



DIS HAPPENINGS

DELEDDA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



DIS TEAM THIRD AT THE EOES NATIONAL FINAL

Congratulations to our DIS Team for participating in the EOES National Final, held in Padova from the 19th to the 21st of February.

Maurizio Cugurra (Biologist), Nicolò Zingarelli (Physicist) and Francesco Lazzarone (Chemist) achieved an incredible third place in the general ranking, entering into the gold band. This was an extraordinary result, and we are immensely proud, especially considering the participation of almost 600 students selected by their schools at the national level.

(Prof. Chiara Colucci)

COMMUNICATIONS AND NEWS

AN INTERESTING OPPORTUNITY: INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIAD 2025

The International Olympiad 2025 will be online on the 7th of June or in person from the 22nd to the 28th of June 2025.

You can join the International Greenwich Olympiad 2025 in the following categories:

Engineering-Computer Sciences-Energy-Environmental Sciences-Health Sciences-Social Sciences-STEM Lesson Presentation-Short Movie-Art Photography-Creative Writing-Drama-Robotics – Sumo Challenge

Deadline: March 31, 2025

For more information:

<https://igolondon.co.uk/>

Age Limit: The age limit for participation is 12–18 for scientific projects and 10–18 for non-scientific projects. Participants must be at least 12 years old for scientific projects and at least 10 years old for non-scientific projects at the start of the event in London. Additionally, participants must not have reached the age of 19 by the event's start date.

DIS & THAT EP.4 ON AIR



Love, in all its shades, transcends cultures and languages, and brings people together transcending all boundaries. We invite you to listen to Episode 4 of our podcast DIS & That, created by our students: a sonic journey through stories and traditions that reveal the universal nature of love.

Welcome to our PYP friends who have joined us on this wonderful adventure! Enjoy!

<https://open.spotify.com/episode/3LFxdsu1kGUevz1nqcDVEK?si=wj3opMpsTL60bq8RdTPgzw>



8TH OF MARCH, INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY



Four DP1 students, Michela Battolla, Elena Carazzai, Sabine Van Driel and Olivia Pizzini launched an initiative on the occasion of International Women's Day. On Friday 7th of March they invited PYP, MYP and DP students to participate in a donation to support the Centro Antiviolenza Mascherona. They saw enthusiastic participation from PYP, MYP, DP and teachers, that not only provides invaluable support to the Centro Antiviolenza Mascherona, but also exemplifies the spirit of empathy and solidarity that defines our school community.

Thank you for your attention, your donations, and your unwavering commitment to fostering positive change.

(Michela Battolla, Elena Carazzai, Sabine van Driel, Olivia Pizzini)

PRIMARY ACTIVITIES

PYP1 AND PYP2 - MATHS



Every week, PYP1 and PYP2 children meet for a special moment: a journey through stations to discover and improve mathematics. Through games, logic activities and moments of exploration, everyone can test their abilities while having fun.

The PYP1 pupils explore new concepts with curiosity, while those in PYP2 consolidate their knowledge and help the younger ones, becoming real tutors. Collaborating makes everything more interesting and stimulating! In addition to mathematics, they also learn to work in a group: helping each other and discovering new strategies together. Growing together makes the difference, because everyone follows their own pace, shares ideas and discovers that mathematics, in addition to being useful, can be truly exciting. It is an experience that unites and makes everyone grow!

(Prof. Laura Montera and Elena Fusta)

PYP2 - VILLA CROCE

At the beginning of our new Unit Sharing the Planet, we transformed ourselves into little explorers and took a special trip to the Villa Croce park near the school. Our goal? To observe and describe the natural elements that surround us, paying close attention to details.

Before leaving, each child built their own observation diary. Each one personalized it with his or her name, making it unique. With the diary and snack in hand, we set off towards the park.

Once we arrived, we took a moment to eat our snacks in the sun and play freely, then our real exploration of nature began. The children carefully observed the environment around them and began to draw and describe what caught their interest in the observation diary. (Prof. Elena Fusta)



PYP3 - PSYCHOMOTRICITY



With Prof. Marta, a psychomotor therapist, the PYP3 class uses the gym for a journey of self-discovery through play! Boys and girls create, explore emotions, relationships and autonomy.

Psychomotor skills help them to better understand their body and emotions, encouraging self-expression, trust and socialization. It is an experience that nourishes the mind and heart!

(Prof. Marta Giannone).

PRIMARY ACTIVITIES

PYP2 - PSYCHOMOTRICITY

Starting from Friday 28th of February, the children of PYP2 have also started a psychomotor therapy path together with their PYP3 classmates, taking advantage of the professionalism of our Prof. Marta, who leads the activities. It is a precious opportunity for the children to explore movement in relation to their surroundings and to others. Through play and motor activity, we will work on the concept of responsibility, a key theme of our Unit, which will help the children to develop greater awareness of their bodies, their gestures and how their actions can influence the space and the people around them.

(Prof. Elena Fusta)



PYP3 - VISIT OF THE ASSOCIATION LIBERA

On the 25th of February a group of volunteers from LIBERA association (<https://www.liberaliguria.it/>) visited Primary 3 for the workshop "Storie libere in valigia" in collaboration with the Anemmu Project.

This activity addresses the themes of Legality, Citizenship, the commitment to fight the mafia, with reflections on Memory (the story of Peppino Impastato), through the use of "Kamishibai" (Japanese theater) and the proposal of simple games.



The workshop, helped us understand how important the commitment of all of us is, in order to live in a more just and free society. Talking about the mafia, their effects on everyday life and the fight against injustice, we understood that even the littlest ones can contribute to change. Reflecting on these stories, like that of Peppino Impastato, teaches us that memory and knowledge are powerful tools to build a better future. (Prof. Marta Giannone)

PRIMARY SCHOOL - CARNIVAL

On Monday, February 24, part of the morning was dedicated to a special visit inside our school. Thanks to a municipal project on Carnival, we had the opportunity to have the Gruppo Storico Sestrese at school, and they presented the children the traditional masks of the city of Genova and Liguria region. (Prof. Nicolò Gabelli Raggio)



MYP ACTIVITIES

MYP1 E PYP5 - FRENCH



The MYP1 students, during the Language B lesson, had some special guests, PYP5 students. For French they participated in the creation and presentation of a dialogue and the MYP1 were very good at welcoming and working with their younger classmates.

MYP2 - FRENCH

At the end of the Unit "Ma nourriture et mon bien-être," the MYP2 French students conducted research on typical dishes from French and Francophone cuisine. They then created posters that will serve as input for their speaking test and will later decorate the walls of the cafeteria.



MYP3 - FRENCH



To record the B Languages podcast, which this time focuses on "Famous Love Stories", the entire MYP3 French class researched the story of Grace Kelly and Prince Ranier of Monaco. Many of them had never heard of it before. Then, Nicholas and Penelope recorded an introduction, which you'll hear in the podcast!
(Prof. Hayat Ouhraichou)

MYP - DESIGN

This year, selected students from MYP1, MYP2, MYP3 and MYP4 are taking part in the Mousetrap Car Grand Prix project.

The aim is to design and then build model cars powered exclusively by mousetraps that were provided by the organizing body and that are activated by the trigger mechanism of the mousetrap. The teams selected as winners by the technical committee of the Monaco Mousetrap Car Grand Prix will be able to take part in the final race in Monaco.

(Prof. Chiara De Filippo)



MYP2 - BERGEGGI



On the 5th of March, MYP2 Red and Green classes went to the Marine Protected Area (MPA) of Bergeggi Island as part of the educational activity organized by the Sunrise Project "Nature-based solutions for marine biodiversity conservation and sustainable development in the Ligurian Sea".

(Prof.ssa Jennifer McDermott)

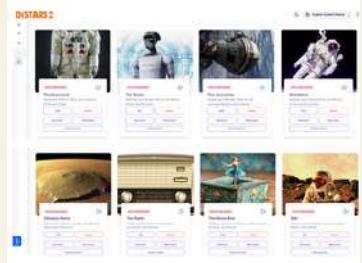
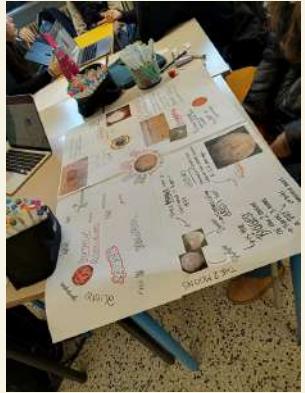
MYP ACTIVITIES

MYP4 - DISTARS

MYP 4 students participated in an international STEAM project, which combines science and art, sponsored by the European Space Agency and in collaboration with the Greek school Ellinogermaniki Agogi.

After an initial research part on space exploration in its different phases, the students first presented to their classmates and then used the research as a starting point for collaborative creative writing of science fiction stories written in English, then illustrated and laid out as e-books. The stories, funny, sad, scary or exciting, will be published on the DISTARS website... We will keep you updated!

(Prof. Yael Artom)



MYP4 - MEET THE EXPERT

As part of course in Humanities, Unit 3 Economics, experts are invited to the classroom, either in person or online, to speak to the students.

Guest speakers	Role
Geography (migration) - Filippo Torre	PhD student at University of Genova
Geography (climate change) - Victor Villa	Research officer at CIAT in Nairobi
Institutions (economic) - Bernardo Caldera	Economist European Commission Seville
Institutions (economic) - Pietro Fortana	Vicepresident at Neuberger Berman in Milan
Institutions (economic) - Michele Matteucci	Marketing Manager at Facile.it in Milan
Demography (human capital) - Vinitha Varghese	Assistant Professor at Alma College in Michigan
Colonialism (conflict) - Andrea Carboni	Head of Analysis at ACLED
Colonialism (gender norms) - Margherita Bove	PhD student at Università La Sapienza in Rome

In the first phase, students worked with datasets to answer the question, "Why are some countries rich and others poor?". In the second phase, starting this past week, students will have the opportunity to meet experts in the field who have worked on some of the phenomena they have discussed and studied in class.

Prof. Pierfrancesco Rolla)

MYP4, MYP5 AND DP1 - DESIGN

On Saturday 15th of February our school participated in the first step of the competition F1 in Schools!

Our teams that participated in the qualifications were "Scuderia Octane" and "Tachyons", both teams did an excellent job during the event, presenting their design portfolio in a fluent and precise way and racing their cars with good results! Our two teams were classified in Group A, in Third and Eighth place respectively!

Congratulations to everyone for their commitment and the results obtained!

(Prof. Nicola Roccatagliata)



DP ACTIVITIES

MYP4, MYP5 AND DP1 - GEMUN

From the 20th to the 22nd of February, the DIS-MUN Club once again stepped into the world of diplomacy at GeMUN 2025, an annual tradition that never fails to challenge us. This year, however, felt different. The theme, Breaking the Code, captured the complexity of today's global affairs, pushing us to question, decode, and rethink the structures that govern our world.

Across committees like the ICJ, Legal, Security Council, SOCHUM, ECOFIN, HRC, and UNESCO, we debated some of the most pressing issues of our time. We engaged with delegates from diverse backgrounds, and in the process, we did more than just defend our assigned nations' policies we had learned. We learned the power of negotiation, the importance of listening, and the challenge of standing firm while seeking compromise.

GeMUN is never just about the resolutions we pass or the speeches we deliver. It's about the connections we form, the perspectives we gain, and the growth we experience as thinkers and global citizens. This year, as we discussed the complex landscape of international relations that surround us today, we found ourselves not just debating policies but truly breaking the code of diplomacy itself.

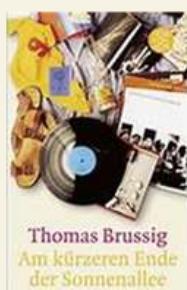


Now, we are super proud of our participation in MilanMUN, which took place from the 13th to the 16th of March at Bocconi University! This conference allowed our delegates to discuss, collaborate and meet students from all over. Three days of intense and fruitful debate on current global issues with over 650 students from 30 different schools at Bocconi University. Our delegates achieved great recognition, taking home the following awards:

Best Delegate: Jacopo Carazzai and Honorable Mention: Nicolò Zingarelli.

(Prof. Tommaso Lorenzetti)

MYP4 AND DP1 - GERMAN



The well-known German writer Thomas Brussig met the students of the Deutsche Schule Genua on Thursday, February 27. The German group MYP4 and DP1 German HL were also invited to the event. The author read several chapters of his book "Am kürzeren Ende der Sonnenallee". The book tells the story of Micha, a young man who grows up in the former East Berlin during the 70s, and he and his friends faced the difficulties of life under the GDR regime and also the normal issues that all boys of their age have. The novel explores themes such as the German division, youth and first love with a very ironic tone. Afterwards, the students had the opportunity to ask the writer questions.

(Prof. Nicole Bender)

Focus on CAS

On Saturday 25th January, despite the rain, students from MYP4 and 5 kept their spirits high, asking passers-by in Via XX, politely and respectfully, to help sufferers of leprosy by helping the association CALAM in their fund-raising campaign.

All three teachers, Damonte, Nespolo and Ebury, noted just how polite and positive our students were and how well they represented their school and their mission for the day. A grand total of 561 Euros was collected, even if the weather wasn't too good. MYP 4 won the inter-class fund-raising contest, again! (307 versus 254 euro, as counted by MYP1 Red)

Thank you to all the students who helped, and to those who dedicated their time to other Service work instead. (Prof. Mark Ebury)

Emma Parodi, a MYP4 student, shared an interesting and instructive reflection on her experience:

What is leprosy? What are its causes? How many cases of leprosy are there in the world?

Leprosy is an infectious disease caused by *Mycobacterium leprae* and it is transmitted by cough droplets from mouth to mouth. It can cause development of disabilities, unpleasant rashes and also can be crippling in daily life. There are still many cases in places like Africa and South America and most people with leprosy are often neglected in society as there is no vaccine.

Is it the duty of relatively rich countries to help people from less fortunate countries? Why?

I think it is the duty of relatively rich countries to help people from less fortunate countries because most of these less fortunate countries were colonized by richer countries and I believe they do deserve credit or help from our countries as it isn't their fault. Also caring about others makes a person open-minded and I believe it is one of the best traits to acquire.

Is collecting money different from donating? Why?

I believe giving a donation normally comes from one singular person. Donating normally consists of one person giving quite a large quantity of money, meanwhile, collecting money consists of multiple people offering a smaller amount to create a whole. I believe collecting money can also unite people to help others. Raise awareness.

What were people's reactions? What have you learnt about people?

Most people were very kind and respectful. Lot's of old ladies complemented our school and our work, often giving us some donations. Most people just walked past staring weirdly at me, it wasn't pleasant but I knew it was for a good cause.

Did you feel involved? Embarrassed? Proud? Did you learn something about yourself?

I did feel involved, I knew what I was doing was for a good cause and that made me happy. I did sometimes feel a little scared when the teacher left us to check on the others. I only felt embarrassed when a group of teenage girls snickered at me when they walked past. I learnt that with a little courage I overcame my fear of asking strangers questions!

Would you do something differently next time?

Yes I would change something, in fact I have already spoken to Prof. Ebury about it. I often go busking with my twin sister Giulia; we are a singing duo, and we have permission from the SIAE, so we are covered. Often we do make quite a bit of money and we hope that one day we could raise money for charity like the Calam day!



Chinese New Year 2025 at DIS



Chinese New Year, or Lunar New Year, also known as Spring Festival, is based on the cycles of the moon and falls on a different day each year. This year, Chinese New Year, which celebrates the year of the Wood Snake, was celebrated from January 29th to February 12th.

As every year, with great enthusiasm, Prof. Piergiorgio Giraudo, did his best to involve the whole school in this great celebration.

MYP4, MYP5 AND PYP4 - ART, CAS AND CHINESE

The students of the MYP4 and 5 Chinese classes, carrying out their Service activities, helped the little ones of Primary 4 to complete their decorations for the Chinese New Year designed by Prof. Idà. As experts in the Chinese language and culture, they taught them to write a few words in the language dedicated to the new year of the snake, but above all they had fun together.



MYP1, MYP2 AND MYP3 - CHINESE

Like every year, MYP1, 2 and 3 classes collaborated to create small decorations to celebrate and communicate to the whole school the arrival of the Chinese Year of the Snake. Paper snakes and auspicious writings with the 福 invaded the whole school, reproducing the festive atmosphere that is experienced in China during this period.



MYP4 - CHINESE

The MYP4 Chinese class also created decorations in the language to communicate the arrival of the Chinese New Year to the entire school complex, together with a video in different languages they recreated the pure spirit of the Chinese celebration.

(Prof. Piergiorgio Giraudo)



DIS HAPPENINGS is curated by Elizabeth Coykendall Rice and Monica Merigli

