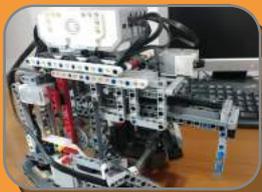




# BRAG MAG

ISSUE 2 17/18

OCTOBER 2017



## Efran Mohseni represents Cyprus at the JA Alumni Conference in Prague

I was never interested in the world of entrepreneurship. At least, that's what I thought. But that soon changed, with my first experience in the Bi-Communal Innovation Camp hosted by JA Cyprus. Winning first place is something that I would have never expected to happen, especially since I had little knowledge about entrepreneurship. But there was one thing that contributed to that achievement and that was teamwork. I realised, team work and communication is a vital aspect of our evolution in society. My experience in Junior Achievement did not end here, my team and I got to visit the annual JA Alumni Conference, in Prague. I did not know what to expect. I had increased my knowledge about entrepreneurship and

developed a few startup ideas of my own. Excited I arrived at our hotel. The next days consisted of a lot of lectures and speeches from different entrepreneurs who shared their own stories; from their failures all the way up to their successes. It was truly inspiring. Being surrounded by all these young people who had a vision, a goal and passion was perhaps one of the best feelings I ever had and being given the

opportunity to listen to their ideas is something that I will be forever grateful. We also had fun adventures, wandering in the streets of Prague to singing in the train while coming back from Ostrava. Unfortunately, it all soon came to an end in less than a week. We all had to say our goodbyes and now have to patiently wait to reunite with each other in the next JA Alumni Conference.

**Efran Mohseni**



## WORLD ROBOTICS COMPETITION

This year we participated in the World Robotics Competition. Unfortunately we did not get a place, due to technical problems with the robot, our team still managed to create the most advanced robot and software in the competition. We worked incredibly hard, with the last 3 weeks being especially intensive and unforgettable. During the whole robot development process, we overcame hundreds of hurdles, which developed both teamwork and project management skills while under the pressure of time. I strongly recommend participation in this competition, since besides developing useful skills, there is an amazing opportunity to represent Cyprus abroad in the world finals. Even if we did not get this chance, we still had an amazing time with challenging work and getting to know new friends.

**Aleksandr Vinarskis 6A**

“EDUCATION IS NOT THE LEARNING OF FACTS, BUT TRAINING THE MIND TO THINK.”  
- ALBERT EINSTEIN

# Constantinos Ioannou cycled 350km for Theotokos Foundation



Constantinos Ioannou in 2B, participated the Theotokos Tour which took place from the 5th—8th October 2017. This tour started in 2011 by a group of friends, who organised a three-day cycling event in order to raise funds for the 'Friends of Theotokos Association Committee'. Since then the group of cyclists grew but the amount of funds collected also grew over the years.

Since 2011 an amount in excess of €50,000 has been collected.

The funds collected have been used for the specific needs of the Foundation. More specifically a transportation mini bus was purchased which included a special lift chair, buildings have been renovated in the Foundations' premises and also bought a

special chair for the needs of the children. PASCAL English and Greek School, Lemesos pupils and teachers raised an amount of €1012,70 through a non-uniform day for the Theotokos Foundation, Eleni and Thelma—our School Presidents, as well as Constantinos handed over the cheque to a representative of the Foundation.



**Parents/  
Teachers  
Conference  
22/11/17**

## YEAR 1 TEAM BUILDING AT ESCAPE ROOMS



Year 1 pupils had fun on Wednesday 18th October trying to find various clues that would help them escape from their various rooms, including a Harry Potter room. Thank you to Ms Kynigou, Ms Miltiadous, Ms Agapiou and Ms Agathcleous for assisting. A big thank you to our wonderful Year 6 pupils involved.

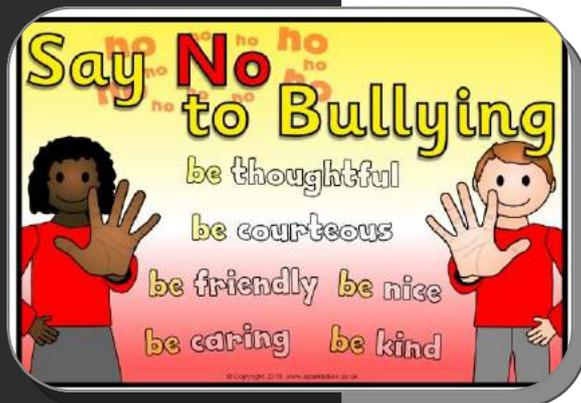
# ANTI-BULLYING THEATRICAL PRODUCTION



Bullying is A phenomenon which is becoming in a daily occurrence and many people suffer at the hands of bullies to the point that they may resort to suicide. On Thursday, 12<sup>th</sup> October 2017 we had the opportunity to watch an innovative theatrical production about bullying organized by THOC.

The play was about a boy named Victor who was lonely and “different” from other kids so they all called him names and spoke to him inappropriately, making him feel like he doesn’t belong in the world and that there is no point in living. He had no friends at school and always sat alone in the classroom during break. Different events take place, and in the end, Victor wants to commit suicide but fortunately someone pulled him back at the last minute. Maria -a girl, who was part of the group bullying Victor- became friends with him and the story ended with a beautiful friendship and realising the beauty of life.

I have to admit that this play moved me a lot. The emotions were quite overwhelming. I felt sorry for the boy as he didn’t deserve this behaviour, no one does. When he was ready to jump off the roof I felt such relief when somebody pulled him back. In the end I was so happy that Victor finally had a real friend which supported him, cared about him and showed him love. We all have gained a valuable lesson by watching this play. Bullying is not okay. We must stand up and speak out!



## Elena Avraam—Sports Psychologist speaks to our athletes about “How to Handle Stress”

Sports Psychology is a relatively recent discipline of Sports Sciences which investigates the psychological factors involved in physical activity and analyses the behaviour of the people associated with sports. It is well known that the performance in sports nowadays does not depend only on physical training but also on the continuous training of the mind. It is also accepted that in the future the physical differences between elite athletes will be limited and therefore the element that will bring great performances for some individuals and Olympic medals will be the psychological one. Our athletes were fortunate enough to attend a presentation on “How to Handle Stress” by Elena Avraam. They found this talk both interesting and informative.



## "LIFE AFTER PASCAL" BY VALEDICTORIAN 2016, ZOE EFSTATHIOU



For those of you who are still wondering, I study BSc Philosophy Politics and Economics, with Economics Major, at the University of Warwick in the UK. Going straight to university after school, I had to accept the fact that I'm studying a prestigious course at a highly esteemed university where every single course mate is at the very least just as good as me, with each and everyone being top students at their own previous schools. Given that the University of Warwick has been consistently in the top 3 universities in the UK for my main subject, you can imagine how competitive it is. The prestige is high, competition is high and expectations are even higher. I will never forget the first lecturer began by saying that that specific day is a very important day for the Economics department at Warwick, because a Warwick alumnus, Professor Oliver Hart, received a Nobel prize for Economics. At university you will learn to apply what you have learned in high school - balancing responsibilities and setting your own priorities, which will become increasingly important as you further your studies. There is also a significant proportional increase in independent study, which becomes more and more exciting as you progress in obtaining your degree. I am lucky enough to study all things I enjoy most—Economics, Industrial Economics, Ethics (which is the umbrella of Moral Philosophy) and is inextricably intertwined with Behavioural Economics. At first, the level of required independent reading—and thinking—felt intimidating, but now, the fact that you get to specialize in what you enjoy most and read as many books and articles that revolve around the subject is fascinating. ***"THE TRANSITION FROM HIGH SCHOOL TO UNIVERSITY IS A BIG LEAP, BUT NOT A PLUNGE INTO THE UNKNOWN THANKS TO PASCAL ENGLISH SCHOOL LEMESOS."*** And for that, and as cliché as it may sound, I feel forever grateful to have been at a school that genuinely equipped me with all thing necessary to not only adapt, but to also flourish in this new environment. PASCAL has genuinely helped me to continue my studied to the tertiary level and thus enabled me to obtain all the qualifications necessary to get admitted to the distinguished University of Warwick.

### SPORTS AEROBICS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS



Having the opportunity to go abroad to represent my country was an amazing accomplishment for me. From the 18<sup>th</sup>—22<sup>nd</sup> October the Sports Aerobics World Championships took place in Leiden, Netherlands. Getting to perform on stage in front of hundreds of people, holding the Cyprus flag was truly a blessing. I took part in the solo as well as the trio category, where one of my team members was a fellow PASCAL pupil, Antria Voniati, 4A, I obtained 15<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> place respectively. The best of all was meeting new friends from across the globe. In my opinion, it is not about winning but about making memories, which I will hold forever in my heart.  
**Christina Aeroporou 6A**

### "Democracy in Crisis"

Over the last years we have witnessed a widespread dissatisfaction of European citizens with mainstream politics and members of the political establishment. The rise of extreme nationalistic parties, Brexit, record levels of electoral abstention and lack of trust towards institutions are only a few indicators of the political crisis that is facing the EU today.

Can civic technology provide answers to the aforementioned problems? Are parliament watch – fact checking – access to information and vote watch platforms adequate tools towards restoring trust, political accountability and citizen engagement? These issues were tackled during the Conference that took place at the University of Cyprus on 21<sup>st</sup> October. Daryna Potapova 5A, Theodora Kyriakou 5B, Paraskevi Aristidiou 5B, Ilyas Israfilof 5A and Spyros Skoullos 5A attended this conference.



# OXI Day—28th October 1940



The word 'Oxi' simply means 'No'. It is the word Greek Prime Minister Ioannis Metaxas used in 1940 to Mussolini's spokesperson when asked if Axis forces could use Greek territory to gain access to areas of Europe not already occupied by Hitler and Mussolini. Metaxas stalwartly said 'No!'

Prime Minister Metaxas had deliberately done his best to keep Greece neutral in the early months of World War II, but the ultimatum tipped any chance of allegiance and Greece became allied with Great Britain.

Prior to this, Metaxas may have decided to go either way. Personally, he had links with Germany based on his early education. He had also resisted Greece becoming involved with World War I and had refused to support the Allies in the Dardanelles Campaign.

The ultimatum changed everything and Greece turned out to be a strong force against the Germans and Italians, facilitating the Allies' regaining of Albania.

Cities and towns across Cyprus and Greece celebrate Ochi Day with military parades that close down most centres. In Nicosia, Cyprus, school students and veterans march in a parade and carry banners and the flags of Cyprus and Greece. Political speeches are made and the day is focused on celebrating the heroes of the nation.

Cyprus particularly considers the day as one to not only remember the bravery of the people who walked in the past, but to focus on the future and to believe that their people can have strong and independent freedom and prosperity.





# OCTOBER





27/10/2017

Dear Parents/Guardians,

It is with great pleasure and honour that we share our news on the nomination of PASCAL Education in the category 'Services' in this year's IN Business Awards. This nomination is the achievement of goals attained and continuous investment of PASCAL Education with educational innovations, coincided with growth and development; hence our three new primary schools in Lefkosia, Lemesos and Larnaka.

As one of the largest and most reputable private organisations in primary and secondary education in Cyprus, PASCAL Education continues to strive forward and fulfill the goals of the establishment, doing so with varied teaching programmes available for today's educational needs. We offer a choice of studying either in the Greek programme or in the English programme and we also offer the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme; recognized globally. Our graduates secure places at top Cypriot and Greek universities together with acceptance at prestigious UK, USA and universities within the rest of Europe, due to their academic excellence and success.

Apart from the modern facilities that are provided within the teaching environment, the organisation owes the greatest majority of this achievement to our specialized teaching personnel with their consistence, enthusiasm and continuous cultivation over the years, working with the individual talents and skills of each pupil. We recruit teachers that strive beyond their teaching boundaries to support and motivate our pupils.

This prestigious nomination also honours our pupils with their passion, together with our guidance and continuous academic achievements, at a higher level.

The IN Business Awards are considered to be the ultimate award for any Cypriot entrepreneur as all nominations are made by a judging committee comprised of highly respectable leaders of Organisations and Associations from both the economic and socio-economic world.

Apart from the judging committee, 50% of the votes will be open to the public and so we would be extremely grateful if you were to support us in our effort to achieve this award by casting your vote, using one of the four voting methods below by Friday, 1<sup>st</sup> December 2017:

1. Send a text message on 5533, by typing IB3 05
2. Calling 90031703
3. Visit [inbawards.com](http://inbawards.com) to complete your details and choose PASCAL EDUCATION in the Services category
4. Fill in the voting ballot in the October/November Issue of IN Business Magazine and sent it to the listed address

***Where there is success, lies true education!!***

Thank you for your support,

Mr Pantelis Andreou

Founder and Managing Director