



Edition Six, March 2022

## Doge becomes the guardian of English Gate!

G7

A delightful surprise awaited the students of EGS on Thursday 17th March taking us back in time. Our special guests were no other than the 'Doge' and 'Dogaressa' from the Republic of Venice!

The visit started with a typical Shakespearean style entry as they joined us accompanied by Venetian music and two pages, Alessandro and Angelica from G4. We lined the reception and corridors of the school waiting to catch our first glimpse of them. They ceremoniously paraded up and down before entering the gym where all the students gathered to learn about the Republic of Venice, 'la Serenissima' and the life and traditions of the Doge and Dogaressa.



Miss Klodia began by entrusting the keys of English Gate School to the Doge. Solemnly reading from a parchment in Venetian dialect he promised to protect the school from any future harm. The Doge then went on to explain some of the customs of the time.

The Doge was elected by the people of Venice and was an extremely powerful figure. He always wore gloves and could not be touched by anyone. The Dogaressa

always walked behind the Doge as she was much less important than him. Alessandro G4 passed round his swords and chain for us to touch and we were later able to try the Dogaressa's jewellery.



We all really enjoyed this visit because the Doge and Dogaressa were very kind and answered all our questions.

## La tradizione del Carnevale

G7

Una delle feste italiane più importanti si celebra a Venezia in piazza San Marco per offrire a tutti un periodo dedicato interamente al divertimento e ai festeggiamenti e in cui era lecito lasciarsi andare.

La festa in questione, come potete intuire, è il carnevale che si celebra dal sabato 12 febbraio fino al martedì 1 marzo. Il carnevale è una festa che viene nominata per la prima volta in un documento scritto nel 1090.

Il carnevale nasce per il desiderio di poter ribaltare il mondo anche per un piccolo periodo di tempo allo scopo di nascondere le gerarchie sociali della famiglia e

della comunità. Le maschere nascono per nascondere il viso e quindi non poter essere riconosciuti e messi in una classe sociale; questo sta alla base dei famosi scherzi fatti con leggerezza: infatti la maschera protegge l'autore delle burle dall'essere riconosciuto dagli altri.

Le prime maschere veneziane risalgono al 1200 mentre invece le primissime testimonianze e documentazioni risalgono al XV secolo.

Il carnevale può essere di tipo ambrosiano o romano. Il carnevale di Roma, o Carnevale romano, si festeggia nel periodo dell'anno che precede la Quaresima; fortemente ispirato ai Saturnalia degli antichi Romani, il carnevale fu anche uno dei principali festeggiamenti della Roma pontificia.



Il carnevale Ambrosiano è un evento annuale di carattere storico e religioso. Le manifestazioni coinvolgono la città di Milano e il territorio circostante.

I festeggiamenti del carnevale si svolgono in parate e sfilate in cui l'elemento più caratteristico è la tradizione del mascheramento e l'uso dei carri allegri fatti di cartapesta che trattano diversi temi, dalla politica alla storia, dalla religione ai temi attuali. Il carnevale è e sarà sempre una festa dove ti puoi esprimere in base al tuo costume e alla tua creatività, fa vedere la tua personalità e aiuta tutti a conoscerti in base al costume che scegli e che metti insieme.

# Carnival EGS style!

When the students first arrived at EGS on 3rd March they couldn't believe their eyes! Everyone was dressed in different costumes: it was Carnival time! Outside at the school gates Mr Ashley and Miss Verdiana were treated to their own Flintstones costume, cleverly designed just for them by G2 parents together with a special 'car' to get them to school.



The party began by everyone parading their costumes in the gym and dancing to music. "You could feel the happiness



in the air," said an excited Alessandro from G6. Cheered on by all the school Mr Giuseppe then delighted us with a breakdance which everyone enjoyed watching. Grade 6 didn't really didn't believe he could dance so well with such "glorious, fantastic, wonderful moves", said Riccardo G6.

Lunch was also carnival themed with sausage, pasta, chips and 'chiacchiere', a typical Italian speciality eaten at carnival time.

Fun for Middle School continued in the afternoon in the garden of the school where Mr Mark and Mr Ashley organised some enormously fun games. These included

sorting M & Ms into their different colours and throwing ping pong balls into cups of water. "The pressure to win house points was so great that the participants' hands were shaking" confessed Alessandro, G6.

"The students went home happily that evening, full of delicious food after what had been a very memorable day" claimed Giorgia, G6.



For this reason, Erika G6 would like to say a very big 'THANK YOU' on behalf of G6 students to Miss Klodia and to Miss Erika for organising such a special day.

## Promising Pupils pass the First Certificate!

G8

On Thursday 10 March Grade 8 students sailed into Milan with Mrs Hoatson and Mr Mark to take on the challenge of the Cambridge International examination 'the 'First Certificate' at the British Council.

We met in Via Borgospesso together with other candidates who were much older than us. The chilly weather had some of us worrying about frostbite! However it also helped us to cope with any possible negative outcomes as everyone tried to keep positive and conscious of



***Waiting outside to take the exam***

their abilities. We knew that we had been well prepared in our English

lessons and felt ready to excel.

Everything was well organised and precautions were taken to prevent cheating. The written part of this computer based test was taken in a small apartment-looking office where it felt professional to be working in cubicles.

The 'Reading and Use of English' paper lasted one hour and 10 minutes. This was followed by a writing test of one hour and 20 minutes and finally a listening test of 45 minutes by which time we were all starving!

Our teachers took us to an amazing restaurant 'Sweet Coffee' in Via Manzoni where we had some incredible sandwiches.

After lunch we took the speaking test in a much more charming and majestic building in 38, Via Manzoni which had recently been renovated and was furnished in a modern style. We took this test in pairs and by 3.00pm we had finally



***Waiting patiently to take the speaking test***

finished leaving us feeling relieved and relaxed like a huge weight had been lifted from our shoulders.

We all found this examination to be a challenging experience but we unanimously agree that it is definitely worth taking as it certifies our English as we leave English Gate School.



***Letting off steam in the courtyard afterwards***

Two weeks later Grade 8 students were delighted to discover they had all passed this prestigious exam!!!

# G3 & G4 trip to the Archeopark

*Denis and Riccardo Ra G4*

When we arrived at school at 7.30am, G4 and G3 were a little bit sleepy but still excited.

We boarded the bus and Miss Verdiana woke us up by playing a lot of fun music on the journey.

At 10:00am we arrived at the Archeopark in Boario Terme. Our guide showed us to the lunchroom to put our bags in. Now we could start our day!

We did loads of amazing activities. First of all, the



guide taught us to use a bow and arrow to shoot a wooden wolf. After that, the guide gave us tiny copper disks and stones. We made bowls out of them.

Then we were divided into 6 groups and with a rope, we climbed a large stone hill and came back down again. It wasn't scary, just exciting.

A bit later on, we had a raft race against G3 and we won! To move the raft we needed to pull a rope as hard as we could. For our next activity, the guide showed us some rocks with carved images.

When it was our turn to make our own, he taught us a trick to draw the

outside of the shapes but not the inside. We also made some beautiful artwork with clay.

For the last activity, we went into a dark cave which was full of drawings. They were very special and amazing.

When we returned to school, we were tired but full of great memories of a wonderful day.



# Around the World: Amira's Canada

*Nicolò G5*

This month we had a special guest from Canada ... Amira and our reporters took the opportunity to interview her.

## Foods

Amira started the interview by listing her favourite foods of Canada including Nanaimo bars, Pontine and obviously Maple syrup. Maple syrup is one of the most important things in Canada. This delicious sauce comes from Maple trees, very common there as we even see their leaf in the Canadian flag.

## Festivals

Amira then told us that the most important festival was Canada day. Canada day is basically the same festival as 'La



festa dell'unità d'Italia'. Therefore it consists of big parades and all of the people paint on their faces the colours of the Canadian flag. This festival is held on the 1st of July.

## Sport

The main sport in Canada is hockey. This sport is practised on ice. The aim of the game is to score more goals than the opponent in his net. Protection is very important in this sport because the discus (the ball which is used in hockey) is very hard and can fly high in the air.



# Architect for Life: Alexia Massucco



**G5**

Alexia is an architect, she introduced her presentation by telling us her studies to get to the position she is now: firstly Alexia said that she graduated in architecture. Then she did an extra exam specialising in economics. She continued her presentation by telling that she had always been interested in architecture because her father took her to various flea markets.

Alexia continued her presentation by saying

that her everyday work was to convince clients to buy her furniture. She said that her method to convince the client was: first visit the client and ask him the style that he wants, then tell him (or her) the price and lastly sell it.

She concluded her presentation with the wonderful phrase "Follow your dreams".



*Learning about materials*

# The Sky's the limit!

*Sara, Alice and Giulia G6*

On 22 March Grade 1 and Grade 2 flew off to Volandia, a space and



aeroplane museum near Malpensa airport, with Miss Samantha and Miss Verdiana, Miss Erika, Mr Ashley,

Two guides, Luca and Giuliano explained the different types of aeroplanes to the students, some of them from World War Two, as well as how to wear an astronaut's suit and how to use the different games. Grade 1 and 2 also got the chance to see real planes taking off and landing. They also watched a 3D video and gazed at the stars and planets above their heads.

What the students enjoyed most was dressing up as astronauts and pretending to fly in a spaceship.

All the students agreed that it was a great trip and that they would like to do it again.

## Concorso WWF - Mi Curo di Te

*Miss Arianna*

Con il progetto "Mi Curo di Te" il WWF si rivolge al mondo dei ragazzi e della scuola, nella convinzione che le iniziative in difesa della natura possano avere successo solo se sostenute da una maggiore consapevolezza e da una crescita di competenze. Con questo spirito nasce "Mi Curo di Te": un percorso appassionante che ha origine dalla volontà di investire in educazione,

dunque nel “capitale umano”, e dedicato a sensibilizzare le nuove generazioni.

Infatti, il compito di immaginare il futuro spetta ai giovani, naturalmente, e alla scuola che li forma, dando loro gli strumenti per riuscire ad elaborare un’idea di mondo che si basi su principi di altruismo, empatia e sensibilità civica.

In questo anno scolastico “Mi Curo di Te” aiuta a scoprire tutto sul nostro affascinante Pianeta insieme a una mascotte d'eccezione: Milla, la formica. È stato inviato del materiale in base all’età degli studenti e ogni docente può decidere l’impostazione più idonea a sviluppare l’argomento che più interessa.

I bambini di G1 e G2 hanno svolto un lavoro sull'impronta ecologica, mentre G3, G4 e G5 e le classi della MIDDLE hanno prodotto degli elaborati sul tema “IMMAGINARE IL FUTURO” e in seguito hanno realizzato in vari



formati dei cartelli con SLOGAN in cui invitano gli esseri umani a salvare il pianeta Terra in tutti i modi possibili.

Le foto dei materiali prodotti dai nostri bambini parteciperanno ad un concorso.

Well done children!!

## Campionati junior di giochi matematici per G4 e G5

*Miss Rosa*

I **Campionati junior** sono una gara matematica

che consta di una serie di problemi logici e intuitivi svolti individualmente in 90 minuti nelle classi G4 e G5, il giorno 17 marzo 2022. Da vari anni, essi sono indetti a livello nazionale in collaborazione con l’università Bocconi.

I quesiti sono stati suddivisi in ordine di complessità:

- Categoria CE, alunni della quarta primaria, quesiti 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
- Categoria CE, alunni della quinta primaria, quesiti 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12

La gara è avvenuta all’interno della scuola primaria, sotto la direzione dei docenti



responsabili.

Il totale del punteggio è stato di 36 punti per tutte le risposte esatte dei quesiti rivolti alla classe quarta e 68 punti per i quesiti rivolti alla classe quinta.

La maggior parte degli studenti ha svolto i propri test con uno spirito positivo e propositivo, cercando di ragionare, leggi “scervellarsi - lambiccarsi - arrovellarsi” e, laddove c'erano impedimenti, sono stati invitati a calcolare seguendo un ordine logico matematico.

Il risultato è stato brillante, poiché una buona parte degli studenti di ogni classe ha totalizzato il punteggio massimo.

**Testi di allenamento al pensiero logico - intuitivo.** Sul sito [www.mateinitaly.it](http://www.mateinitaly.it) sono pubblicati alcuni testi, con le soluzioni, che danno un'idea dei "giochi" assegnati quest'anno.



## Student Council

### *Leonardo and Nicolò G6*

We first started reporting on the Student Council in our October edition. Since then they have been meeting regularly to discuss different proposals. In this month's meeting there was the opportunity to consider many items such as music in the canteen, fountains in the playground and even Carbonara on the lunchtime menu!

However, the most important news to emerge is that the school has decided to enter the Green Flag competition which promotes eco sustainability in schools around the world.

To enter the competition the school will have to commit to turning off lights, saving energy and limiting the use of plastic. The competition is run in three continents and aims to make schools as eco-friendly as possible. 59,000 schools are involved from 72 countries.

Eight of the student councillors then went around the classes spreading the news but this is only just the start! Nicolas from G6 informed us that “The competition is only 10% of what we want to do in the school.”

For more information about the competition check out the website: [www.ecoschools.global](http://www.ecoschools.global) and watch this space for more news!

# Time for history

*Leonardo G6*

This column will tell you all the important events that happened in this month of March.

|      |   |
|------|---|
| 1794 | <i>Sardinia joins the Revolutionary Wars</i>  |
| 1821 | <i>Napoleon I "the great" dies in Saint Helens Island</i>                           |
| 1847 | <i>The "Conferenza dell'Unione" issued by Vincenzo Gioberti starts</i>              |
| 1943 | <i>Italy changes side from the axis to the allies to fight WW2</i>                  |
| 2012 | <i>The N.R.F. battalion gains Southern Tripolitaine during the Libyan civil war</i> |

# Thought for the month



**Mrs Hoatson**

Happy Easter to all our readers and we hope you have a restful holiday with your loved ones.

Our special thanks go to this month's contributors, reporters and interviewees.

# Yours faithfully

Hello! Thanks for reading this edition! There are a lot of articles now, and the Gate Gazette is becoming a real newspaper!

If you'd like to write an article for the Gate Gazette then we'd love to hear from you.

Please write to our chief editor, Nicolò G6 at [gategazetteegs@gmail.com](mailto:gategazetteegs@gmail.com) or Mrs Hoatson at [j.hoatson.egs@gmail.com](mailto:j.hoatson.egs@gmail.com)

