



# The Alabarda

International School of Trieste Community Newsletter | February 26, 2010 | V.I. issue XIV

## Congratulations **Ciro Mazzola!**

Congratulations are due to Grade Ten student **Ciro Mazzola** who has received an academic achievement award. The Manageritalia Association, an organization made up of business leaders, sponsored the award. He was encouraged to apply for it by his father, who is a member of the association. **Ciro's** academic records were submitted last year to the Manageritalia headquarters in Rome and they were judged against several other qualified contestants throughout Italy. He was up against fifty other applicants in the Friuli region alone and was one of the three winners in the region to accept the financial award last Wednesday. **Ciro** admitted to work-

ing hard and having to make social sacrifices for his schoolwork. He studies at least two hours a day and twice as much on weekends in order to maintain his high grades. It certainly looks like the hard work is paying off!



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**“University Prep”**  
 This week the administration has launched a new tool for parents and students: “University Prep.” This website organizes information about the university application procedure as a support to IST families with timelines, tips and useful links. Look for more details in next week's newsletter. In the meantime, feel free to check it out!  
<https://sites.google.com/a/istrieste.org/university-prep/>

## UPCOMING CALENDAR:

**STUDY ALLOWANCES:** The application forms for contributions available to FVG students in **Regional Law 14/91 - for students in Gr. 1 to 12 and Regional Law 3/98 - for HS students only** - have been handed out. Families who wish to can fill in the application on-line ([www.provincia.trieste.it](http://www.provincia.trieste.it)) by the last week in February. Please note that **on-line applications do NOT substitute the written application. Applications will be valid only if received in writing by March 1<sup>st</sup> 2010.**

**TEACHER IN-SERVICE:** We remind you that the next staff development in-service day will be **Friday, March 19<sup>th</sup>** when school will end at **12:00 o'clock noon**, just after lunch. There will be the possibility to have a babysitting service for the EC children until the end of the school day (4 p.m.) as well as afterschool play group activities for the Elementary, Middle and High school students organised by the PTA. **Anyone interested can fill in the enclosed form and hand it back to the Office by March 5<sup>th</sup>. Please note that there will be no bus service at 4.00 p.m. All the buses will leave at 12.00 noon.**

**DISCO:** The Gr.6-7-8 disco to which also **Gr. 5** students are invited, will take place **today from 4.00 to 7.00 p.m.**

**Board Meeting:** The next Board meeting will take place Monday, **March 1<sup>st</sup> at 8:30 p.m.**

**PTA MEETING:** The next PTA meeting will take place **Wednesday March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2.15 p.m.** in the school cafeteria. Those who wish to have lunch at school are kindly asked to tell the office by Monday March 1<sup>st</sup>.

**ARTS SHOW:** There will be a MS Arts Show **Thursday, March 4<sup>th</sup> at 8.00 p.m. in the Cafeteria.** Students will be showing off what they have learned the first semester in Art, Music and Drama. We hope to see you all there!

**HAITI FUNDRAISING:** Special thanks to parents and students who contributed to the fundraising for the victims of the earthquake in Haiti. We collected **€ 245,36**

**BAKE SALE:** Thanks to students and families who supported the Bake Sale, we collected **€ 106.10.** Congratulations and keep it up.

## **PTA MEETING!**

### **THURSDAY, MARCH 4, AT 2:15 PM**

Everyone is welcome to attend and put forward any ideas/views they may have. Please try to come along and support your child's school!

The agenda is:

1. Destination of PTA funds;
2. Feedback from the committees;
3. Feedback from the Board reps about the Board meeting;
4. AOB

## **Middle School**

### **Middle School Art** (Alexis Firsty)

The Middle School art class has been concentrating on the theme of imagination for the last few projects. As a transition from our concentration on drawing from observation, we completed two projects that had students drawing something from life and then using their imaginations and various art materials to change their drawings into something else. We are also preparing for the upcoming art exhibition by choosing the work to be included in the show and writing artist statements to describe our ideas about the work.

### **Middle School Journalism** (Nicholas Binder)

In journalism we are continuing to expand on the themes introduced at the beginning of the year. On top of publishing *The Virtue* every month, students have been using the writing skills we focused on at the start of the year to start looking at journalism beyond straight news (profiles, features, art's reviews, etc.) and touch on issues such as bias, censorship, propaganda, and the influence of new technology on journalism.

### **Middle School Latin** (Giorgia Gelsi)

Grade 7 Students are working on their Latin grammar, they are practicing through the use of traditional phrases.

Grade 8 Grade is continuing to work on adjectives, they are writing stories about life of the Ancient Romans in order to practice their descriptive writing skills.

### **French** (Lucia Macaluso)

GRADE 6 This quarter we worked on module 2 "Toi et moi" and through oral and written exercises we learned how to say where we live and what nationality we are, how to talk about family and pets, about what we look like and what we are like. Currently we are working on module 3 "Au collège" and we are learning through varied activities how to talk about school subjects, timetables and our day at school.

GRADE 7 This quarter we worked on module 2 "Ma vie" and we learned through oral and written exercises how to talk about what we do in the morning, about clubs we go to and how to make arrangements to go out. Currently, we are working on module 3 "Familie and co-pains" and we are learning through varied oral and written activities how to talk about family, friends, our favorite things and the body.

GRADE 8 This quarter we worked on module 2 "J'arrive" and through oral and written exercises we learned how to talk about professions, about our house, about how we get on with people, how to ask if we can do something and how to help with the preparations for a party. Currently we are working on module 3 and through varied oral and written activities we are learning how to say what we are going to do, to ask about where places are and how to get there, how to talk about the past using the *perfect* and *imperfect* tense.

### **Middle School Spanish** (Paloma Bernabe)

Grade Six students will read their first Spanish book, "El misterio de la llave" by Elena Moreno. At the same time, they will continue to improve their Spanish grammar structure by learning the *irregular present*. The students will learn practice topics through conversation expressing what they want to eat and drink and describing their school and personal routine.

Grade Seven is reinforcing infinitive structure in Spanish in order to get ready to start their first Spanish past: *preterito indefinido*. After this important grammar structure, students will focus on using new holiday vocabulary. The student will read "Rinconete y Cortadillo" by Miguel de Cervantes, a very comical and interesting piece of writing by a Spanish author. Grade Eight was introduced to Spanish Renaissance Literature in order to start "Lazarillo de Tormes." In the grammar section, students will study the superlative absolute, place prepositions, preterito imperfecto and preterito indefinido. They will practice what they learn by using the basic travel vocabulary.

### **Middle School German** (Silvia Agostini)

**Grade 6** Students have begun working on module 2 "Die Schule" and have learned how to talk about their timetables, express their opinions about school subjects, ask someone what their favorite subject is, ask what time/day someone has a specific subject. Students are now working on unit 3 "Wie spät ist es?" and are learning how to ask/give the time and ask/give information about what time and day their favorite TV programme is on. They will soon move on to unit 4, where they will learn how to ask for help in class.

**Grade 7** In Unit 3, "Emilys Austausch" students have learned how to understand and use everyday expressions for a visit, speak about what they did on holiday/during the weekend/yesterday through the use of the past tense (*Perfekt*). Students have learned when and how to use *auxiliary* verbs in the past, ask/answer questions about the weather, ask/answer how to say something in German ("Wie heißt [...] auf Deutsch?"). In order to enrich their vocabulary and improve both their pronunciation and speaking skills, students have been reading "Sherlock Holmes" in German and have been practicing, summarizing it orally by using conjunctions *und, aber, oder, nachdem, später* etc. Students will soon learn how to speak about what someone else did in the past and to do written summaries of a text.