

MIS NEWS

FALL & WINTER 2017



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OUTWARD BOUND

On the 18th September 2017, all secondary students of MIS went to **Outward Bound**.

Outward Bound is an organization, in which they want to help people communicate in a team and work together as a team.



This trip was divided into two groups. One group consisted of all boys and one group consisted of all girls. The boys and girls went to other branches of Outward Bound. The boys were going to Schwangau and the girls were going to Baad (Austria). In total, 8 teachers went on the trip: Mr. Henderson, Mr. Trautmann, Mr. Vicente and Mr. Rock, with the boys and Ms. Sheafor, Ms. Eda, Frau. Decker and Ms. Christy, with the girls.

They were transported by *Flixbus*. They all travelled in the same bus for four hours towards Kempten. While the boys stayed on the same bus to go to Schwangau, the girls had to go on another bus.

Both Baad and Schwangau took an hour from Kempten.

When the boys reached Schwangau, they had to walk up a steep way with their luggage. They were greeted by four instructors; Cordelia, Tim, Phillip and Maijana. The instructors told them that there would be 3 groups, so that they could be more organized. Cordelia was the instructor for the youngest group, which included all the fifth-grade boys and some sixth graders, including Mr. Trautmann and Mr. Henderson. Maijana was the instructor of the rest of the sixth graders and all students from seventh until ninth grade, including Mr. Vicente. Tim was the instructor of all the other students, along with Mr. Rock.

After the introduction, all the groups were escorted to their rooms. The rooms were comfortable and the beds were made of wood, but with the mattress, everything was so comfy.

Meanwhile, when the girls arrived at Baad, the instructors were there to greet them and they were arranged into two groups. They met in their groups and did a quick getting-to-know-you activity with their instructors.

In Schwangau, all the groups had a meeting with their instructors. The youngest group was on duty for dinner. Dinner was at 6 pm (18:00). They all had to do services to the house.

In Baad, after dinner, the girls were shown to their rooms. They were given some time to set up their room before they all met back downstairs together.

The girls then did a champagne glass activity, in which they had to find a way to drop an egg without it breaking. This was a team building activity.

After that, they went up to their rooms and got ready for bed, sorted out sleeping arrangements and had lights out at 11:00 pm.

On Tuesday, the boys had to do a riverbed walk, in which they hiked in mud and slippery pathways to get to a river. They had to climb up a river until they found a stone that said “2009”. The other groups did the same thing, but they had to climb until a dam. Then they had to hike back to the lodge.

Meanwhile, in Baad, the girls did an activity in which they had to follow the leader and find the best way to cross a river. This was a team building activity. After that, they hiked to a cottage to have hot chocolate and cake.

Because the youngest group was so tired, Cordelia gave them free time until dinner while groups 2 and 3 did something else. After dinner, they had free time until bedtime.

The girl’s agenda for Wednesday: Hiking to a hut for the night.

They were divided into the younger and older groups and each took a different route. The younger group had the map for the older group and the older group had the map for the younger group. Using walkie-talkies they had to guide each other to the hut.

The boy’s was cooking over the fire. Group 1 climbed in an indoor climbing wall. Group 2 and 3 did something else. Because group 1 behaved well, as a treat, they hiked down to Rewe and bought either chocolate or ice cream.

That evening in Schwangau, some people were helping to cook while others played. Normally, they had dinner at 6 pm. Today, they ate at 7 pm. At 8 pm, they had to clean all the dishes. After that, they had a small barbecue in which they barbecued dough and ate them after they were hard enough to eat. The Germans call this “Stockbrot”. Everyone got only a little free time, but it was worth it.

In Baad, the girls had to take on different responsibilities at the hut like cooking, cleaning,

and setting up. They also had a fire with marshmallows and singing.

The next day, the girls cleaned up the hut and hiked back to the main base.

In Schwangau, Thursday’s agenda was building rafts. All the groups had to be in teams combined with at least one of each group. They had to hike to a lake called “Bannwaldsee” which took 45 minutes. After each team built a raft they had to present it to the others. Then, they were allowed to sail on it in the lake. Some kids weren’t allowed to go as they couldn’t swim as good as the ones going on the raft. Mr. Trautmann thought that it wouldn’t be fair if some kids couldn’t go on the raft, so he took the kids that didn’t go on the raft on a small round. After that was finished, everyone packed their stuff and hiked back. The whole trip to the lake to at least 5 hours.

In Baad, when the girls reached the main base, they did a team building activity in which the girls created a grid and each one took a turn to figure out which order to move through the squares. The trick is that only one girl would go at a time and then she had to go back and communicate to the others what she had learnt.

On the last day of the trip, the boys did some team building activities such as walking a person in a blindfold through a steep pathway.





In Baad, the girls had to divide themselves into groups: a flag-raising group, a flag-designing group, and a song-writing group. The flag-raising group had to figure out how to raise the flag using ropes and a pole but they could not enter the circle around the center where the pole goes. They were successful at designing a flag and raising it while singing their song.



In Schwangau, group 1 was awarded some certificates for participation. Advait from 6th grade and Boris from 5th grade got special awards.

After their final meeting was over, the bus which was transporting everyone to the school, had already arrived. It drove to Kempten to pick up the girls, who were coming from Baad.



When the bus reached the school, it was 9: 00 pm. A lot of parents were there to greet them. And that is how the trip ended.



By Pranav Rajesh

FRAU MUELLER LIU

In this edition of the MIS News, I'm pleased to bring you an interview with our teacher Patricia Mueller-Liu.

Where are you originally from?

I was born in London, England. But at the age of 7 my father found a job in Germany so we had to move here. And at the age of 20 I moved to China for 15 years to study Chinese and within those 15 years I lived in Japan for 2 years.

Do you have kids?

Yes, I have 3 kids. The oldest one is 28 years old, then a 23-year-old and the youngest one is 18 and he leaves in Taiwan.

How many languages do you speak?

German, French, English and Chinese.

Do you have any suggestion for students that are living abroad?

Basically it's just about learning about the culture. Obviously, you also need to get used to the language. And I think having a circle of friends is very important.

Since when do you work here at MIS and what have been your feelings about it?

I've been here for 2 or 3 months and I have enjoyed it very much so far. I really like the international atmosphere, I love the mutual support from everyone and the teachers and students have been really nice.

By Mauricio Barraza

MEGAN CORBETT

Megan Corbett is a primary teacher at MIS. In the interview, she told Eungang and Jolanda about her career, hobbies and why she likes to teach students. Megan Corbett is from Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. She came to MIS in September, so she is new to the school. She said she came to MIS because she moved to Mannheim, and she wanted to find a teaching job. She taught at an international school in Denmark, and at



different schools in Canada before she came to MIS. She also taught online for two years. She studied Early Childhood Education (also known as ECE) and Special Education in Manitoba, and also in Pennsylvania. Her major is History and her minor is English. She is a homeroom teacher for preschool, and she's teaching English to the reception and the preschool here at MIS. She also teaches Math, Science, and Art to the preschool. Her hobbies are spending time with her family, reading, and she loves to be outside. She thinks the advantages of teaching preschool and reception are that they're always growing and changing and they're learning so much and so fast, so it's always exciting to watch them. And she said "They're so sweet!"

By Jolanda Bolt & Eungang Kim

SCHOOL EXCHANGE

Last month Mrs. Mueller-Liu met with the representatives of the Qingdao Huangdao District Bilingual Elementary School, based in Qindao, China, giving the primary school pupils the unique opportunity to take part in an exchange trip. The QHDBES was founded in 2014, and currently has 1500 students (aged 6-13), along with 127 teachers, all in a 30000 square metre complex. The QHDBES has a number of recreational facilities including, a modern sports hall, library, swimming facilities, basketball courts, basketball courts, and facilities for football. The QHDBES even has 11 subjects available for students, which are, Mandarin, English, Maths, Politics, PE, Art, Music, Computer Science, Science, and vocational training. The school and its state of the art facilities can provide for a variety activities relating to Art, Marshall Arts, Music (incl. Choir), Technology, even 3D printing. As the name suggests the school is located in Qingdao, the city was a former German colony, and is now a popular tourist destination, due to its vast beaches and scenic mountain range, which is located north to the city. The city itself is located on a lush green peninsula, bordered by the emerald green, East China Sea, and hence got the name Qingdao, which translates to blue-green island. The city is also filled with historic sites such as Ba da guan, the original location where the Germans settled in the late 18 hundreds, which is still to this day full of old German structures.

By Alexander van Vught

MISSION STATEMENT

We live our lives with many objectives in our mind. These objectives keep changing, they are dependent on what our priorities are or in what do we want for ourselves in that moment. Nevertheless, these objectives should be always followed with a plan, with a mission statement.

The mission statement represents *how* are going to reach our goals, using virtues, values or even quotes to inspire us every day and keep ourselves focused on reaching what we want. Using the mission statement should guarantee us that we will reach our goals.

An interview with Mauricio (grade 10) explains the concept from a more realistic point of view:

-What is your definition for the concept of mission statement?

"It's a goal you set for yourself to be better."

-Should everyone have a mission statement?

"I don't think is necessary, but it certainly helps to reach your goals."

-Is it hard to stay true to your mission statement?

"At first it might be though, because it's a behavior that you are trying to follow. But later it is easier since you practice it everyday."

Having a mission statement is really important to keep the focus in our objectives. Without it, reaching our goals would be more of a sloppy road rather than a straight path.

By Alejandro Araiza

ROBOTICS CLUB

The robotics club is a place where the students get to learn how to program and build a robot using LEGO Nxt 2.0, which contains LEGO, a field programmable controller that uses national instrument software and a variety of sensors. Here students are encouraged to learn differently, either they build robots alone or, as most of them do it, in groups. The robotics club is there to give students an opportunity to learn in a fun way while using new technology. This is the robotics club's first official year.

Through the robotics club students should learn to become more curious regarding technology and how it works. The students will gain team building skills, they will learn how to build complicated things in the field of technology, and all this the students can do in an enjoyable way.

The robotics club consists of two groups, the A-team and a B-team. The A-team contains the best robotic club students, they are the people who will compete in external competitions, which means out-school competitions. The B-team is open to anyone in our school, and it will also host internal competitions.

By Gianluca Maniaci & Sanjeev Vidadala



MR. ROBERTO VICENTE

Roberto Vicente Romero was born in Zaragoza, Spain 27 years ago. Ever since he was a little kid, he always has loved the idea of knowledge and has always enjoyed of a great curiosity for the world around him. This love of learning, and the absence of science in his close surroundings, he grew up surrounded by a family of history and linguistic scholars led him to choose Biology as his subject. Mr. Vicente attended university in the city of Valencia, and then later was offered a scholarship by the University of Paris to finish his Master's Degree in Oncology, branch of medicine that deals with the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of cancer. After deciding that he didn't like the life of a researcher he then returned to Spain to get a Master's Degree in Education, and after working towards his Teacher Certificate, he worked there for 3 years.

Even though he was doing what he liked, the lower than average salary and the extensive working hours suggested to him that he needed a change of airs. He then turned his head to Germany, and the opportunities she offered. He made the decision of moving to Berlin, where he worked for 6 months until he found a very comfortable job, here at MIS.

Mr. Vicente enjoys reading, going to the gym and playing video games. His plans for the not so near future is to one day have a school of his own where he can share his love of learning.

By Mauricio Toache



MAN MEETS FOREST

More specifically “students meet forest weekly”, in Kaefertal Wald That is. In the outskirts of Mannheim in Garten-Stadt lies a Forest, namely the Kaefertal forest where the Grade ones , twos and preschool visit once a week. The grades 1 and 2 go every Tuesday straight after assembly and return just in time for lunch. Preschool on the other hand go on Thursdays leaving the school and returning to the school the same time as the grades 1 and 2.

“Where did it all start?” you may be asking yourselves. Well it actually was something inspired by Mrs Bentgens. It all started out in the middle of the last academic year as just a walk to the fire station. But it later evolved to become trips to the Kaefertal Wald providing a more exhilarating aspect to the walks.

Although one initially would think that its sole purpose is for the students to let off a little steam and inhale some fresh air, that’s not all... Education is valued dearly during these trips, as the teachers (Miss Thelen, Miss Joliam and an available assistant teacher) ensure that the Students are kept on their toes. During the Trip the teachers ask questions based on their surroundings, typical questions would be like: “Why some animals have thick fur?”, “What seasons mushrooms mainly pop up?” and “what the weather tends to be like in different seasons?” These trips also allow the students to observe and identify animals of greatly varying species; from Bison, Pigs and deer to owls, eagles and falcons!

In spite of it being set as a weekly outing, It is determined by the weather. When it rains cats and dogs the students remain in the school and alternative activities are arranged. Be it as it may, when it’s just a few showers here and there with a tat of wind, the students still go. As quoted by Miss Thelen “to toughen themselves up and allow them to breathe in some fresh air!”



BUCHMESSE

Au Salon Du Livre 2017: la France- invitée d'honneur!

Le 12 octobre, nous (les classes 8, 9, 10 et 11) sommes allés au Salon du Livre 2017. Avec mon groupe, j'ai visité le pavillon de la France et les halles 3 et 4. Le Salon du Livre était très intéressant parce que j'aime la France et la langue française. Les stands étaient en bois. Il y avait beaucoup de bandes dessinées et des tiroirs de bandes dessinées. Moi, j'aime les BD d'Astérix parce que je les ai lues quand j'étais petit. Il n'y avait pas trop du monde dans le pavillon de la France et seulement quelques gens ont parlé le Français. En total, je pense que le pavillon et les stands français étaient intéressants. (Max Keller, classe 9)

Au Salon du Livre il y avait beaucoup de stands. Dans le pavillon de la France il y avait des livres en français. Les étagères étaient en bois et on y trouvait beaucoup de livres. À une heure et demie il y avait un interview avec un auteur français. Les élèves ont posé des questions à l'auteur. Dans l' « Agora », il y avait beaucoup de snacks et des personnes. Il y avait aussi une tente où il y avait des lectures, et dans une autre tente, des auteurs ont signé leurs livres. Au total, le Salon du Livre à Francfort était très intéressant et nous avons reçu beaucoup de cadeaux publicitaires et des sucreries pour goûter. (Jolanda Bolt, classe 8)

Le Salon du Livre à Francfort est toujours très grand. Tout le monde va au salon ! On peut y découvrir une diversité de livres : des BD, des romans pour les jeunes et pour les adultes, et aussi des livres pour les plus petits. Cool, non ? Il y avait des livres d'autres pays aussi. Moi, j'aime les livres du Japon. C'était très intéressant ! Le livre que j'ai lu était sur écrire avec « Hiragana et Katakana ». C'était très facile pour moi, je connais tous les « Hiragana et Katakana ». Le Salon du Livre était très intéressant, mais j'y voyait deux problèmes : Le premier, c'est que les repas étaient exorbitants, et le deuxième c'est que devant les toilettes il y avait tout le temps une tres longue queue!

Par Sonja Filipp

"GIRL MEETS TROLL"

It was a rainy Sunday morning. I was sitting on my bed, feeling bored, not knowing what to do. I tried to read, listen to music, do my homework, but they just helped me to get more bored. Finally, I grabbed my raincoat, picked up an umbrella, and went outside for a short walk.

I decided to go to a park nearby, which could help me to relax and enjoy my day. In order to go to the park, I had to go through a wide forest, which I didn't really like. After about 10 minutes, I reached the enormous forest, and I walked through it.

I could hear the chirping of the birds, cracking of the branches, and the croaking of the frogs. And then, I saw a cave. It was made out of large stones; huge and black. Suddenly I was curious, and did something I shouldn't have done. I went into the big cave.

Inside it was dark; I could barely see anything. It smelled of rotten eggs, and even though I couldn't see anything, I could sense a creature living in this cave. Suddenly, there was a low growl. I felt a little frightened, so I shouted, "Someone there?" There was no answer.

But then, the ground shook, and I lost balance, falling over. The ground rose, revealing a giant troll, with a huge head made up of tiny rocks. Now I realised: I was standing on the back of this

gigantic troll!

I ran towards the entrance, hoping that the troll wouldn't notice. But I was wrong: the troll caught me in its hand, swinging me back and forth until I became dizzy. I fought against its grasp, but it was no use. The troll was way stronger than I was. I almost gave up, but just then, I saw something sparkle inside the troll's left eye. It was a glittering sword. Now I noticed that the troll's eyes were full of yellow liquid. I broke a tiny stone from its hand, and threw it towards its left eye. It went straight through the liquid, and the troll growled and tried to rub its eye in pain. When the sword came closer, I pulled it out of the liquid, and stabbed its yellow eye. The troll let go of me, stumbled and collapsed with a pile of rocks. I had to get out of this cave, or else I would be crushed with these huge, heavy rocks. I ran to the entrance with my last bit of strength, then I could breathe in fresh air again. I was so relieved; I've never thought I'd come out alive. I walked towards back home, didn't bother to tell my parents what had happened - it's just a waste of time making them believe imaginary things. I went straight up to my room, grabbed a piece of paper, and started to write a story of a girl defeating a troll.

By Eungang Kim

COMING UP

8th January 2018

School reopens

13th February 2018

Robotics Tournament at Offenburg Hochschule

9th February 2018

Fasching

12th – 16th February 2018

Fasching Holiday

20th February 2018

Parents' Evening for Primary

22nd February 2018

Parents' Secondary for Primary

24th February 2018

International Day

23rd March 2018

Talent Show



Friendly match:

MIS Scorpions vs ASC Neuenheim

This issue of our newsletter, MIS NEWS has been created and edited by MIS Secondary students.

All articles you have read in this issue are students' work and edited by fellow students.