful force that can be built slowly and the affection of one is truly, simply BEAUTIFUL.

Ștefania Silaghi, X A

Romania's got talent

"Romania's got talent" is a Romanian television show which began to be on air on the 18th of February 2011. It is hugely popular with television audiences in the whole country as it is one of the longest-running shows in Romania.

It is a talent competition people can take part in, showing different kinds of talents: singing, dancing, gymnastics, magic. The grand prize is worth 120.000 euros. The audition takes place in front of the jury and a live audience in different cities around Romania. The judges may show disapproval to the contestants by pressing a buzzer which lights a large red "X" on the stage indicating the fact that they dislike the act and do not wish the performance to go on. If all judges press their buzzers, the act has to end immediately. After the auditions, the judges have to whittle almost 200 successful contestants down to just about 50. All of them are called back to discover if they have progressed to the live semi-finals.

"Romanians got talent" has kept its high ratings throughout the years, reaching the ninth season and aired from February to April, every Friday at 8:30 pm, which is a peak time for reality shows. There are many contestants,

who along the talent, come up with a story including their hard times. They usually claim that they wish to change something in the world or in Romania. I think that the fact the ambition and power of people to face several social problems are highlighted is another reason why it is so well-received, in addition to the happy, sad, funny moments.

If you want to live various emotions, I recommend you curl up on the sofa with a cup of tea and some biscuits. It is suitable for both children and adults.

Denis Cornoc, XI C

Leaving high school

As graduation draws nearer and nearer every day, we, the seniors of this school, look inward and reflect on these last four years that have been so uniquely formative to us and ponder what to make of this momentous milestone. We realise that it is in high school that we embarked on this adventure called “adolescence” and that this is where our personality has been formed, where our interests have emerged and developed and, in essence, where our very person has been moulded.

Though we may have expected to welcome graduation with a sense of unsullied liberation, our thoughts are now taking on a tinge of apprehension as we face up to the fact that four entire years have just flown by right before our eyes and that leaving high school means we must part with friends, classmates, and teachers we’ve grown attached to. As we leave the routine and predictability of school behind, one question persists in our mind: are we ready to take on the future?

Daniel Vasile Meszaros, XII C

For me high school was the time of changes and going beyond my limits. I consider myself lucky because CNIS provided me with a safe place, the context that helped me grow and become a better version of myself. Here I learned to be more open-minded and tolerant towards different opinions, to understand and to see the beauty in various subjects.

I remember being nervous, worrying about what others might think, but now as I’m finishing high school, I realise that those opinions don’t really matter anymore. I tried to live these four years with bravery, by doing everything that excited me and made my heart beat faster. I loved every moment of it and if I could live again these four years, I would definitely do it!

Sofia Ofimias, XII C

Probably the things I'll miss most about high school are the friends, memories, and memes. Mostly the memes. ;)

These 4 years have been the most defining and exciting 4 years of my life, the ability of not having to worry about adult stuff and the freedom of being young is what really defines high school for me.

I would like to tell future generations to cherish every moment of high school while it lasts, because one day you start high school as an early teen, excited for all the new things you'll experience, and the next day you're already a young adult, about to leave the biggest community you'll ever be part of.

Johnny Holl, XII D

The high school is a really important part of everybody's life. It teaches you a lot of important lessons. We laughed, we cried, we've been through a lot together with the class, we did stupid things and honourable ones too, but the most important of all are the friendships you create through the years and which will follow you a very long time, hopefully.

Leaving high school gives me mixed feelings because I loved it and also hated it sometimes, but in the end, it was a really great and enjoyable experience because you had people to support you when times were rough.

Levente Botos, XII D

I still have no idea how 4 years of high school have passed this fast, just like the 4 years of secondary school. I have woken up suddenly in the 12th grade. There are 53 more days until my final exams, it feels like yesterday when I graduated the 8th grade. The point is that years pass by and we don't really realise the fact that we also grow up, get older. Don't let the days pass by you without doing something for yourself, because you will wake up, just like me in the 12th grade and realise you have done nothing for yourself. Take advantage of Slavici, of the teachers, of your classmates, of everything you find here. After 4 years I have realised that nothing is in vain and you never know when a degree, diploma or just being a volunteer somewhere could make

a difference. Now it's your chance! Prove who you really are, what you can do and what you can contribute with to the society.

Roxana Rus, XII D

These 4 years in high school were awesome! I'm gonna miss from "domn' portar" to "domnte". I don't regret these years, because I learned a lot here, I met a lot of nice people. I believe that all the teachers here are open minded and have a different style of teaching as compared to other high schools. If you come to Slavici, you can't fail the BAC! I highly recommend this school, because everything here is nice. I am lucky that I had the opportunity to learn in Slavici. I had a really good time here and I'm gonna miss these years.

Șerban Acs, XII D

When we first walked the grounds of this high school, all of us were overflowing with excitement, ready to get as much as we can of the beauty and the adventures of the years ahead of us. Since freshmen year, we dreamt of having the same confidence and experience that all seniors seemed to have. Now, after 4 years, we are here, almost at the end of this road. The time has passed without even noticing how fast. The graduation is knocking on our doors catching some of us ready, some nervous, some scared, even some wanting to finish this as soon as possible. Yet, we still made a lot of memories that will definitely remain in our hearts and minds all our lives. We will never forget the "plăcintărie" where the old lady was sometimes messing up orders, the 2 ladies from the "chioșc" and the mornings there asking for coffee or Szobi. We will never forget some teachers that made our lives easier with a joke, and of course the ones that made it like hell on earth. All of these go together and made our 4 years as beautiful as they were.

Dear freshmen, believe me when I say that these years will be the best of your lives so far. Make the most out of them, be real and be honest, learn and have fun at the same time because these years will never come back.

Best regards,

A senior that made the most of these years and closes this chapter both with a smile and a tear on her face.

Roxana Pane, XII D

Doubles Chris

Depuis notre première rencontre, quelque chose a éclaté. On savait qu'on allait être meilleurs amis. Nous avons fait beaucoup de choses folles ensemble.

En plus d'être des potes de « langoş », on s'aide et on se remonte le moral. Il est étonnant de voir le lien solide que nous avons créé ! Le petit Chris aime se moquer du « big » Chris. Nous sommes tous les deux passionnés des livres, du café et de la musique.

Même si nous allons à l'université, nous allons vivre dans la même ville et nous allons continuer à passer du bon temps ensemble.

Cristina Ardelean, Cristian Hălălaie, XII D

L'école secondaire ... ils disent que c'est la plus belle étape de la vie. Il se fixe la période de nouveaux amis ou même pour la vie. Ils disent que les années d'études secondaires sont les meilleures années de la vie, et pour moi elles l'étaient. En première année, nous avons de très grandes émotions, on ne savait pas comment seraient les quatre prochaines années de ma vie. Ce fut un moment très émouvant pour moi quand j'ai vu une personne attendre ses étudiants avec un grand sourire. Cette personne était mon prochain professeur principal, madame Maria Tite, une personne pleine de vie, prête à nous guider à la vie de l'école secondaire.

Une amitié serrée que j'ai liée dans ces quatre années est celle de Mariana, ma collègue de pupitre. Nous nous nous connaissions dès la maternelle, mais j'ai gardé le contact et elle a choisi le même lycée que moi,

donc nous sommes devenues les meilleures amies. Dans ces quatre années ensemble, nous avons participé au concours entre les classes et dans la 10e année, nous l'avons organisé tous ensemble. Nous avons eu des combats, mais tout a été résolu rapidement et facilement. Nous étions les visages heureux de la dernière banque qui fait tout ensemble, même l'école buissonnière. Je ne vais pas oublier l'école secondaire et les enseignants qui nous ont guidés.

Petra Bence, XII D

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