

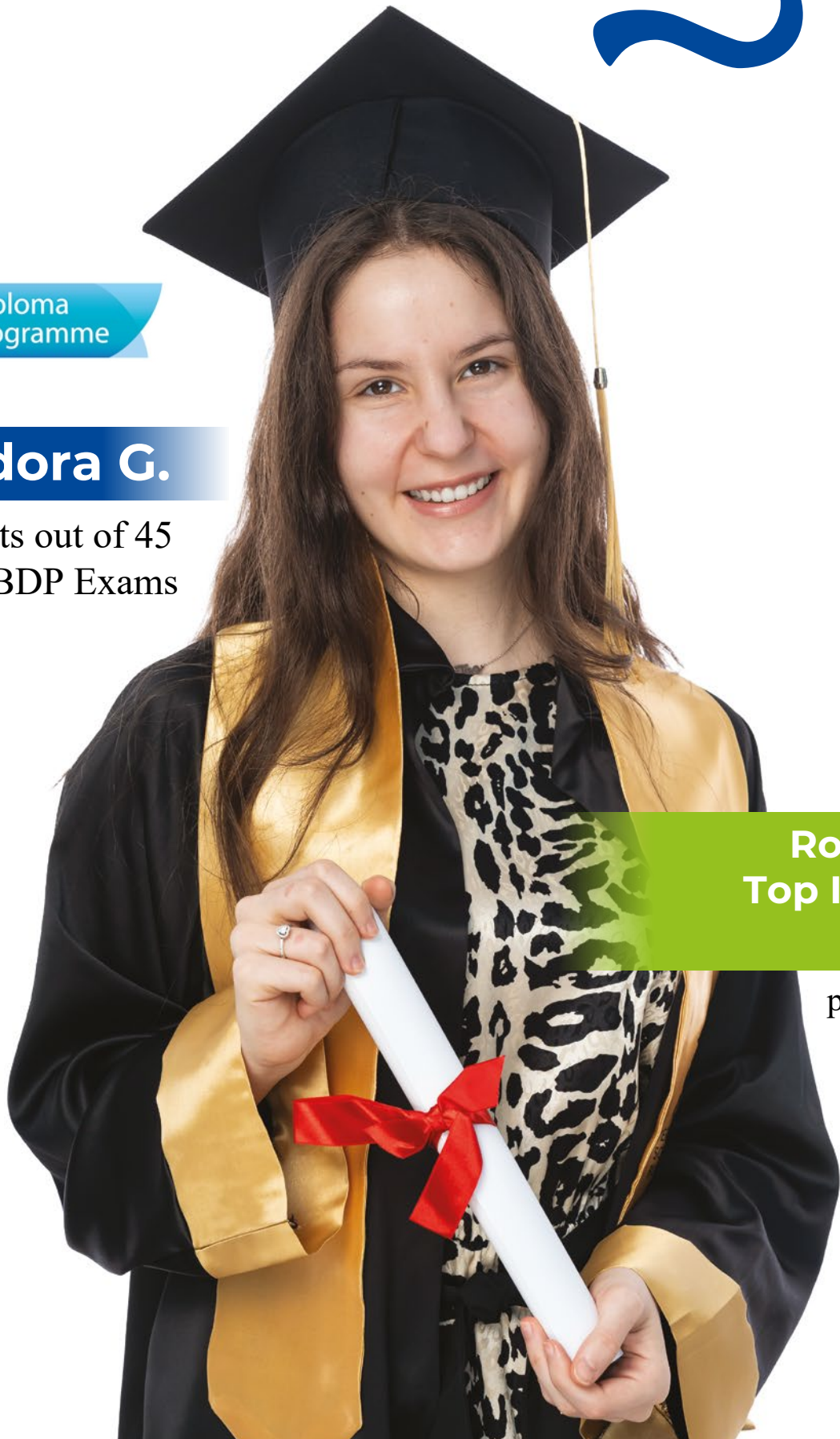


Teodora G.

45 points out of 45
at the IBDP Exams

**Romania's
Top IB Result
of 2025**

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International Baccalaureate 2025 High Achievers



Teodora G.

45 / 45



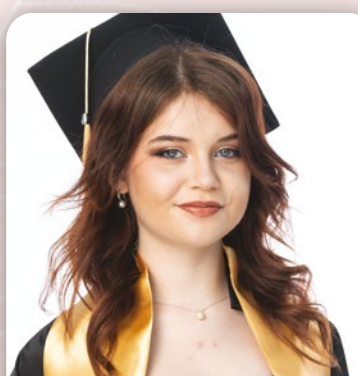
Violeta B.

44 / 45



Liza G.

43 / 45



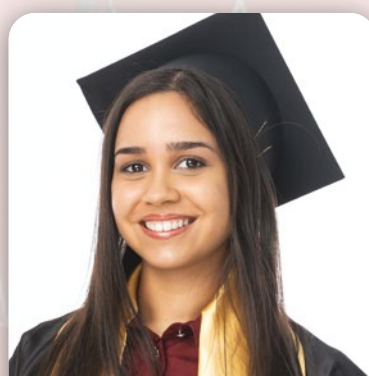
Sofia S.

41 / 45



Denisa C.

40 / 45



Sharon T.

40 / 45

HONESTY

EMPATHY

RESPONSIBILITY

OPEN-MINDEDNESS

Head of School Message



As we open the 2025–2026 academic year, I am filled with pride and gratitude for our community's remarkable achievements and the exciting opportunities that lie ahead. This new year begins with milestones that affirm the strength of our mission at ISB: to combine academic excellence with creativity, character, and global citizenship.

First and foremost, we celebrate the outstanding success of the Class of 2025, whose IB Diploma results stand as the strongest in Romania. With a 100% pass rate, an average score of 33.2 points (well above the global mean), and our very own **Teodora Gandore achieving a perfect 45 points** — the only student in Romania to do so this year — our graduates have once again proven that resilience, dedication, and the guidance of dedicated teachers open doors to the finest universities worldwide. These results are a tribute to the commitment of our students, families, and staff who work together to foster a culture of perseverance and achievement.

We take great pride in being **Romania's first and only International School as the Character School**, accredited by **Character.org**. This distinction reflects the core values of ISB — Honesty, Empathy, Respect, and Open-mindedness (HERO). Our commitment extends beyond academic excellence; we strive to nurture principled and compassionate young individuals who can make meaningful contributions to society. Through initiatives like CAS, the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award, Model United Nations, and Eco-Schools projects, our students demonstrate that leadership and service are essential components of a quality education.

This year also marks the expansion of our academic pathways with the introduction of **Cambridge A-Levels alongside the IB Diploma Programme**. By offering these two world-class routes, we ensure

that students can choose the path that best reflects their strengths, ambitions, and learning style. With our long-standing expertise in A-Levels and proven success with IB, ISB stands uniquely positioned to provide a flexible, balanced, and personalised education for all.

Looking forward, we remain guided by our **Strategic Plan 2025–2030**, which places teaching, learning, and well-being at the centre of everything we do. This year, we continue to enrich our curriculum through **Understanding by Design (UbD)**, expand opportunities for international competitions and service learning, and deepen our commitment to **digital literacy, sustainability, and global citizenship**. At the same time, we prepare for the upcoming **CIS 5-Year Accreditation Review**, a process that will reaffirm our dedication to continuous improvement and international standards of excellence.

This edition of Insight captures the essence of these achievements and the vibrant life of our school. Within its pages, you will find stories of resilience, creativity, service, and celebration — all of which reflect the extraordinary spirit of ISB.

As we embark on this new academic year, let us do so with optimism, purpose, and unity. Together, as students, parents, and staff, we are building a school of academic distinction and a community of values, innovation, and care. I look forward to the journey ahead and the many successes we will celebrate together.

Warm regards,

Serdar Sakman
Head of School



Let's Explore! A Journey of Discovery in the Early Years

“The ‘Let’s Explore’ theme nurtured curiosity, creativity, and a lasting love of learning.”

In the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), the Understanding the World strand helps young learners make sense of their surroundings and begin to develop the skills needed to explore, question, and connect with the world around them.

Through rich, experiential learning opportunities, children are encouraged to observe closely, make predictions, ask questions, and reflect on their findings. This area of learning lays the foundations for science, geography, and history. It also nurtures critical thinking, resilience, and curiosity — essential skills for lifelong learning.

Moonbeams and Rainbows: In the Garden

“The garden was our first science lab — full of wonders waiting to be explored.”

Our youngest learners in FS0 explored the natural world in our garden setting. They searched for minibeasts, planted seeds, and observed changes in plants and weather. Using magnifying glasses and tools, they explored their environment and learned to care for living things.

These early experiences encouraged language

development, observation skills, and a sense of wonder — all within a safe, familiar outdoor environment.

FS1 Sunshine Class: Under the Sea

In FS1, the children journeyed under the sea, learning about marine life, habitats, and water-based experiments. They explored floating and sinking, sorted materials, and engaged in rich sensory play with shells, sponges, and sea creature figures.

The underwater theme also offered social learning opportunities, as children shared resources and worked together in small groups — showing empathy and responsibility in their play.

FS2: Journey into Space

“In Star Class, we didn’t just learn about space – we travelled through it with wide eyes and open minds.”

Children in FS2 embarked on a cosmic adventure,

exploring the wonders of the solar system through stories, scientific investigation, and creative design. Using both fiction and non-fiction texts, they asked questions like “What happens to gravity in space?” and “How do astronauts eat?” – developing early research and critical thinking skills.

They designed and built rockets, experimented with materials, and explored shadows and light.

A Foundation for Lifelong Learning

Across all three stages of our Foundation Stage, the Let’s Explore unit provided authentic, meaningful opportunities for children to develop key skills from the EYFS Understanding the World strand. Children became curious explorers, thoughtful researchers, and confident collaborators. This learning was further enriched by our exciting Science Week, which inspired children to think like scientists and problem-solvers.

Carol Foster
EYFS Coordinator



Under the sea, we discovered more than creatures — we discovered ideas.

A Farm Adventure for Our Early Years Explorers

“Trips such as this one provide valuable learning experiences beyond the classroom. They help children to make real-life connections with the topics they explore in school and foster a sense of wonder and appreciation for the world around them.” “The ‘Let’s Explore’ theme nurtured curiosity, creativity, and a lasting love of learning.”

Our Spring field trip took the children in our Early Years classes on a delightful and educational visit to a local farm. The day was filled with excitement, discovery and many opportunities to explore and engage with the world around them in a meaningful way.

Upon arrival, we were warmly welcomed by a knowledgeable guide who introduced the children to a wonderful variety of animals. Among the favourites were ponies, pigs, cows, ducks, and even some more unusual creatures such as llamas and ostriches. We were especially lucky to see some baby animals, including goats and their kids, as well as a very young foal. One of the highlights of the visit was the opportunity to observe how cows are milked using a special machine. The children watched with fascination and asked many thoughtful questions.

The farm experience encouraged the children to show empathy and curiosity as they fed the animals, explored their surroundings and learned more about the natural world. Following the tour, there was time for even more fun, including a ride on a zip line, bouncing on giant jumping pillows and plenty of play in the outdoor playground.

It was truly a joyful and enriching day, one that our young explorers will remember for a long time.

Carol Foster
EYFS Coordinator





Our Favourite Books in Year 1

One of the best parts of Year 1 has been discovering so many brilliant books. Whether we're laughing at funny characters, joining in with repeated phrases, or getting caught up in exciting adventures, the children in Year 1 have really grown to love reading. We've enjoyed all kinds of stories together: picture books, traditional tales, poems and fact books. Everyone has found at least one story they'll always remember.

Here are some of our favourites and what we enjoyed about them.



Patrick - *"My favourite book is 'Fing' by David Walliams because it's very funny. The Fing bites the dad's arm! The pictures are very interesting"*



Noah M. - *"My favourite book is about real pirates because I want to be like them when I'm older. I want to go on an adventure on the sea and find treasure."*



Hermione - *"My favourite book is 'Stories for 6 Year Olds' because it's fun and it has lots of different stories. In one story, a dog goes to a party and eats cake!"*



Kerem - *"I like my Paw Patrol book. My favourite character is Chase."*



Catrinel - *"Mog is the cat because cats are my favourite animal. My favourite part is when a baby eats a fish!"*



Alessia - *"My favourite book is 'The Super Ice Cream'. The girl wants to eat the ice cream and the ice cream says, 'Don't eat me!'. I like it because it's very funny."*



Patrick - *"My favourite book is 'Dog Man' because it helps me to learn about dogs. I like the pictures"*

Books have sparked our imaginations, made us laugh, and helped us learn new things this year. It's been wonderful to see how much the children enjoy sharing stories, and they're looking forward to even more reading adventures in Year 2!

Sian Cresswell, Year 1 Teacher

Year 2's Trip to Foişorul de Foc: A Step Back in Time

"The trip was not only educational but also inspired great discussions. The children compared fire safety now with what they had learned about the Great Fire of London and thought about how cities have become safer places to live."

As part of our exciting Topic unit on The Great Fire of London, Year 2 went on a memorable trip to Foişorul de Foc, an old fire tower in the heart of Bucharest. This visit gave our young historians a chance to bring their learning to life by exploring the past and seeing how much has changed since the days of 1666.

In class this year, the children learned about the dramatic story of the Great Fire of London — how it started in a bakery on Pudding Lane, how it spread so quickly, and what life was like in the 17th century. They explored what houses were made from, how people lived, and what firefighting looked like then compared to now. So, visiting Foişorul de Foc helped them draw real-life links between past and present.

At the tower, the children had the chance to see old firefighting artifacts, including early hoses, uniforms, and tools once used by brave firefighters. They were fascinated by how different everything looked — no high-pressure hoses or shiny fire engines in sight! The displays showed how fire safety has improved over the years, with better equipment, faster communication, and stronger building materials. It was a brilliant way to see how communities have learned from the past — especially later in the year when we visited the fire station next door and explored modern fire engines up close!

One of the highlights of the trip was climbing to the top of the tower. Once there, the children got to look out at the city from the same height that fire spotters would have used over a century ago. The

panoramic view helped them imagine how people once scanned the horizon for signs of smoke and flames.

The trip was not only educational but also inspired great discussions. The children compared fire safety now with what they had learned about the Great Fire of London and thought about how cities have become safer places to live. Back in school, students wrote reflections and drew pictures of their favourite parts of the visit.

It was a fantastic day that supported our learning and helped bring history alive. A big thank you to Foişorul de Foc for welcoming us — and to our brilliant Year 2S for their curiosity and great questions throughout the trip!

Oana Ionescu
Year 2 Teacher





Year 3S group photo during the residential trip to Bran.

Year 3 Project-Based Learning (PBL): Exploring China's Culture, Landmarks, and Traditions

As part of our Year 3 Humanities unit on 'China', students took part in a creative and enriching Project-Based Learning (PBL) experience. This project encouraged children to explore the diverse aspects of Chinese culture, geography, landmarks, and traditions, while developing independent research and presentation skills.

The guiding questions included:

"What makes China unique?"

"What can we learn from Chinese landmarks, customs, and traditional arts?"

Working from home, students produced an incredible variety of projects that reflected both imagination and dedication. Some built 3D models of the Great Wall of China, while others made traditional paper lanterns, fans, or even sets of Mahjong tiles. These hands-on creations helped students connect with China's rich artistic heritage.

Some even incorporated elements of Chinese New Year into their projects, learning about traditions like dragon dances, lucky envelopes, and firecrackers.

A standout project came from one student who designed and created her own Chinese silk dress, inspired by traditional clothing. This remarkable effort demonstrated creativity, attention to detail, and a deep appreciation for Chinese fashion and cultural symbolism.

Once projects were complete, all students had the opportunity to present their work in front of their classmates, practicing intonation, expression, and clear speech. These presentations helped build public speaking confidence and allowed everyone to share and celebrate each other's work.

Andreea Bacalu,
Year 3 Class Teacher



Year 4 Shines: Celebrating Creativity and Learning Through Assemblies

"This year, Year 4 delivered two outstanding assemblies that not only showcased their remarkable talents but also brought their classroom learning to life."

Every Friday, the theatre at ISB buzzes with energy as students and teachers gather for our weekly assemblies. While some may view assemblies as just another routine part of the school day, they actually play a vital role in uniting our school community and are eagerly anticipated by many students each week.

This year, Year 4 delivered two outstanding assemblies that not only showcased their remarkable talents but also brought their classroom learning to life. These presentations offered the students a wonderful opportunity to perform confidently

and share their knowledge with the entire primary school.

4A captivated the audience with "The Pharaohs' Portal," a thrilling time-travel story where a group of children journeyed back to Ancient Egypt. The assembly combined engaging acting, imaginative storytelling, music, and dance to vividly illustrate life along the Nile—from the reign of the Pharaohs to everyday Egyptian customs. Blending historical insights with humor, the performance helped everyone gain a deeper understanding of ancient Egyptian culture in an enjoyable and impactful way.



Meanwhile, 4C's assembly, "All the Beautiful Changes," celebrated the marvels of nature with energy and creativity. Presented to both Key Stage 1 and 2 during Science Week, the children transformed into animals and plants, demonstrating how living things adapt and evolve in their environments. The theatre came alive with vibrant costumes, dynamic music, and playful moments, making science and the natural world accessible and exciting for all who watched. This imaginative and hands-on performance inspired curiosity and made learning about adaptation both engaging and fun.

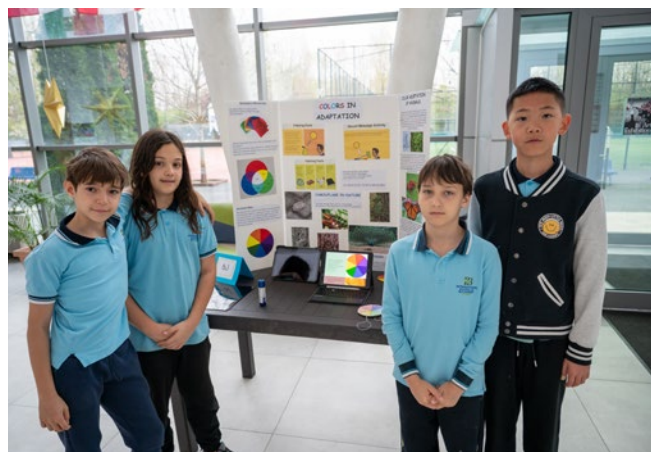
Participating in assemblies provides students with valuable opportunities to perform before an audience, helping them build confidence and develop essential communication skills. Whether they are acting, singing, or narrating, students learn to express themselves clearly and work together effectively. These experiences not only prepare them to share their ideas confidently inside the classroom but also equip them for life beyond school. With colorful costumes, vibrant music, and imaginative storytelling, our assemblies create joyful and memorable moments that inspire creativity, encourage risk-taking, and allow every student to shine—memories they will cherish long after their primary school years.

Cathryn Quinn and Alice Asmarandei
Year 4 Class Teachers

Celebrating Change and Adaptation: A Fantastic Science Week at Our Primary School

This year's Science Week at our primary school celebrated the exciting theme of "Change and Adaptation," inspiring students to explore how living things and environments evolve over time. The week was filled with a variety of hands-on activities designed to engage children of all ages and bring scientific concepts to life. A standout event was the visit from Artesana Dairy, where children learned about the origins of milk through an informative talk. Younger students enjoyed decorating yogurt pots, while all pupils had the unique chance to milk a very realistic mechanical cow. To make the experience even sweeter, every child received a delicious organic yogurt to take home. Outside the classroom, scavenger hunts encouraged students to explore the playground and identify examples of change and adaptation in nature right in our own backyard, deepening their understanding of the natural world around them.

The week concluded with a vibrant Science Fair held in the school gallery, where each class proudly presented experiments linked to the theme of change and adaptation. From investigating plant adaptations to exploring how animals survive in different habitats, the projects showcased the creativity and scientific curiosity of our students. This event not only allowed children to demonstrate their learning but also fostered teamwork and communication skills as they explained their findings to staff and peers. Overall, Science Week was a fantastic opportunity for students to engage with important scientific ideas, develop critical thinking, and enjoy memorable, hands-on experiences that will inspire their love of science for years to come.





FirSTep 2025 medalists (Primary and Secondary School)

Year 4 to 6 Shine in the Annual firSTep Science Competition

This year, students from Years 4 to 6 eagerly took part in the annual firSTep Project Competition, an inspiring event that encourages young learners to explore science through project-based learning. firSTep, organised by Lumina Educational Institutions, challenges students to develop projects that align with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), promoting global citizenship and real-world problem solving. Our primary school participants embraced this opportunity to research, create, and present innovative projects that showcased their creativity, teamwork, and scientific thinking.

We are incredibly proud that five of our projects reached the finals this year, and all our primary school teams were awarded medals for their outstanding efforts. Among the impressive entries were a solar pizza oven designed to use solar energy

for cooking, a battery recycling box that encouraged recycling through a fun voting system, and a water filtration system created to purify water efficiently. Throughout the competition, students prepared videos and presentations to explain their projects, honing their communication and presentation skills. This experience not only deepened their scientific knowledge but also boosted their confidence and enthusiasm for STEM subjects, making firSTep a true highlight of the school year for Years 4 to 6.

Cathryn Quinn
Year 4 Class Teacher

Year 5 Students Explore the World of Danone Factory



In May, Year 5 students embarked on an educational adventure to Danone's Dairy Factory in Bucharest. This visit, part of Danone's "At Home with Danone" program, gave the students a fascinating behind-the-scenes look at how their favourite yogurts are made — from fresh local milk to the final product on supermarket shelves.

Upon arrival, the students were greeted with smiles and excitement. Their first stop was a viewing platform overlooking the main production floor. There, they learned how milk delivered daily from Romanian farmers is tested for quality and then pasteurized to ensure it's safe and nutritious. From there, the children followed the milk's journey as it was mixed with live cultures and transformed into creamy yogurt.

One of the students' favourite parts of the visit was meeting the factory's robot team: Spider Man, Vasilică, Vasilică cel Mic, and the twin robots Arcil. These highly efficient machines worked seamlessly to fill yogurt pots, seal lids, and sort the final products into crates. Watching the robots in action was like seeing a real-life science lesson unfold, and many students were surprised at how technology plays such a big role in making food.

In a special educational room, the students took part in a hands-on workshop about the nutritional benefits of yogurt. They learned that yogurt is packed with calcium, protein, and probiotics — all important for strong bones and healthy digestion. Using fun visuals and interactive games, the workshop helped explain why dairy is a key part of a balanced diet.

Danone also partnered with the Active Life initiative to offer a short session on anatomy and healthy habits. Students explored how their bodies move and grow, and how food gives them energy for school, play, and sports. It was a great reminder that making healthy choices now can lead to a better future.

Before heading back to school, the students had the chance to ask questions, taste different types of yogurt, and even receive a small gift bag with Danone goodies and educational materials. The visit not only sparked curiosity but also encouraged the children to think more about where their food comes from and how it's made.

The day was a perfect mix of fun and learning, and many students said it was their favourite school trip so far. With new knowledge, new tastes, and big smiles, they returned to class ready to share everything they had seen and learned.

Dana Breitenhofer
Year 5 Teacher

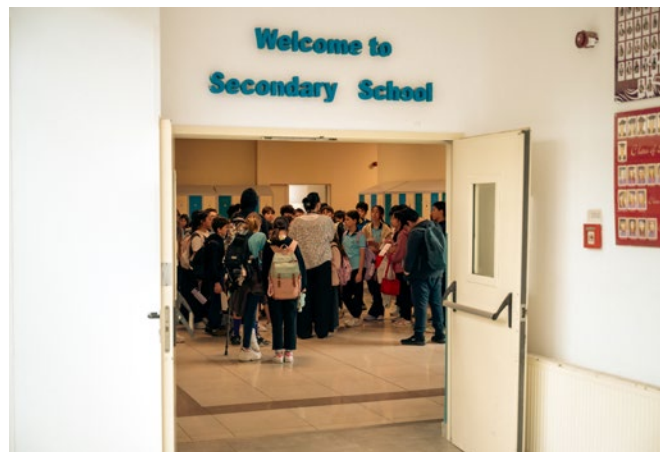


Year 6 Steps into Secondary

Over two exciting days, our Year 6 students took part in a well-structured transition programme designed to ease them into the rhythm of secondary school life. From exploring the campus on a guided tour with Ms. Adina Iacob, The Head of Pastoral Care, to engaging in taster lessons across subjects like Geography, English, Science, Drama, and Art, the students had a chance to experience the variety and energy of Key Stage 3.

Each class followed a tailored timetable, rotating through different classrooms and meeting several secondary teachers. The programme ended with a Q&A session and thoughtful guidance from Ms. Iacob and our KS3 student representatives—offering reassurance and insight as the students prepare for this exciting next chapter.

The transition days were a valuable opportunity for our Year 6 students to build confidence, ask questions, and begin forging connections in their new environment. As they look ahead to secondary school, they do so with a sense of readiness, curiosity, and growing excitement for the journey that lies ahead.





From Tea Art to Dragon Dance: ISB Students Experience the Magic of Spring Festival

"This year's Chinese New Year celebration could not have gone better — it's truly something you would not want to miss, seeing our school's celebration of our diverse cultures."

— Yijia Z., Year 12

On the 31st January, International School of Bucharest was the proud host of a very popular event among our community: Spring Festival (Chinese New Year). During the performance held in the ISB theatre, our students revealed once again this year the unique charm of Chinese culture through singing, dancing and piano performance. The school also set up interactive experience sessions such as tea art, origami, hoop, and shuttlecock kicking. By participating in traditional handicraft activities such as writing blessing characters and making lanterns, local students felt the joy of the Spring Festival and deepened their understanding

of Chinese culture.

In the strong Chinese New Year flavor and the students' laughter, we ended the event with a group photo including our esteemed guests from the Chinese Embassy, British School of Bucharest, Confucius Institute and Wu-Shu Romania.

Every year ISB celebrates this important event with the help of our very supportive Chinese Community and friends.

Again this year, with the community's help

(students, staff, guests, parents) the beautiful tradition of the Spring Festival and the Chinese Culture was brought to students from all over the world, allowing them to feel the profound and long-standing cultural charm from the exotic East.

"During the Chinese New Year celebrations, I had the honour of presenting the programme with my beloved friend Gabi as the Chinese and English hosts. The Chinese teacher, Mr. Yang, spent a long time planning for the performances and workshops this year and we got to see that come to fruition throughout the practices held before the official event. I greatly enjoyed welcoming performers onto the stage for their singing, piano, and dance performances. I also loved the thrill of sitting behind the stage and watching the miracles of the dragon dance performed by the Wu Shu troupe invited to our school for this occasion. Overall, this year's Chinese New Year celebration could not have gone better and I would love to participate again in the future - it is truly something you would not want to miss, seeing our school's celebration of our diverse cultures." **Yijia Z., Year 12 Student**



People That Help Us

“Our children built their understanding of the world – and their role in it.”

In Early Years and KS1, building strong links with parents and the wider community is essential for children's development. When children see the adults in their lives working together, it helps them feel secure and valued. It also allows them to connect what they're learning in school with real-world experiences.

As part of our 'Working Together' unit, we were delighted to welcome a few special guests into the school: the police crew from Sector 3, a parent psychologist who runs an age appropriate workshop for EYFS students to develop their empathy and a visit from Robotics Solutions.

Police Crew from Sector 3 Visit

The children were very excited to meet the officers, explore the police cars, try on the hats, and hear the sirens. It was a memorable experience that helped the children understand the role of the police in keeping us safe. A special moment was meeting the police therapy dogs. The children learned how these dogs provide comfort and emotional support, which tied in beautifully with our focus on feelings and well-being.



How Do We Recognise and Express Emotions Workshop

Mrs. Bancila, one of our very supportive parents visited us to speak about her work as a psychologist. She shared useful techniques for recognising and expressing emotions, and the children enjoyed learning ways to stay calm and confident.



Robotics Solutions

We also had an exciting visit from Mr. Toma at Robotic Solutions Romania. He introduced the children to robots that deliver food in restaurants and cleaning robots. The highlight was Bella the Robot, who chatted and sang to the children. Their faces lit up with joy as they interacted with her, gaining a better understanding of how technology helps people in everyday life.

We discovered that some people help us by creating

amazing machines—like cleaning robots—that make our world cleaner and safer. The children were fascinated to see how technology can lend a helping hand!

Thank you to all our special guests for inspiring our little learners!

Alina Negru
Foundation Stage 1 Teacher





ISB Students Embrace a New Way to Recycle: Swap Extravaganza

The 1st edition of Swap Extravaganza brought the ISB community together for an innovative and rewarding approach to recycling. The event welcomed students to exchange their pre-loved items for eco-vouchers, which could then be used to "purchase" other treasures. Toys, books, accessories, clothes, games, and many more items were exchanged.

The ISB school gallery buzzed with excitement as children eagerly browsed the tables filled with colourful and interesting items. Armed with their vouchers, they carefully selected what would bring them joy. One after another, the children left the event with smiles on their faces, clutching their newfound treasures.

This event was a wonderful opportunity to teach ISB students about the value of reusing and recycling.

It's amazing to see how much fun they had while learning an important lesson about sustainability.

Students and parents alike expressed their excitement and appreciation:

"I loved swapping my old books for new ones! I found a story I had been looking for everywhere," said Year 5 student Noah.

"My daughter was so excited to take part. She picked out some plushies and gave away her puzzles. It was such a positive experience," shared Ms Claudia, an ISB parent.

"I think it's great that we got to recycle in such a fun way. I found a cool board game and got lots of toys for my baby sister," said Alex, Year 5 student.

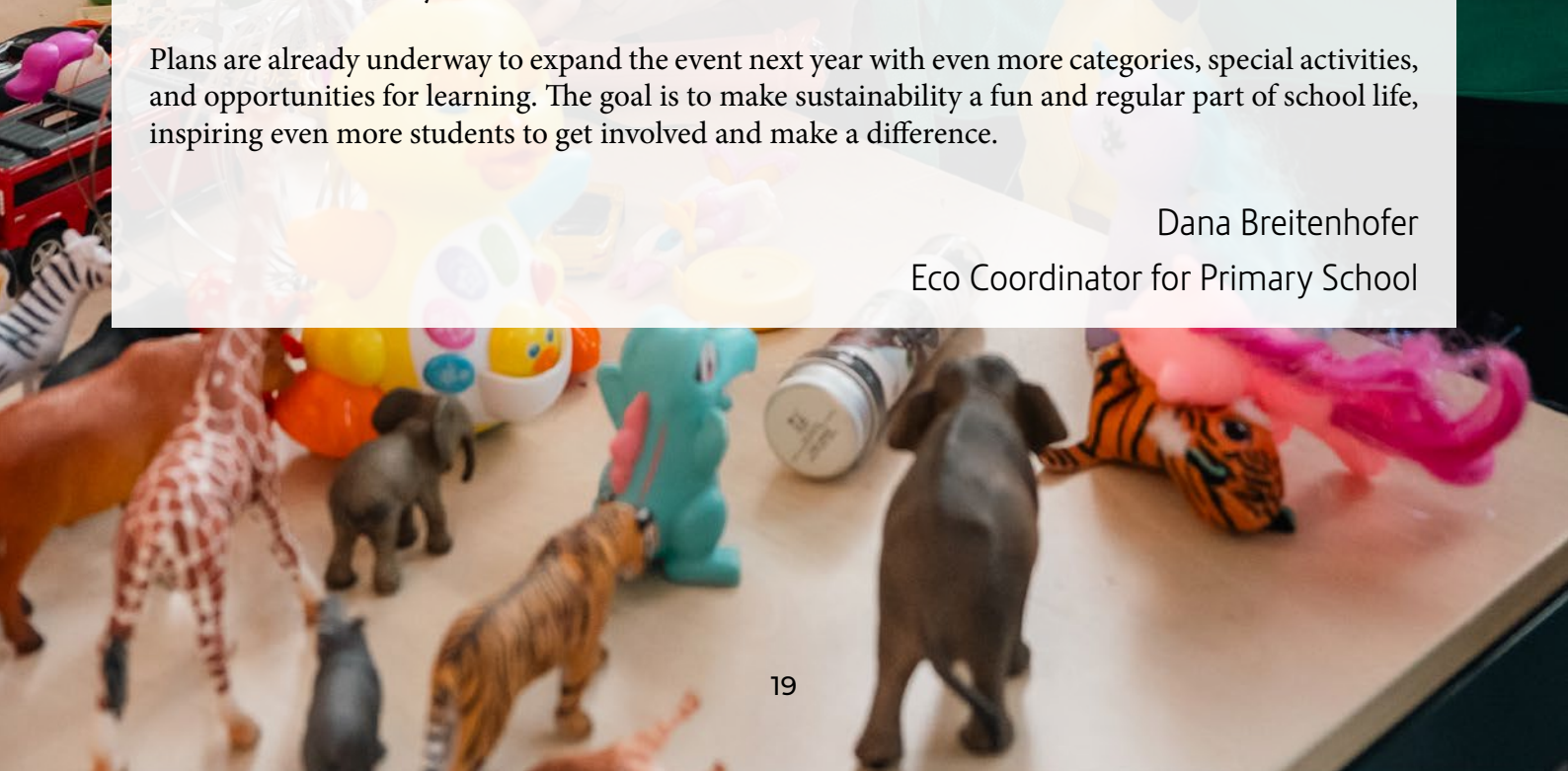
A huge thank-you goes out to everyone who made this event possible: the dedicated organisers, enthusiastic volunteers, and generous families who donated items. Without their support, the Swap Extravaganza wouldn't have been such a tremendous success.



The Swap Extravaganza left everyone eager for more. The good news? It will be back next year, promising even more smiles, learning, and community spirit. This event is a shining example of how small changes in how we view recycling can make a big impact. Until next year, please continue to reduce, reuse, and recycle.

Plans are already underway to expand the event next year with even more categories, special activities, and opportunities for learning. The goal is to make sustainability a fun and regular part of school life, inspiring even more students to get involved and make a difference.

Dana Breitenhofer
Eco Coordinator for Primary School



One Tree at a Time: ISB Eco Committee Celebrates International Forests Day



On Friday, 21st March, the ISB Eco Committee marked International Forests Day with an inspiring and impactful “Plant a Tree” event. Students, staff, and committee members came together with a shared goal—to contribute to a greener and more sustainable future for the ISB campus and beyond.

The initiative was a resounding success, with new trees planted across the school grounds, bringing fresh life and vibrant greenery to the environment. This effort not only enhances the natural beauty of the campus but also reinforces ISB’s ongoing commitment to environmental responsibility.

Organised by the dedicated members of the Eco Committee, the event served as both a celebration and a reminder of the vital role forests play in the health of our planet. Trees are essential to sustaining biodiversity, improving air quality, and combating climate change—issues that the committee is passionate about addressing.

Students actively participated in the planting process, gaining hands-on experience in sustainability

efforts and learning more about the importance of conservation. Their enthusiasm reflected a growing awareness within the ISB community of the need to care for our planet.

Thanks to the leadership of the Eco Committee, the event was not only well-organised but deeply meaningful. By planting new trees, ISB is taking tangible steps toward a more sustainable future—one tree at a time.

This year’s International Forests Day was a powerful example of how small actions, when done together, can lead to lasting positive change.

Madalina Cioc

Communications and Marketing Manager



ISB Eco Committee Brings Smiles and Sustainability to DAS Pantelimon

We wanted to do more than just talk about sustainability—we wanted to live it,” said a member of the Eco Committee. “By sharing what we have with others, we’re not only reducing waste, we’re spreading kindness.”

In a beautiful display of compassion and environmental consciousness, the ISB Eco Committee has made a meaningful impact beyond school walls. Following their successful Swap Extravaganza—an event designed to encourage students to exchange items instead of purchasing new ones—the committee donated all surplus clothes, books, and accessories to the children at Direcția de Asistență Socială Pantelimon (DAS).

This initiative not only gave unused items a second life but also reinforced powerful lessons in sustainability and mindful consumption. By choosing to donate rather than discard, students highlighted the importance of reuse and the joy it can bring to others.

The generous donation was warmly welcomed by DAS Pantelimon and served as a reminder that even small actions, when rooted in care and awareness, can create ripples of positive change. Through this heartfelt gesture, the ISB Eco Committee showed that caring for the planet and caring for people go hand in hand.



Madalina Cioc

Communications and Marketing Manager



English Extravaganza

"Stories are the communal currency of humanity." – Tahir Shah

At ISB, we're passionate about sparking a lifelong love for reading and writing. Our recent English Week beautifully showcased this aim, with the entire school community coming together to celebrate language and stories.

As teachers, we shared our own favourite stories with the children at break times and had lots of fun reading under cover in our "masked reader" game, adding an element of mystery and intrigue to story sharing.

It was wonderful to also welcome parents into some classrooms to share your own treasured stories and to lead engaging role-playing activities with the children. A particular highlight was the ISB Reading Breakfast: the library buzzed with excitement and was truly a joyful family event that celebrated the magic of books.

The students themselves embraced the week with incredible enthusiasm! They explored the English language in exciting ways, analysing narratives

within movies and songs, describing captivating artwork, solving brain-teasing riddles, and enjoying lively literacy games. Creativity flowed freely in our storytelling sessions, where the theme "Reimagine Your World" unleashed their imaginative powers. Even during breaks, the joy of reading and writing continued, with children happily losing themselves in books at our cozy "Calm Club" and eagerly discovering new page-turners at the book fair. The grand finale of our English Week was a fantastic World Book Day, where the students brought their beloved book characters to life through creative costumes.

These engaging experiences have not only strengthened literacy skills but have also fostered a genuine enthusiasm for the wonderful world of words in our young learners.

Anthony Moore
Year 3 Class Teacher

ISB Sports Day 2025: A Celebration of Team Spirit and Community



The Annual Sports Day at ISB proved once again to be a highlight of the school calendar—an energetic celebration of teamwork, resilience, and joy. Despite the unexpected rain that brought the action indoors and slightly delayed our schedule, the spirit of the day remained unshaken. Students, teachers, and even parents brought boundless energy and enthusiasm to every race, jump, and challenge.

This year's event was packed with exciting and inclusive activities that had everyone smiling and cheering. Whether it was the classic three-legged race, egg-and-spoon dash, castle-building challenge, or the fast-paced parkour race, the ISB campus was filled with laughter, friendly competition, and the sound of cheers echoing across the fields and halls.

Special attention was given to our EYFS students, who had their own mini Sports Day set up on the front playground. Their wide-eyed wonder and pure excitement lit up the day as they skipped, ran, and jumped their way through a series of playful challenges—completely unaware that the end of the event was approaching. Their joy reminded us all of the true purpose of days like these: to celebrate movement, fun, and community.

A key highlight of Sports Day was the focus on team house races, reinforcing teamwork. These races not only tested physical ability but also encouraged students to support one another, work together, and aim for shared success. It's no surprise that many students and staff are already hoping for more than just one Sports Day a year!

While the slippery surfaces prevented us from inviting parents onto the track for some post-event races, their presence and enthusiastic support added a wonderful layer to the day. The smiles, cheers, and laughter from every corner of the school made it clear: Sports Day is more than just an event—it's a community celebration.



As we close another successful chapter of Sports Day, we look forward to building on this spirit in the year to come. Who knows—maybe next year we'll have two!

Thank you to everyone who made the day unforgettable—students, staff, and families alike. Until next time, keep the team spirit alive!

Ingrid Stanciu - HOD PE



A Magical Success: "Aladdin in Trouble" Wows the Audience

The school theatre was brimming with excitement on the evening of Sunday, April 14th, as the Musical Drama Club took to the stage for their much-anticipated production of *Aladdin in Trouble*. With dazzling costumes, clever staging, and a cast full of heart, the show transported the audience to a whirlwind world of genies, magic lamps, and high adventure.

The production was the culmination of months of hard work by a passionate group of Upper Primary students who dedicated their enrichment time each week—and even extended rehearsals in the final weeks—to bring the story to life. Their commitment, creativity, and team spirit were evident in every scene.

At the heart of the performance were the club's lead actors, whose portrayals captivated and delighted

the audience. **Antonia D** brought boundless energy and humour to the role of the Genie, **Ecaterina C** was wonderfully wicked as Abanazar, **Sara T** charmed as the strong-willed Jasmine, and **Alexander I** completed the cast with confidence and charisma as Aladdin.

Supporting them was a talented ensemble of performers: Sophie M, Rania M, Delia I, Zumrut K, Aaron I, Erin C, Andrei A, Maria L, Ingrid I, Melikha K, Sofia B, Konstantin I, Yasemin G, Zehra D, Dominika K, Lara W, Isabela M, Julieta H, Busra P, Antonio C, and Eric N. Whether delivering lines, dancing, or singing as part of the ensemble, each student brought their unique flair and enthusiasm to the stage.

Behind the scenes, the production was made possible thanks to the generous support and creativity of



Aladdin's final wish famously declared: **"To have a production like this every year!"**

Congratulations once again to our incredible cast and crew. Your hard work, joy, and talent brought the magic of theatre to life—and we can't wait to see what adventures await on stage next year!

Victor Filip, Music Teacher

several staff members. **Ms. Alice** Asmarandei and **Ms. Georgiana** lent their artistic talents to the set and scenery, transforming the stage into a vivid and playful version of Agrabah. Meanwhile, **Mr. Andrei Vataselu**, our sound technician, ensured every line, cue, and musical moment was perfectly timed and crystal clear.

The success of *Aladdin in Trouble* has set a new standard for what the Musical Drama Club can achieve. In fact, it seems the spirit of the story will live on—not just in the memories of those who attended, but in the club's future as well. As



ISB Primary Open Mornings: A Window into Our Vibrant School Community

Once a term, International School of Bucharest throws open its doors for our much-anticipated **Primary Open Morning**, a collaborative event run by the ISB Primary School and the Admissions & Marketing Departments. It's the perfect opportunity for prospective families to see the school in action, meet our passionate staff and students, and experience the unique warmth of the ISB community.

Visitors enjoy guided tours led by our exceptional student leaders, benefit from exclusive admissions offers, and have the chance to ask questions and network during engaging Q&A sessions.

A heartfelt THANK YOU to all the parents and children who joined us for today's Primary Open Morning this year! Special appreciation goes to our fantastic student guides, **Maria and Eric (Year 6 & Primary School Prefects)**, and our wonderful IB students, **Evelin and Gemma**, who represented ISB with pride and professionalism. Kudos to our Primary School students who delivered thoughtful presentations—your confidence and enthusiasm truly shone!

Thank you to all who made these series of events such a success—we can't wait to welcome even more families next academic year!

Madalina Cioc

Communications and Marketing Manager



From Vision to Impact



As we conclude another impactful and forward-moving academic year at the International School of Bucharest, I am proud to share a strategic preview of what lies ahead for ISB Secondary. Guided by our unwavering

commitment to excellence, we continue to evolve ensuring that our educational provision not only keeps pace with global standards but also anticipates the future needs of our learners. Our goal remains clear - we strive to provide a world-class education that grows with our students and empowers them to thrive in a rapidly changing world.

Connecting Learning, Empowering Progress

This year, we undertook a comprehensive review of our secondary curriculum with a clear goal to enhance vertical articulation across year levels and to ensure smooth and coherent academic progression from Year 7 to Year 13. This alignment will support more consistent, cumulative learning experiences for our students and better prepare them for their academic journeys ahead.

To ensure this vision translates into classroom practice, we have made the necessary investments to support our staff in developing and implementing their unit plans effectively. By adopting the **Understanding by Design (UbD)** framework, we are fostering a more intentional and impactful approach to teaching and learning. We believe this will have a significant positive impact not only on students' academic outcomes but also on their broader extracurricular development.

New Pathways: A-Levels Now at ISB

We are especially proud to announce that **from the next academic year, ISB will reintroduce Cambridge International A-Levels**, as an alternative pathway to the IB Diploma Programme. This is a significant step forward, as it allows us to better cater to

diverse student strengths, interests, and university ambitions.

Our recruitment for these programmes is already complete, and we are thrilled to welcome highly qualified and experienced educators who are ready to deliver both A Level and IB courses to the highest international standards.

Investing in Excellence: CPD on the Rise

Excellence in teaching and learning does not happen by chance it happens through deliberate, ongoing investment in professional growth. This year, we are pleased to share that our teachers have used **twice as much of the professional development budget** compared to the previous year. This remarkable increase reflects a renewed energy around professional learning and collaboration. It's a clear indication of our staff's dedication to continually raising the bar for quality teaching and learning at ISB.

Moving Forward, Together

These changes are more than just administrative updates which represent our commitment to innovation, opportunity, and high standards. They ensure that each ISB student continues to receive a rich, adaptable, and future-focused education, shaped by passionate educators and aligned with the best of global practice.

As always, thank you for your continued support and partnership. We look forward to starting the next academic year with confidence, ambition, and a shared sense of purpose.

Oytun Pekel, Head of Secondary

Failing Forward. Helping Students Grow Through Setbacks

"In a moment when we mostly highlight achievements and success, failure can feel like something to be avoided or even feared."



But failure is not the end, it's part of the learning process. In fact, some of the greatest lessons in life come from the times we stumble, not when everything goes right.

Many of the world's most inspiring people have experienced failure or rejection. Freddie Mercury's *Bohemian Rhapsody* was initially dismissed by record executives for being too long and unusual. But Queen persisted and the song became a global classic. J.K. Rowling was turned down by multiple publishers before *Harry Potter* reached bookshelves. Michael Jordan was once cut from his high school basketball team. Albert Einstein didn't speak fluently until he was nine. What all of them had in common was the ability to learn from failure, not be defined by it.

As teachers and parents, our role is not to shield children from setbacks, but to walk alongside them as they face them. When students experience failure, and they will without exception, whether it's a poor test result, a lost competition, or a mistake in judgment, it can be an opportunity to reflect, build resilience, and try again. What matters most is how we respond.

Sometimes, out of love, we try to shield our children from disappointment, frustration, or failure. We want them to be happy and we think that means keeping them safe from anything that might upset them. But avoiding difficult emotions doesn't make them go away; it just delays the chance to learn how to deal with them. Life will always include changes and challenges, and if young people don't learn

how to cope with setbacks, they risk becoming overwhelmed later on.

The primary role of teachers and parents isn't to remove every obstacle or prevent every struggle. It's to guide children through those moments with care, so they can make sense of them, build confidence, and come out stronger. Every experience—good or bad—can become a lesson. When we support students with calm, honest conversations and steady encouragement, we help them understand that they are capable of facing life's ups and downs.

Instead of asking, "What went wrong?" or "Why did you do that?", we can help them by asking "What can I learn from this?". When students know that it's safe to fail, they're more likely to take risks, be creative, and grow in confidence. They begin to see failure not as a sign of weakness, but as a step towards success.

Let's remind our students that failure is not falling down, it's staying down. And they are never alone in getting back up. With patience, care and support, we can help them turn setbacks into strength.

Adina Iacob,
Head of Pastoral Care

A Year of Growth, Thought, and Action

"Sixth Form isn't just about academic pressure and university applications, it's a moment where students start taking on real responsibilities and engaging with ideas that extend beyond the classroom."

The IB makes space for reflection, not just performance. Whether it's through CAS, leadership roles, or Theory of Knowledge, we're constantly encouraged to think about "how" we learn, not just "what" we learn. It's a shift from memorising content to questioning concepts. Students start to realise that the aim isn't to find the "right" answer, but to approach problems openly, creatively, with a unique perspective, through different lenses. In that sense, Sixth Form becomes more than just an academic preparation, it's a training ground shaping who you are becoming.

Looking ahead, our Sixth Form community has a lot to be excited about. As newly elected Head Students, we are working on a few core initiatives. One of them is launching open discussion forums — short, student-led spaces to talk about current affairs, ideas, and school-related issues that don't usually get time in class. To support our goal of open communication, we propose a "Suggestion Wall" to turn student ideas into action and build trust. Additionally, a "Common Board" in the Sixth Form common room will share weekly news and key updates, ensuring clear and consistent communication. We're also hoping to bring more inter-year collaboration, especially between Year 11s, Year 12s and Year 13s, to help build continuity and share experience on key decisions over projects, subject choices, study strategies and exam tips.

There's also a renewed push to support student projects, especially CAS and extracurriculars. Many students continuously come up with big ideas, but do not always have the platform to make them happen. That's something we're aiming to change

next year. This year alone showed what's possible — from TEDx, a student-organised conference, to Hands of Hope, a new volunteering platform launched by our Head Girl to connect students with meaningful service opportunities. These are the kinds of initiatives we believe in and that show what happens when students are given the space and trust to lead.

In short, this year challenged how we think. Next year, the goal is to apply that thinking: to build, share, and improve things that actually matter to students.

Giorgio S., Head Boy & Evelin I. Head Girl



ISB: The Only International School in Romania Recognised as a School of Character



We are delighted to share an incredible milestone with you — **The International School of Bucharest has been officially recognized as a School of Character by Character.org!**

Character.org is a worldwide network of educators, researchers, and civic leaders that empowers people of all ages to practice and model the character strengths and core values that shape the hearts, minds and choices of every person. Founded in 1993 and formerly known as the Character Education Partnership, Character.org is widely known for our 11 Principles Framework for Schools: A Guide to Cultivating a Culture of Character.

This prestigious recognition is the result of **four years of dedicated effort** by our staff, students, and community, reflecting our unwavering commitment to nurturing not just academic excellence but the **holistic development of every student**. It serves as **evidence of our dedication to fostering responsible,**

empathetic, and open-minded individuals who embody the values we cherish at ISB.

We are proud to highlight that ISB is the **only international school in Romania to receive this recognition**, placing us in an elite group of schools worldwide that have demonstrated excellence in character education.

This achievement is a testament to the collaborative spirit within our school community. Programs such as the **Duke of Edinburgh's (DofE) Award, CAS activities, Model United Nations (MUNs), student-led events and clubs, our Eco-School initiatives** and many more purposeful teaching initiatives have been pivotal in shaping our students into well-rounded individuals.

"This recognition belongs to all of us as a community dedicated to character, growth, and excellence."
Serdar Sakman, Head of ISB

"Each of these schools and districts have put into place an initiative that equips and empowers their staff to reinforce and model a range of positive core values that will shape and form the hearts, minds, and choices of their students." To learn more about the schools chosen today, please visit Character.org." Dr. Arthur Schwartz, Character.org's President

Madalina Cioc

Communications and Marketing Manager

A Year in TOK



“What is the relationship between personal experience and knowledge?”

What are the implications of having, or not having, knowledge?

To what extent is certainty attainable?”

These are questions our Year 12 students engaged with for the first time, in their TOK course.

TOK is an abbreviation for "Theory of Knowledge". It is a course filled with wonder, centered around one very useful question that we should ask more often: "How do we know what we know?"

Five year olds are great intuitive thinkers when they ask you "How do you know?" - and they do it very often.

The main theme of the course is "Knowledge and the Knower". TOK students become more aware of themselves as knowers, with their values and biases, with their cultural affiliations and differences. In an international school, we are versed in multiple languages. This makes it easy for students to also take on optional themes in TOK, such as "Knowledge and Language". With a world now shaped by IA, many students will be more and more interested in "Knowledge and Technology".

It may all sound very philosophical but in fact, the course is filled with questions that are always

linked to real-life situations. It allows students to conceptualise real-world issues, from personal experiences to current events, to their engagement with other school subjects. The links to their other subjects, called "areas of knowledge", such as the Natural Sciences or the Arts, abound.

The course can be as meaningful as students make it - and they do that by bringing their full self to class, by linking it to their other courses and by keeping an open mind, full of cognitive curiosity.

Every student prepares for TOK in KS3 and KS4 whenever they are asked by their teachers to notice how they think, to use critical and creative thinking skills. Every time a class is not just about rote memorisation or passive reception, every time it requires active engagement, thinking outside the box, moving beyond step-by-step instructions to problem-solve, that class shapes them as thorough thinkers and prepares them for a life where they can own their decisions.

Why talk about TOK now? We have just completed a mile-stone, setting up the TOK Exhibition as a public event. All students in Year 12 prepared for it. They presented their work in the Gallery and talked about it to interested visitors.

Try it yourself! Ask a knowledge question, such as:

"Can new knowledge change established values and beliefs?"

Find a real-life situation where this question applies. Your theme could be "Knowledge and Politics" or "Knowledge and the Knower". Concepts such as "power", "truth", "values", evidence" and "responsibility" could help you reflect. Find an object (i.e., a photograph or an article) to illustrate your point.

Diana Barabas
TOK Teacher

Diploma Visual Arts Exhibition – 'A shout out for Group 6 – The Arts'

When the IB Diploma was created in 1968, it aspired for its learners to grow across (not just into) 6 different disciplines: Literature, Language Acquisition, Individuals & Societies, Sciences, Mathematics and the Arts. It intended for them to explore every domain of human understanding, amplifying this breadth through CAS and TOK. To be a thinker, leader and change-maker adept at moving fluidly between different ways of knowing; whilst developing a full range of skills and attributes. This requires choosing boldly, rather than focusing solely on further education requirements, grade compliance and societal bias. It is something to which we still aspire.



Over what is a 20 month course, they have grown into and through a process, one of planning, reflection and refining; of learning, unlearning and relearning, to reach a place of realization. Of all the components, the exhibition is of course the most public. As an artist, it is the point at which you need to let go a little; to release a part of yourself, your concepts, vision and intentions as visual communication to the viewer. It's a time of nervous excitement, and not without a certain sense of relief. This year's Visual Artists chose to exhibit their work in 3 separate locations. Izaak N. took up residence in a History room, as befitted his Cold War inspired work. Nora M. took her social issue inspired work to a wider audience at a downtown coffee shop. Sofia S., Anya G., Zaharoula M., Elia L. and Julia X. displayed their varied exhibits in the Common Room for the school community, friends and family to visit. Here, some photos of their endeavours. We wish our most 'rounded' graduates all the very best for a future they are now better equipped to help shape.

Jane Barnett
Head of Arts, IBO Arts Educator

Students of Visual Arts, or any Arts subject in Group 6, can attest to the empathy, action and innovation required of them, to succeed and thrive at diploma level. Visual Arts is a subject which has always demanded solutions-focused and design-thinking approaches, even before they became common parlance and sought after by many a further education institution and workplace. As a result, this year's graduates who undertook the Visual Arts course are just that little bit more rounded than those who did not; and I don't mean solely as a result of the snacks Izaak brought to class on Wednesdays.



Life Skills and Awareness Programme: Supporting Student Wellbeing at ISB

At the International School of Bucharest, we believe that education extends far beyond the academic curriculum. In line with this philosophy, our **Life Skills and Awareness Programme** has been a cornerstone of this academic year for students in Key Stages 3 and 4. Designed to nurture emotional intelligence, resilience, and self-awareness, this programme has provided our students with essential tools for navigating adolescence and preparing for the future.

Delivered through a series of interactive PSHE (Personal, Social, Health, and Economic) lessons and carefully crafted presentations, the programme addressed a broad spectrum of topics that are deeply relevant to the experiences and challenges faced by today's teenagers. From mental health and social dynamics to self-image and time management, each session was guided by the values we hold dear as a school: **Honesty, Empathy, Responsibility, and Open-Mindedness.**

The year began with a focus on *"Mental Health in the Digital Era"*, where students explored how constant online stimulation affects the brain and emotional wellbeing—especially in the context of "dopamine culture" and the so-called "zombie brain." This session helped students critically reflect on their digital habits and make more conscious choices.

We then moved into the crucial topic of *"Emotional Regulation"*, equipping students with techniques to understand, manage, and communicate their emotions in a healthy way. Closely tied to this was our session on *"Social Skills"*, where we practiced active listening, assertiveness, and building positive peer interactions.

Time management and coping with academic

pressure were addressed in *"Managing Deadlines: How to Stay Sane When the Clock is Ticking"*. This was particularly timely during assessment periods, and students shared that it gave them a clearer structure and a greater sense of control.

Midway through the year, we delved into identity, appearance, and acceptance through *"Bullying, Identity, and the Invisible 'Price Tags'"*. This session sparked meaningful conversations about social expectations, inclusivity, and the importance of staying true to oneself.

Another key theme was *"Anger Management"*: understanding the roots of intense emotions and learning ways to respond thoughtfully rather than react impulsively was a transformative step for many students.

Our later sessions explored body image and wellbeing in *"Self-Image & Eating Disorders"*, where students learned to critically evaluate societal standards and celebrate their individuality. We concluded the programme with *"Peer-to-Peer Relationships"*, focusing on empathy, boundaries, conflict resolution, and the value of authentic connection.

By creating a safe, open, and inclusive environment for discussion, this programme has empowered students not only to take better care of themselves, but also to support their peers. Feedback has been very positive, with many students expressing gratitude for having a space to talk about topics that matter deeply but are not always discussed openly.

Secondary School Counselling Department
Ana Nas & Diana Nicolescu

Reading the World: The Importance of Reading Different Types of Texts

In today's fast-paced world, where information is available at our fingertips and distractions are everywhere, the act of reading often feels like a luxury rather than a necessity. Yet reading remains one of the most powerful tools we have - not just for education, but for understanding ourselves and the world around us. Whether it's fiction or nonfiction, poetry or journalism, novels or news articles, every type of text offers something unique. Reading widely and across different genres enriches our knowledge, sharpens our thinking, and helps us grow as empathetic and informed individuals.

Fiction: Opening Doors to Other Worlds

Fiction allows us to step into someone else's shoes, visit distant lands, and explore imagined futures. When we read a novel or a short story, we don't just learn about characters - we feel what they feel, think what they think, and see the world through their eyes. This is more than just entertainment; it's a form of empathy-building. A story about a refugee child, for example, can help us understand the struggles of people we may never meet in real life. Historical fiction can bring the past to life in a way that textbooks often can't. Science fiction and fantasy encourage us to question our assumptions and imagine new possibilities.

Fiction also strengthens language skills. Through exposure to different writing styles, vocabulary, and narrative techniques, readers become more effective communicators themselves. The creativity and emotional depth found in fiction foster imagination and emotional intelligence - skills that are useful in every area of life, from relationships to problem-solving.



Non-Fiction: Exploring Reality and Building Knowledge

While fiction nurtures imagination and empathy, non-fiction grounds us in reality. It gives us the tools we need to understand the complex world we live in. Non-fiction texts can take many forms; biographies, memoirs, scientific articles, news reports, essays, and more. Each provides factual information, real-world insights, and arguments that challenge us to think critically.

Reading non-fiction improves our ability to evaluate evidence, form opinions, and make informed decisions. For example, reading an article about climate change or artificial intelligence helps us understand key issues shaping the future. Biographies of inspiring figures show us what it means to overcome adversity, while travel writing introduces us to cultures and places we may never experience firsthand.

Moreover, non-fiction fosters curiosity. It encourages readers to ask questions and seek answers. This kind of active reading turns us into lifelong learners who are better prepared to engage

with global conversations, whether in school debates, job interviews, or community discussions.

Preparing for Exams - and Life

Reading a variety of texts is also essential preparation for academic success, especially in programmes like the IGCSE and IB Diploma. Both curricula require students to analyse, compare, and evaluate different text types, from literary fiction and poetry to opinion pieces and reports. The more comfortable students are with these forms of writing, the more confidently they can respond to exam tasks.

Beyond exams, the ability to read critically, interpret tone and bias, and understand multiple perspectives is a real-life skill. In university and the workplace, success often depends on how well you can understand and use information from a range of sources. Whether you're writing an essay, giving a presentation, or simply navigating the news, reading well makes a difference.

The Power of a Balanced Reading Diet

Just as a healthy diet includes a variety of foods, a healthy reading habit involves a mix of genres and styles. Too often, we stick to what's familiar or easy - perhaps always reading fantasy novels or only skimming social media posts. But when we push ourselves to read outside our comfort zones, we discover new interests and perspectives.

A well-rounded reader might enjoy a gripping detective novel one week and a thought-provoking essay the next. They might read poetry to appreciate the beauty of language, and then turn to a news article to stay informed about world events. This balance not only deepens our understanding of different subjects, but it also keeps reading engaging and rewarding.

Read to Understand, Imagine, and Grow

In a world where opinions are loud and facts are often distorted, reading a range of texts gives us the clarity and depth we need to form our own views. It helps us become more thoughtful, compassionate, and knowledgeable individuals. Whether it's through the imagined adventures of a novel or the hard truths of an investigative report, reading different types of texts allows us to truly "read the world."

What our Community says about Reading

"I like reading poetry because it's intriguing and fun." - Sophia Andrei, Year 8

"I read because it exposes me to a different way of living; one that I will never experience myself. For example, I'll never be on the moon, or fight aliens." - Rachel Ferreira, Head of English

"Books are a great way to get knowledge." - Tudor Alexandrescu, Year 7

"Reading makes anything possible." - Adina Iacob, Head of Pastoral Care

"Reading is important because it helps you develop as a human being." - Liliana Manolache, Librarian

"I like how the style (for example caesura and enjambment) can emphasise the message of a poem." - Berrin Doymaz, Year 7

"I like reading novels because it is like escaping this reality and diving into a world of fantasy." - Diana Popescu, Year 8

Tom Duffy and Diana Mudura
English Teachers

MUN of Vienna 2025 Highlights

This year, our ISB MUN delegation proudly attended the MUN conference in Vienna, centered around the theme: "Conflict to Cooperation: Navigating Turbulent Times with Diplomacy."

In today's world of geopolitical tensions, social challenges, and environmental crises, transitioning from conflict to cooperation is more important than ever. Our delegation represented ISB with excellence, upholding the core values of the United Nations: maintaining peace, fostering friendly international relations, and promoting human rights and social progress.

A huge congratulations to Anastasia C., Sanziana C., Victoria M., and Kira T. for their incredible work and dedication!

Curious about MUN? Feel free to reach out to jens.vandevyvere@isb.ro to learn more!



ISB Students Shine in Milan!

12 ISB students traveled to Milan at the end of May for a friendly yet competitive debate tournament hosted by ITE High School and Debate Italia. They engaged in thoughtful debates, showed confidence under pressure, and embraced both wins and challenges with maturity.

Special congratulations to Sophia A., Lisa-Maria S., Camelia M., and Mara T.—named ISB's Best Debaters for their performance, improvement, and leadership.

Beyond debating, students explored Milan's historic center, toured the Duomo, visited Bocconi

University, and shared laughs and meals together.

We're incredibly proud of how they represented ISB abroad!



Student-Created French Magazine Showcases Talent and Creativity at ISB



Two talented students from ISB have recently created a French-language magazine, entirely written and designed by themselves! This impressive project is the result of dedication, creativity, and a genuine passion for language learning—and we're excited to share it with the wider ISB community.

Their teacher was eager to celebrate the students' efforts:

"Two of my students wrote a magazine, entirely in French. I would love to have it shared with the community to encourage other students and parents who speak French to have a look and offer feedback. Their hard work truly deserves to be seen—and hopefully, it will inspire them to write a second edition!"

Liza V, one of the student authors, shared her enthusiasm about the experience:

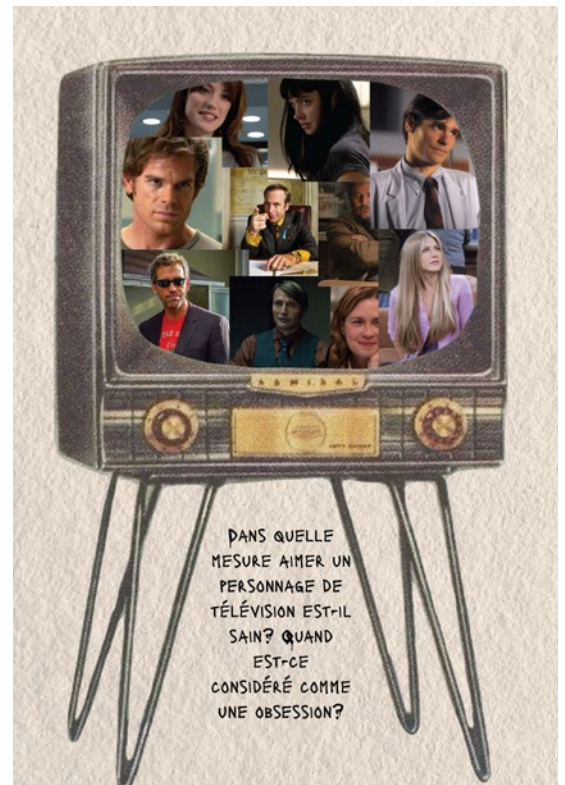
"Working on the magazine was really fun! I loved designing and writing it, as it helped my French a lot. Designing the ads was especially fun—making up all sorts of fake things in French. Amory was a great teammate, and it was lots of fun thinking up this magazine together!!"

Amory P, her co-editor, added:

"Writing this journal has been a rewarding and enjoyable experience. I truly appreciated the opportunity to explore current events and express my thoughts through writing. It has helped me improve my research and communication skills, and it was a real pleasure to put this journal together from start to finish."

We encourage all French-speaking members of our ISB community—students, parents, and staff alike—to read the magazine and share their thoughts. Your support will not only validate the students' hard work but also motivate them to keep writing, learning, and maybe even launch a second edition!

Bravo, Liza and Amory!





TEDxISB: Ideas Through Different Lenses

Rethink Reframe Redefine

On May 31st, our school hosted its second edition TEDx event, TEDxISB, a conference built to promote ideas worth sharing. Under the theme “Through Different Lenses,” the event brought together a range of powerful talks, each offering a unique perspective on the world from different backgrounds.

The speakers shared thought-provoking stories on dreams, marketing, architecture, economics and more, enriching the audience’s perception of common events. The diversity of voices reflects the range of lenses through which we experience life, reminding us how perspective can shape understanding. Every viewpoint is just the beginning, there’s always another angle waiting to be seen.

What made TEDxISB truly remarkable wasn’t just the ideas shared on stage, but also what lied behind the scenes. The dedication of the student team

was pivotal in shaping this event. While fighting deadlines, coursework, and the pressure of IB mocks, the organising team managed to bring the event to life with responsibility and passion. From speaker coaching and stage design to finance and logistics, every detail was handled by students committed to creating meaningful opportunities for the ISB community.

TEDxISB didn’t just showcase ideas, it built connections, challenged assumptions, and reminded us of the power perspectives. It sparked conversation, encouraged curiosity, and most of all, proved that what you see depends on where you stand, if you shift, the whole picture changes. This event may be over, but the conversations it started are only just beginning.

There’s no such thing as the full picture, just more ways to look.

Giorgio S., Year 12 Student



Can AI Think Like a Scientist?

Exploring the Line Between Intelligence and Understanding

Each day, the news heralds a fresh advance in artificial intelligence: machines that compose essays, design experiments, and even propose novel scientific theories. In a world where algorithms can outperform chess grandmasters, diagnose complex illnesses, and predict the structures of proteins, it is tempting to ask ‘can AI think like a scientist?’

This question is not merely technical. It is philosophical at its core, and it aligns with the broader educational mission of the International Baccalaureate: to nurture individuals who are not only knowledgeable, but also reflective, principled, and intellectually curious.

Intelligence and Understanding

On the surface, AI systems appear to accomplish tasks that once required uniquely human cognition. Large language models can summarise academic

articles, while neural networks can analyse data sets at speeds far beyond human capacity. But does this constitute genuine understanding, or is it something altogether different?

Consider the example of a student in an IB Biology class. Their task is not simply to memorise content, but to develop hypotheses, question the validity of evidence, make ethical evaluations concerning biotechnological applications, and consider knowledge through interdisciplinary lenses. This is not mere data processing. It is a mode of thinking that demands self-awareness, purpose, and critical engagement.

Contemporary AI does not possess such qualities. It does not “understand” science in the human sense. It identifies patterns and reproduces reasoning-like behaviour, but it does so without consciousness, intention, or insight. It cannot formulate a question out of curiosity, nor can it reflect on the moral implications of a discovery. It exhibits none of the attributes celebrated in the IB learner profile:

no empathy, no integrity, and no genuine open-mindedness.

What Role Can AI Play in Science?

Nonetheless, AI is a formidable tool. It accelerates data analysis, enables the modelling of complex systems, and can even suggest novel research directions that might otherwise remain unexplored. For both educators and students, this capability represents significant potential, though not without its complications.

In classrooms at the International School of Bucharest, we must therefore ask: how can AI enhance learning without undermining it? How can we integrate these tools in a manner that deepens inquiry, rather than diluting it?

The IB's emphasis on approaches to learning: thinking, research, collaboration, communication, and self-management, provides a robust framework for navigating this landscape. AI can support the development of these skills, but it cannot replace the human discernment, ethical reasoning, and reflective judgment that the IB curriculum seeks to instil.

The Evolving Role of Teachers and Students

As educators, we now assume an additional role: that of AI literacy mentors. Our students require more than operational familiarity with platforms such as ChatGPT or DeepSeek. They need to develop the discernment to know when and why to use such tools, and the critical thinking skills to evaluate the information they generate.

This shift is particularly salient in the IB context. In a Theory of Knowledge classroom, students may interrogate the nature of machine-generated "knowledge." In the science laboratory, they might test whether an AI-generated hypothesis is falsifiable or scientifically robust. When working on the Extended Essay, they must learn to navigate a digital landscape where shortcuts are tempting,

but genuine understanding remains the product of discipline, reflection, and academic integrity.

A Collaborative Future

Can AI think like a scientist? At present, and possibly forever, the answer is no, at least not in the sense that we understand scientific thinking as a human enterprise grounded in curiosity, creativity, and moral responsibility. What AI can do, however, is serve as a powerful collaborator, helping us to refine, accelerate, and extend scientific inquiry.

As we prepare the next generation of IB graduates here in Bucharest, our challenge is not to compete with machines, but to cultivate the qualities they lack: intellectual curiosity, ethical judgement, cultural awareness, and the capacity to ask meaningful questions that cannot be answered with data alone.

For science is not merely the pursuit of truth, but the ongoing effort to understand why that truth matters.

G. E. Avenell, Head of Science

ISB Student Maria N. Wins 2nd Prize in Prestigious NASA Space Settlement Contest

We are thrilled to share the incredible achievement of our outstanding student, Maria N., who has secured 2nd prize in the highly competitive NASA Space Settlement Contest – individual category!

Maria's accomplishment is nothing short of extraordinary. Out of more than 26,000 participants from 25 countries, she distinguished herself with a remarkable 50-page research project outlining a comprehensive space colony concept. Her work tackled complex topics such as radiation shielding, sustainable life support systems, and lunar mining, showcasing both scientific depth and visionary thinking.

Maria will present her project at the prestigious International Space Development Conference (ISDC) in Orlando, where she will speak before an audience of NASA astronauts, leading scientists, and space industry experts.

We couldn't be prouder of Maria's dedication, brilliance, and passion for space exploration. Congratulations, Maria — your future is as bright as the stars!



Black Sea Showdown Meet League by Andromeda Robotics: A Celebration of Innovation and Teamwork

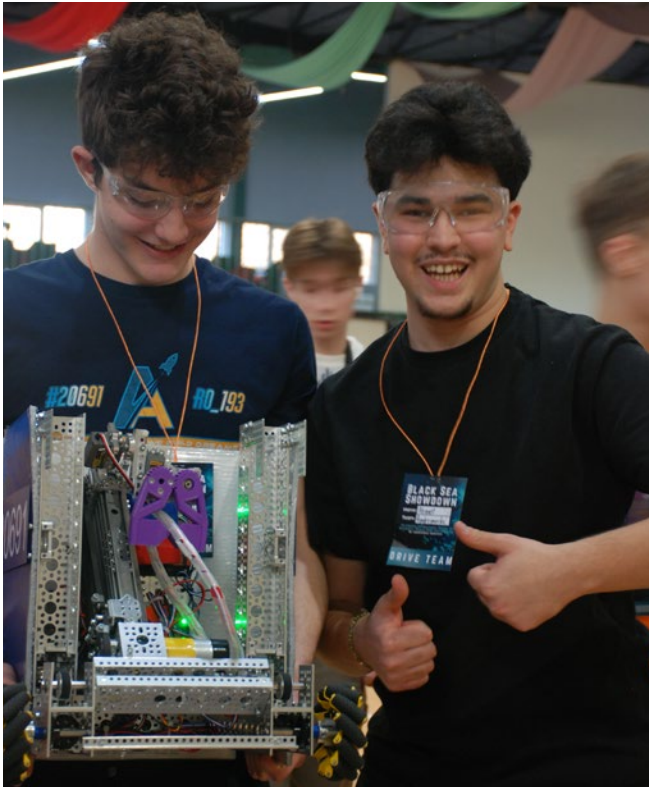
On January 18th, the International School of Bucharest hosted the Black Sea Showdown by Andromeda Robotics, an exciting FIRST Tech Challenge (FTC) Meet League event. This remarkable gathering brought together 200 students from 20 robotics teams across the region, representing schools from Bucharest, Pitești, Ploiești, Curtea de Argeș, Câmpulung, Medgidia, Slobozia, Râmnicu Vâlcea, and Pucioasa. The event marked a milestone for ISB Andromeda Robotics as their first competition of the year, and the team's efforts were met with great success.

What is an FTC Meet League?

FTC Meet Leagues are essential components of the FIRST Tech Challenge, a global robotics competition

designed to inspire young minds to develop skills in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). Teams are tasked with designing, building, and programming robots to compete in various challenges on a specially designed game field. The goal is to earn points through strategic gameplay, robot efficiency, and teamwork.

Each FTC team participates in a series of at least three Meet League events during the season, accumulating points based on their performance, in order to qualify for the Regional Championships, which serve as a gateway to national and international stages. This year, the Regionals were held in Pitești from February 7-9, where the best teams in the South region of Romania competed for a chance to advance further.



A Successful Start for Andromeda Robotics

The Black Sea Showdown was a true test of skill and collaboration for Andromeda Robotics, ISB's dedicated FTC team. As their first competition this season, the event provided an opportunity to showcase the results of months of hard work and preparation. The students demonstrated impressive problem-solving abilities, creativity, and teamwork throughout the day.

While there is still work to be done to refine their strategy and robot performance, the team's results were promising and set a strong foundation for the upcoming meets. Participating in three Meet Leagues is a challenging but essential part of the season, and Andromeda is on track and accumulated the points needed to qualify for the Regionals in Pitești.

A Collaborative Effort

The success of the Black Sea Showdown would not have been possible without the incredible support of the ISB community and staff.

A huge shoutout to Quantum Robotics from Liceul Teoretic Internațional de Informatică București for their incredible support.

Celebrating the Andromeda Robotics Team

The Andromeda Robotics team deserves immense recognition for their tireless efforts in organizing this large-scale event. Hosting a competition of this magnitude for the first time was no small feat, and their commitment to making it a success was evident in every detail. Their success in organizing and competing in the Black Sea Showdown has set a positive tone for the rest of the season.

"It is inspiring to watch students from across the region collaborate, innovate, and put their STEM skills into action. Congratulations to our Andromeda Robotics team for organizing such a fantastic event! To all the teams—thank you for your energy, creativity, and sportsmanship" said Mr. Serdar Sakman, Head of School.

Looking Ahead

As the season progresses, Andromeda Robotics will participate in two more Meet Leagues, where they will continue to refine their robot and gameplay strategy.

Congratulations to everyone involved in the Black Sea Showdown—a true celebration of innovation, teamwork, and the spirit of STEM!

If you want to become a sponsor for Andromeda robotics, please send an email to andromeda@isb.ro or monica.tele@isb.ro

Agnes P.

Year 13 Student

Communications and PR Andromeda

Robotics Team



ISB Students Shine at the AISB Basketball Festival

Our ISB students participated in the AISB Basketball Festival, an annual event in which students had a lot of fun, practiced a variety of basketball drills and played fun games. Their involvement and focus was on the top level and they were appreciated by others colleagues from different schools. It was a real pleasure to see all of our students who participated in this event and so they are a good example to their classmates.



Kicking Off with Confidence: The Journey of the ISB Ladies Football Team

Let's rewind to the very beginning- It was Wednesday, September 18th, 2024. That's when the ISB Ladies Football Team began, starting as a small Enrichment club with one dedicated and determined member: Milena. Just two weeks later, Chira joined, bringing passion and persistence to the field. In the third week, Maria and Iulia came on board, quickly developing their skills and exuding confidence. Momentum was building- and so was the team.

By November, what began as a one-person club had grown into a 13-strong team: Milena, Chira, Maria, Iulia, Gulsum, Amalia, Maia, Leia, Victoria, Damla, Pinar, Aisha, and Mariam. Each player brought something unique, but all shared a love for the game. With courage, commitment, and camaraderie, they

prepared for their very first match, but this was not just any friendly game, this was the BSB Autumn Cup tournament.

Despite the challenges, the team rose to the occasion. Supporting one another, they played with maturity, teamwork, and pride- and their efforts paid off. In an incredible debut, the ISB Ladies Football Team claimed first place in their first-ever tournament. What a remarkable beginning!

Since then, the team has continued to grow- not only in numbers but in skill, spirit, and reputation. Competing in friendly matches against schools like AISB, Cambridge, and BSB, the ISB team has earned respect not just for their performance, but also for their sportsmanship, teamwork, and

positive attitude on and off the field.

Today, the ISB Ladies Football Team boasts an impressive 31 members, (along with some extra ladies who also withhold respectful values as a team member, volunteering to be sub-substitutes just encase we ever need an extra pair of feet) representing a diverse mix of ages, skills, backgrounds, abilities, and personalities. But no matter their differences, the players come together as one- united in their passion, always giving their best. We couldn't be prouder of what they've achieved- and what's still to come.

This term marked an exciting milestone for our U13 Ladies' team as they entered their first ISB Lumina Cup on Saturday 17th May. It was an experience of firsts- for some playing their very first match against another school, competing in their first full tournament and, most impressively, stepping onto the podium for the first time and receiving their first medal for football. The girls faced tough battles on the pitch but showed incredible courage, determination, teamwork, and true football spirit throughout. Their hard work, determination, and unity paid off as they proudly claimed third place. Our two goalkeepers, Esma and Annabella, truly rose to the occasion during the tournament. Esma, who also earned our team's Woman of the Match award, stepped up to support the team in unforeseen circumstances. Annabella, experiencing her very first football tournament beyond PE lessons, embraced the challenge with remarkable spirit. Together, they shared the Best Goalie award across all the U13 girl teams—an incredible achievement that highlighted their teamwork and mutual support. It was a memorable debut, and the entire school community is extremely proud of what they've achieved. Here's to many more victories ahead!

Now to give you a proper introduction to all of our incredible ladies in our ISB Football Team...



"As the Captain of our girls' football team, I couldn't be prouder of what we've built together. Every player brings passion, dedication, and a fighting spirit that makes this team so special. We've grown into more than just teammates-we're a family that supports each other

through every challenge and celebrates every success, both on and off the pitch.

One of the people who's made all of this possible is our amazing coach, Miss Victoria. Her guidance, support, and belief in each of us has shaped who we are as a team. Personally, I'm especially proud and grateful to her for believing in me and giving me the chance to lead this team as Captain. Her trust and encouragement have meant the world to me, and they've pushed me to grow not just as a player, but as a leader.

Leading this team has been an honour, and I'm beyond excited for what the future holds for us- with Miss Victoria by our side, there's nothing we can't achieve". Amalia D.



"Being on the football team has taught me way more than just how to play the sport. It's helped me learn what it really means to be a team player- having each other's backs, working together, and always putting the team first. I've also learned how to be brave and not let mistakes get the best of me. Instead of giving up, I've learned to keep my head up and keep pushing forward. The team has shown me how important it is to stay positive, even when things get tough, and to be proud of what we accomplish together. I'm really thankful for everything football has taught me- It's made me stronger, more confident, and a better person overall."
Milena S.



"As a newcomer to the Eagles, I can already feel the passion and flourishing team spirit . Coach Victoria always has unwavering support for us, and is always there to remind us that each outcome is a learning opportunity and to never forget that the effort we put into the matches is one of the most valuable things we can do in football. As for our teammates, they are funny, always encouraging and even on the sidelines cheering us up and on.

Even though I haven't been a member for long, I love the experience and the team.

Go Eagles!" Anastasia C.



"As a newcomer, I've absolutely loved being part of the ISB Ladies Football Team. From the very first practice, everyone has been incredibly welcoming and supportive, making it easy to feel at home. The energy, teamwork, and passion on and off the field are truly inspiring, and I'm so grateful to be surrounded by such a dedicated

and fun group of players. I'm excited for the season ahead and proud to wear the ISB Eagles jersey!"
Camelia M.

Victoria Foster
PE Teacher and Coach





More Than a Game: How Volleyball at ISB Builds Champions, Confidence, and Community

"Volleyball has become one of the most exciting and successful sports at ISB. Our talented teams have proudly represented the school in various competitions, consistently bringing home outstanding results."

This past summer, our beach volleyball team achieved an impressive first-place victory, showcasing exceptional determination and teamwork. Not only did they surpass last year's result, but they also successfully defended their title, keeping the trophy at our school.

Earlier in the year, both our Open Age boys' and girls' teams participated in the BISAAC Competition. Our boys finished in 5th place, while our girls secured 1st place in the Open Age category — an incredible achievement that made our school community proud.

Currently, our Under-14 girls' team is participating in the prestigious BISSAC League. These young athletes are not only highly skilled but also demonstrate great sportsmanship, teamwork, and passion for the game. Their hard work and talent promise a bright future for volleyball at ISB.

We are proud of all our players and look forward to even more successes in the seasons ahead.

Because our students are at the heart of everything we do at ISB, we asked them to share how they feel about volleyball at our school. What we discovered is

that volleyball is more than just a sport — for many, it is healing and empowering. It builds confidence, as described by our student Azra C. in her own words:

“Volleyball is a sport where I can relax and channel my energy. I really enjoy playing and the friends I’ve made along the way. My teammates are truly the greatest — they know me so well that I wouldn’t trade them for anything. They mean a lot to me, and they make playing on the school team so much more fun. I always look forward to training, and I go every time. I even play with my teammates outside of school.

I’ve even thought about going professional with volleyball, as I’ve genuinely improved thanks to my teammates and the people around me. Volleyball is truly healing. Ever since I started playing, I’ve made so many friends, and it has helped me be more open

and confident about myself.”

As our students have said, as the season comes to a close, we’re left with more than just scores and highlights — we carry memories of laughter, determination, and friendships formed both on and off the court.

Volleyball has become a place where students find their voice, their strength, and their support in one another. It’s not just about winning games — it’s about growing together, learning to trust, and discovering what it means to be a team. And while the games may end, the bonds we’ve built will stay with us long after the final point is played.

Roxana Ivanof

PE Teacher and Volleyball Team’s Coach



Year 13 Students Complete Financial Times Advocacy Programme with Insight and Impact

Two of our Year 13 Economics students, Agnes and Doria, have just completed their Student Advocate Programme with the Financial Times, one of the UK's leading news organisations with a global readership.

Over four months, they developed their leadership skills with the support of mentors from the FT Schools initiative, making the most of this brilliant opportunity. Here's what they had to say about their experience!



Agnes: The Financial Times Advocacy Programme is a great opportunity to develop your soft-skills such as writing or communication, while learning more about the Economics-related news occurring globally. The process was straightforward to follow, we had meetings and updates from the organisers biweekly, and the tasks were challenging, but helped us ultimately improve. The tasks were quite time consuming, but since we had about 3-4 weeks to complete them, they were doable. This programme was a great opportunity to connect with our peers from other international schools, as well as to learn more about the FT and to share that knowledge with ISB's 6th form students. I would wholeheartedly recommend this programme for anyone interested in Economics, Politics or just the news in general.



Doria: Being part of the FT Student Advocate Programme was a great experience that required a mix of organization, communication, and creativity. One of the main tasks I completed as part of the FT Student Advocate Programme was conducting a survey to understand

how students engage with financial news. It was interesting to see the range of responses, where some students were already familiar with the FT, while others hadn't considered how it could be useful for their studies. While it didn't require a huge time commitment, it did take careful planning to get a good number of responses. I would also like to add that overall, for all the tasks, the time commitment was flexible but required consistency, such as keeping up with FT articles, planning, and communicating with fellow advocates. The programme was a rewarding experience that strengthened my communication and team working skills, as well as deepening my interest in staying informed. A key takeaway was realizing how important accessibility and relevance are when encouraging students to explore financial journalism, and it's not just for business/economics students, but for anyone wanting to better understand the world.

Doria M. and Agnes P.
Year 13 Students

DofE Bronze & Silver – Adventurous Journey in Sovata

Challenge. Resilience. Adventure.

This week, our determined Duke of Edinburgh's International Award participants at Bronze and Silver level embarked on their much-anticipated Adventurous Journey in the beautiful wilderness of Sovata, hosted by Outward Bound.



Over the course of several intense days, students stepped far outside their comfort zones and into nature. They hiked for long hours through forested trails, navigated using only maps and compasses, and carried all their essential supplies with them. Each team was fully responsible for managing their own equipment, setting up camp, and—perhaps the most character-building task of all—cooking their own meals in the great outdoors. Throughout the journey, students practiced key values such as compassion, inclusion, responsibility, leadership, communication, and cooperation—skills that will serve them far beyond the forest.

Sleeping in tents in the middle of the forest, surrounded by nothing but the sounds of nature, our students faced challenges that tested their teamwork, resilience, and adaptability. Whether it was putting

up the two large group tents, dealing with blisters, or overcoming moments of homesickness, every student rose to the occasion.

This experience was also a test of patience and trust for parents, who bravely supported the tech-free policy of the trip, going several days without direct contact with their children—a challenge in itself in our hyper-connected world. What truly stood out was their determination and growth. Through mud, sweat, and shared laughter around campfires, they learned what it means to support one another, to stay positive in discomfort, and to push through when the journey feels long.

Congratulations to all our Bronze and Silver participants for not only completing their Adventurous Journey—but for embodying the spirit of the DofE Award every step of the way.

We're proud of you!

Ms. Monica Tele
DofE Coordinator



The Lifesaver

Fig 1

Materials

- large animal Bladder
- small animal bladder
- Potash
- Uringer
- Leather
- Silk cord
- thread

Are you tired of drowning?
Well I invented the Life Saver.
The coolest way to stay safe in
water! Made from dry animal
bladders and tied with a silk
cord. The bracelet is made
of leather and inside of the
bladder balloons there is dry
Potash and a small animal
bladder filled with
Uringer. When snatched the small
balloon pops, coming in contact
with the Potash, the balloons

Now
invents
because
when
these
tubes
expand
elephants
Calide,
bubbles
of carbon
dioxide
form
inventing
the Bal
loon

Mini animal bladder filled with
Uringer
Potash
Silk cord
Leather
Bracelet

Potash
- Potassium
- Chloride

Fig 2

Potash Uringer

Fig bladder

Cross-Curricular Creativity in Year 8

Keeping you afloat in emergency situations.
No heavy wooden floats or bulky
vests. Just a small, easy-to-carry
device that can save your life.
You can buy it at the market for only one coin. Before
they're gone!

Our talented Year 8 students just wrapped up their Renaissance unit with Wacky Inventions! Blending History, English, and Art, they designed imaginative inventions with catchy names, persuasive sales pitches, and stunning figure drawings. The twist? Everything had to be possible with Renaissance-era tools!

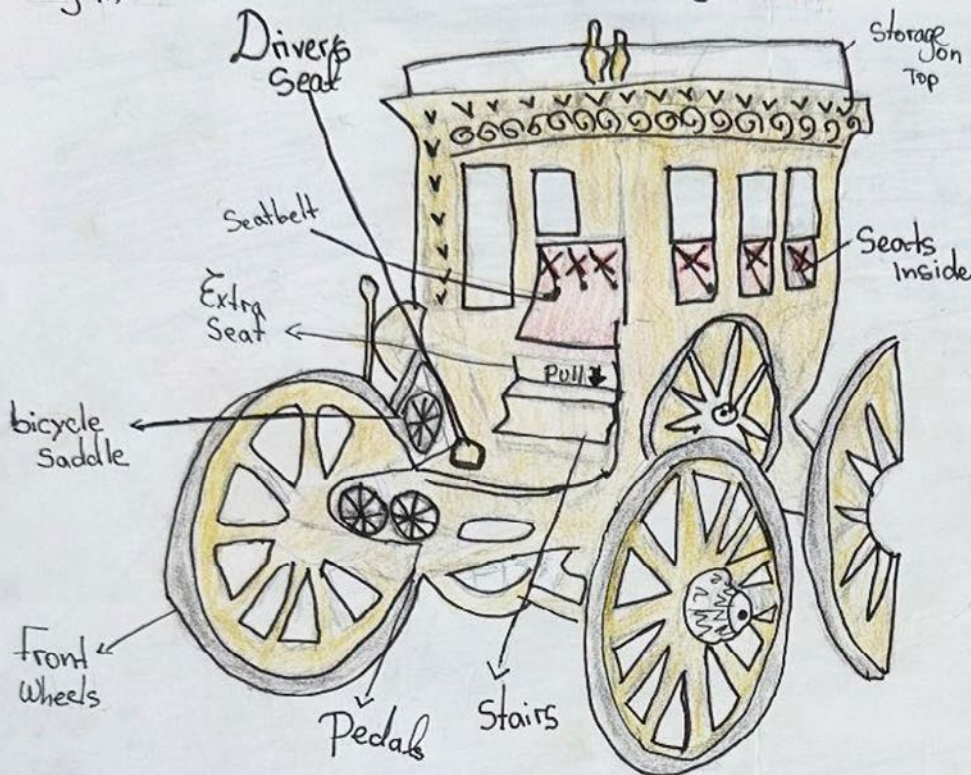
From wild ideas to brilliant execution, they nailed creativity, critical thinking, and teamwork. What a fun and inspiring way to bring the Renaissance to life!

THE FOOT G

1500 - 1700

Img 1.)

{The Foot G-class}



Why ride a horse when you can pedal in style? The Foot G-Class is a special pedal-powered carriage that lets you move without needing a horse. Just sit, pedal and enjoy the ride! Made from strong wood with comfortable seats, its easy to use and looks amazing. perfect for anyone who wants to travel in luxury while getting some leg exercise!

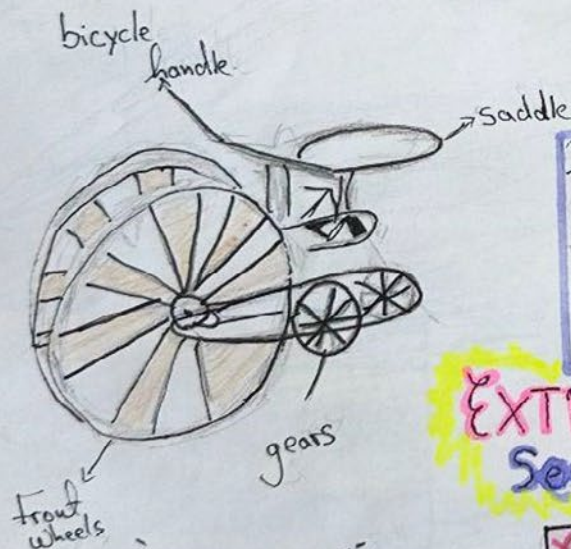
Don't wait! get your Foot G-Class now, and ride like a king!

Materials

- Wood
- Glass
- Metal
- Fabric or leather
- Tires
- Rims

Img 2.)

Img 3.)

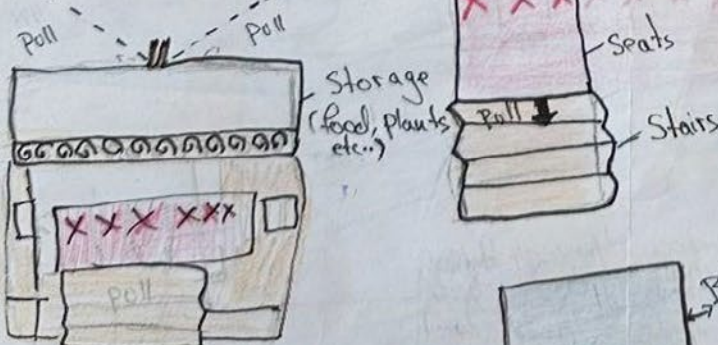


Want to get warm and cozy? This luxury Foot G-class has an extra seat with a soft cotton blanket stored neatly under the stairs. perfect for chilly nights or simply adding a touch of comfort to your journey!

EXTRA + Cotton blanket
Seat

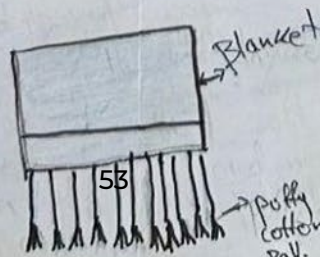
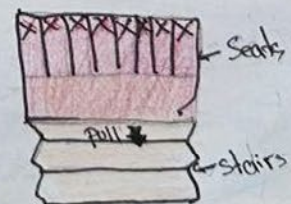
The pedals on the Foot G-class work like a bicycle. When you push the pedals with your feet, they turn gears that make the back wheels move. This helps the carriage go forward. The faster you pedal, the faster the carriage moves. To stop, you can stop pedaling which slows down the wheels. This way, you can ride the carriage without a horse.

Img 4.)



The storage on top of the carriage is a perfect for anything food, plants and more other things you need on your journey.

Img 5.)



Even though the Foot G-class doesn't have an engine, safety is still important. That's why it has adjustable seatbelts to keep you safe while pedaling whether you're going fast or slow. No need to worry about bumps. (Just pedal and have fun.)



29 ISB Teams Qualify for the World Scholar's Cup Global Round

International School of Bucharest recently hosted the highly anticipated World Scholar's Cup (WSC) Bucharest Round on March 24-25, that brought together twelve schools from Romania and Bulgaria and over 300 participants for an exciting two-day academic competition.

ISB joined the competition with 31 teams and 29 of them qualified for the prestigious Global Round.

The WSC, known for its multidisciplinary approach, brought together some of the brightest young minds who competed in various team and individual events across different divisions. The students showcased their analytical, writing, debating, and problem-solving skills in categories ranging from History and Social Sciences to Science and Technology.

Here are some of the best results for teams and individuals, as well.

Junior Division Highlights

Team Awards

- Collaborative Writing (2nd place): Team 141 – Ada C., Ana C., Diana W.
- Scholar's Bowl (3rd place): Team 147 – Alex A., Jia Rui L., Peng K.

Individual Awards

- Challenge History (1st place): Ingrid I.
- Writing (1st place): Diana P.



Senior Division Highlights

Team Awards

- Collaborative Writing (1st place): Team 178 – Mircea H., Mattia B., Nael EK.
- Scholar's Challenge (1st place): Team 357 – Nicole B., Maia L.
- Scholar's Challenge (3rd place): Team 180 – Luca D., Rares H., David D.
- Overall Senior Team (3rd place): Team 357 – Nicole B., Maia L.

Individual Awards

- Debate (2nd place): Rares H.
- Writing (1st place): Nour H.
- Challenge – Literature and Media:
 - 1st place: Liza V.
 - 2nd place: Maia L.
- Challenge – Special Area:
 - 1st place: Maia L.
 - 2nd place: David D.
- Challenge – Social Science:

- 1st place: Maia L.
- 2nd place: Chira N.
- Challenge – History:
 - 1st place: Maia L.
- Challenge – Art and Music:
 - 2nd place: Maia L.
- Challenge – Science and Technology:
 - 1st place: Maia L.
- Overall Senior Division Rankings:
 - 2nd place: Liza V.
 - 3rd place: Maia L.

The success of the ISB-hosted WSC Bucharest Round underscores the high caliber of scholars participating in this event. The overwhelming number of qualifications for the Global Round speaks to the dedication and talent of these students. Their performances across disciplines highlight not only academic excellence but also teamwork, resilience, and creativity—qualities that the WSC fosters in young scholars.

Congratulations to all participants, and best of luck to those advancing to the Global Round!

Monica Tele



FDRMUN 25

25th Annual
 International School of Bucharest
 Model United Nations
 Conference

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Gemma Cadogan

Bianca Ghitulescu

Executive team from International School of Bucharest: **Gemma C.** – Head of Conference, **Gabriel L.** – Head of Marketing; **Anastasia C.** – Head of Press, **Sanziana C.** – Head of Sponsorship, **Evelin I.** – Head of Staff

3rd Edition of ISB Franklin D. Roosevelt Model United Nations 2025

Shaping Leaders, Building Connections

The third edition of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Model United Nations (FDRMUN) was held at the International School of Bucharest from the 8th to the 11th of May. It featured five committees: SPECPOL (Special Political and Decolonization Committee), DISEC (Disarmament and International Security Committee), SC (Security Council), ECOFIN (Economic and Financial Committee), and Romania's first: the Ad-Hoc Committee of the Secretary General.

The first day commenced with an Opening Ceremony featuring speeches from two guest speakers and the organizing team. Dr. Ștefan Deaconu, PhD, constitutional professor and managing partner at LDDP, spoke first, reminding students of what diplomacy truly entails. The second guest speaker, Jens Vandevyvere, an English teacher at ISB, encouraged students to speak up and actively engage in this unique simulation of diplomacy. The organizing team followed with heartfelt speeches, expressing gratitude for each other's support and encouragement. The ceremony concluded with the first banging of the gavel, officially opening the conference.

With the speeches still resonating, the committees began their sessions. Over the course of four days, both new and experienced delegates interacted, debated, shared opinions, and wrote resolutions. During breaks, eager delegates frequently sought feedback from their more experienced chairs, constantly aiming to refine their skills. As each session progressed, delegates improved their public speaking, challenged themselves, and developed strong bonds with fellow students—truly reflecting the HERO values practiced at ISB.

However, FRDMUN was not solely about the delegates. Talented press members played a vital role, tirelessly writing articles and meticulously updating participants through the daily newsletter, FDRBlue. Their counterparts, the photographers, buzzed around the rooms capturing unforgettable moments of debate, disagreement, and diplomacy—freezing time in a frame.

Over three transformative days, every attendee of FRDMUN 2025 had fun, built friendships, learned new skills, and took the courageous step of speaking up—offering their opinions in front of an entire committee. FRDMUN embodied a remarkable community rooted in diplomacy, lifelong connections, and a continuous drive for personal growth.

FDRMUN was more than just a simulation; it was a powerful experience that challenged students to think critically, speak confidently, and collaborate—even in disagreement. From the opening ceremony to the final gavel, every moment served as a lesson in diplomacy, resilience, and the impact of student voices.

We can't wait to do it all again next year.



Testimonials

"FDRMUN has helped me develop in so many ways I didn't know I could—as a person, as a journalist, and even as a student. Even though I was only part of the press team for this edition, watching such open-minded and experienced people speak gave me confidence in myself and my abilities."

I strongly recommend FDRMUN to anyone looking to grow—it's a wonderful opportunity to develop your social skills.

Overall, I am very grateful to have had the privilege of attending this event and I look forward to coming back in future editions."

— Sophia Andrei, Year 8B

"My experience at FDRMUN 2025 was the best of all my MUNs yet—without exaggeration. It was a warm environment that nurtured all delegates, whether first-timers or seasoned participants. Everyone collaborated immensely to improve their skills."

Everything was wonderfully organized—from the food (which was the most delicious!) to the detailed FDRBlue newsletter.

I truly hope to return to FDR in 2026. It's the conference in Bucharest with some of the kindest chairs, delegates, and organizing team. It teaches delegates not just diplomacy, but also respect and care for one another—qualities seen in every committee, especially the one I participated in, the UNSC."

— Liza Vasilu, Year 10S



Graduation Night 2025 — A Night to Remember Forever

The lights have dimmed, the music has faded, and the confetti has settled — but the memories, friendships, and love built on this incredible journey at ISB will live on in our hearts forever.

What a celebration it was — smiles, tears, and warm hugs under a rain of confetti — a perfect reflection of the joy, pride, and emotion that filled the air.

This night reminded us of one powerful truth: our students are at the heart of everything we do. Their growth, their dreams, and their bonds are what give our school its spirit.

To our amazing students, dedicated teachers, and supportive parents — thank you for being part of this journey. Stay tuned for more photos and videos from the event.

Hats in the Air, Eyes on the Future

As our graduates toss their caps, they launch more than a tradition — they launch into a world full of opportunity. Every skill learned and every challenge overcome has prepared them for what comes next. The future is calling, and they're ready to answer it with confidence, passion, and purpose. Here's to new beginnings and the endless possibilities ahead!

Congratulations to the Class of 2025 — your story is just beginning!



More photos here:



Romania's Top IB Result of 2025, Achieved at International School of Bucharest - Teodora Gandore Scores a Perfect 45

International School of Bucharest Leads the Nation Once Again in IB Excellence



International School of Bucharest (ISB) is proud to celebrate the exceptional accomplishments of its Class of 2025, whose results in the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP) have once again set the bar high both nationally and internationally. With a 100% subject pass rate and average diploma scores well above the global norm, this year's graduating cohort has demonstrated not only academic excellence but also the resilience, perseverance, and integrity that define the spirit of ISB.

The International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme, known for its academic rigour and

global recognition, is a two-year curriculum designed to prepare students aged 16–19 for success at university and beyond. It places strong emphasis on critical thinking, research skills, community service, and international-mindedness.

In May 2025, over 202,000 students from approximately 5,700 schools across 157 countries sat for the IB examinations. Against this backdrop, ISB's achievements are nothing short of remarkable.

Among the standout performers at ISB is **Teodora G.**, who earned a **perfect score of 45 out of 45 diploma points**, placing her:



- **The highest-scoring student in Romania** this year
- **The only student in Romania** to achieve a full score in the May 2025 session
- One of just **200+ students worldwide** to reach this exceptional milestone
- A true reflection of **ISB's commitment to academic excellence**

Teodora achieved a perfect score, earning straight 7s in all six subjects and A grades in both Theory of Knowledge (TOK) and the Extended Essay (EE), reflecting a flawless academic performance.

Teodora is also the second ISB student in the past 3 years to reach this extraordinary milestone, a reflection of the school's commitment to academic excellence.

Joining her in the top ranks were **Violeta B.**, who achieved an exceptional **44 out of 45 points**, and **Liza G.**, who followed closely with an impressive **43 points** — both achievements earned by fewer than 1% of IB students globally.

International Baccalaureate 2025 Top Scorers

Violeta B.
44 out of 45 diploma points

"After 15 years at the International School of Bucharest, I've come to realise that ISB is so much more than just a school — it's a second home. It's a community that fosters deep friendships and a place where I've always felt supported, both academically and personally.

One of the things I've loved most is how the teachers always believed in me, even when I didn't believe in myself. They consistently challenged me, reminded me of my full potential, and pushed me to grow. They taught me to value feedback rather than fear it and gave me the freedom to express myself while developing life skills alongside academic ones.

Through it all, I've learned some of life's most important virtues: patience, discipline, and honesty. The diverse environment and the demands of the IB program helped shape me into the person I am today — and led me to achieve a 44 on my diploma.

Leaving ISB isn't easy, but I know I'll always find my way back. I'm incredibly proud to call myself one of ISB's alumni. Thank you for an unforgettable journey!"

Violeta B.

HONESTY EMPATHY RESPONSIBILITY OPEN-MINDEDNESS

These individual successes are mirrored in the collective strength of ISB's Class of 2025. This year, the average diploma score across the cohort was **33.2**, exceeding the **global average of 30.58**. The average



subject grade reached **5.22**, significantly higher than the global average of **4.89**. These statistics underscore the academic rigour and consistent support provided by ISB teachers and staff.

The distribution of scores further highlights the strength of the cohort:

- 1 student scored 45 points
- 1 student scored 44 points
- 6 students achieved 40 points or higher
- 17 students earned 35+ points
- 32 students reached 30+ points

ISB's **100% subject pass rate** far exceeds the **global pass rate of 81.26%**. This remarkable figure reflects the effectiveness of ISB's academic programmes and the school's commitment to every learner's success.

Head of Secondary School Oytun Pekel praised the graduating class, emphasising the strength of ISB's community:

"We are immensely proud of the Class of 2025! Their perseverance, growth, and achievements have left a meaningful mark on our school. We also celebrate the strong partnership between students, parents, and teachers that has supported our students throughout their journey."

The open communication, shared goals, and collaborative spirit within our school community have played a vital role in shaping their development and success. We look forward to watching the Class of 2025 flourish in their university studies and beyond.”

Indeed, the success of ISB’s IBDP cohort is a collective achievement. Behind every score lie countless hours of study, meaningful mentorship from dedicated educators, and encouragement from parents and peers. Our school’s holistic approach, which blends academic excellence with emotional and personal development, is central to our mission of shaping responsible, compassionate, and globally minded citizens.

Beyond the numbers, what truly defines ISB graduates is their readiness for the future. They leave school as critical thinkers, effective communicators, and individuals with a strong sense of global responsibility. The IB Diploma Programme equips students not just for university admissions, but for life. And as ISB’s Class of 2025 steps confidently into the next chapter, they carry with them the values and skills that will serve them for years to come.

As Teodora., ISB’s and Romania’s perfect scorer, so powerfully expressed:

“IB Results Day brought me a joy that can only be described as euphoria... I had made my parents proud — and I had made myself proud, too.

But the results I achieved are not mine alone. I am beyond grateful to have been a student at ISB. To my teachers, thank you for always having answers to my questions, for offering encouragement when I needed it most, and for believing in me every step of the way.

ISB has truly shaped me into a better person and given me the best possible start on my path in life.”

ISB’s Head of School, Mr. Serdar Sakman, said: *“I am delighted to see our educators’ dedication and our students’ resilience reflected in this year’s IBDP results. Six ISB learners earned 40 points or higher, including a perfect 45, and 32 students scored above 30—with a 100 % subject pass rate. Beyond the numbers, these graduates embody the international-mindedness, integrity, and service at the heart of our mission. My warmest congratulations to them, and sincere thanks to the entire ISB community as we continue inspiring futures without borders.”*

Madalina Cioc
Communications Manager



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Resume from
**September
2025**



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2025 ISB UNIVERS

 **VRIJE UNIVERSITEIT
AMSTERDAM**

International BA



Adam

 **WORCESTER
POLYTECHNIC
INSTITUTE**

Mechanical Engineering



Adrian

 **STOCKHOLM
SCHOOL OF
ECONOMICS**

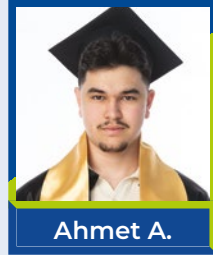
Business & Economics



Agnes

 **KU LEUVEN**

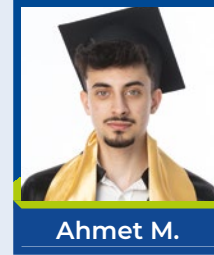
Engineering Technology



Ahmet A.

 **ROMANIAN
AMERICAN
UNIVERSITY**

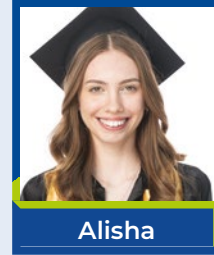
Marketing



Ahmet M.

 **MODUL UNIVERSITY
VIENNA**

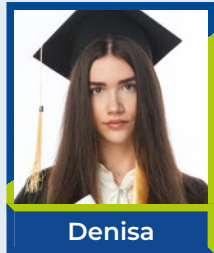
International Management



Alisha

 **COMPLUTENSE
UNIVERSITY OF
MADRID**

Law



Denisa

 **TILBURG
UNIVERSITY**

International BA



Dimitris

 **ESSEC
BUSINESS SCHOOL**

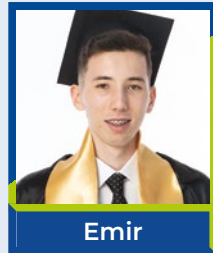
Business Management



Doria

 **HAAGA HELIA
UNIVERSITY
OF APPLIED SCIENCES**

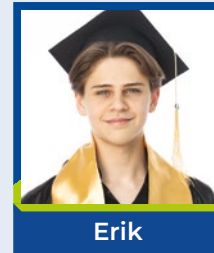
Aviation Management



Emir

 **ESADE**

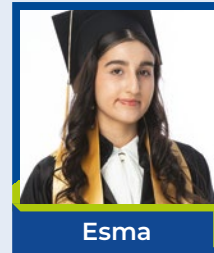
BA



Erik

 **CAROL DAVILA
UNIVERSITY**

Medicine



Esma

 **UNIVERSITY
OF GRONINGEN**

Science and Engineering



Jiang

 **UNIVERSITY
OF LEEDS**

Microbiology



Julia

 **CAROL DAVILA
UNIVERSITY**

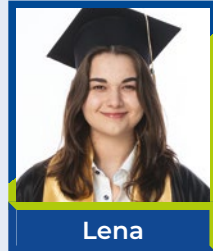
Medicine



Katia

 **UNIVERSITY
OF MALTA**

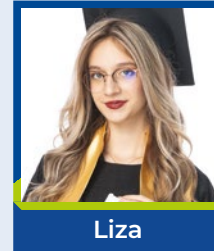
Psychology



Lena

 **BARRY
UNIVERSITY**

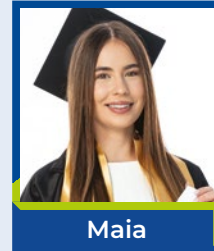
Biology



Liza

 **IE UNIVERSITY**

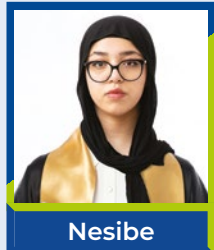
Business Administration



Maia

 **BUCHAREST
UNIVERSITY**

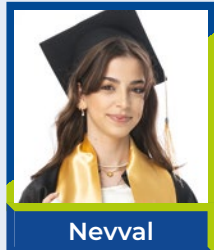
Spanish English



Nesibe

 **OVIDIUS
UNIVERSITY**

Medicine



Nevval

 **ISTITUTO EUROPEO
DI DESIGN ROMA**

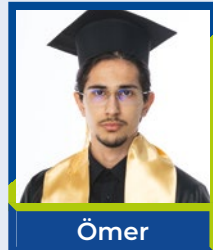
Graphic Design



Nora

 **POLITEHNICA**

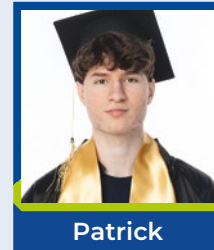
Chemical Engineering



Ömer

 **TIFFIN
UNIVERSITY**

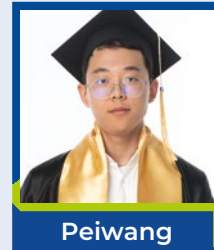
Business Management



Patrick

 **KU LEUVEN**

Engineering Technology



Peiwan

 **UNIVERSITY OF
MANCHESTER**

Electrical and Electronic
Engineering



Sung Min

 **ACADEMIA DE
STUDII ECONOMICE**

Business Administration



Teodora

 **THE POLYTECHNIC
UNIVERSITY OF
HONG KONG**

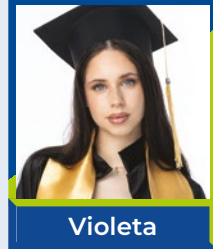
Mechanical Engineering



Tsam Lam

 **CORNELL
UNIVERSITY**

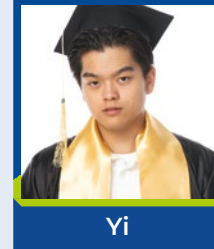
Pre-Law



Violeta

 **MUNICH UNIVERSITY
OF DIGITAL
TECHNOLOGY**

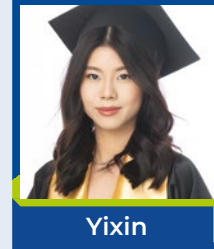
Cyber Security



Yi

 **UNIVERSITY OF
AMSTERDAM**

Business Administration



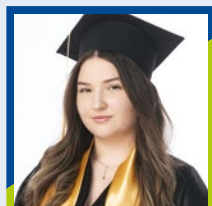
Yixin

ITY PLACEMENTS



LES ROCHES

BA in Global Hospitality

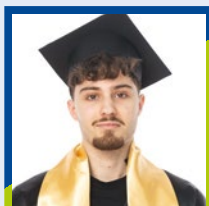


Andrada



**LA SALLE
BARCELONA**

Architecture

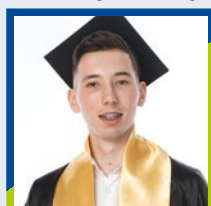


Andreas



**COPENHAGEN
BUSINESS SCHOOL**

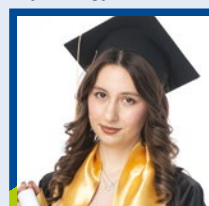
BA and Digital Management Psychology



Arda



**ERASMUS
UNIVERSITY
ROTTERDAM**

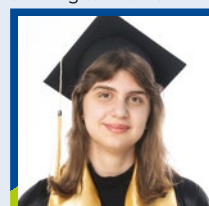


Cezara



IE UNIVERSITY

Communication
and Digital Media

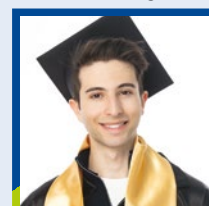


Daria



**HAN UNIVERSITY
OF APPLIED SCIENCES**

Automotive Engineering

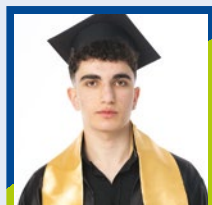


David



**ROMANIAN
AMERICAN
UNIVERSITY**

International Business

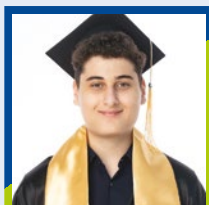


Etká



**UNIVERSITY
OF TWENTE**

Civil Engineering



Faris



**OVIDIUS
UNIVERSITY
OF CONSTANTA**

Medicine



Fatma



**CARDIFF
UNIVERSITY**

Criminology



Grace



**CONSTRUCTOR
UNIVERSITY**

Physics and Data Science

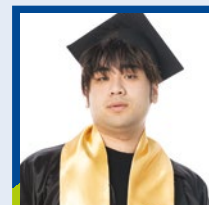


Huikai



JINAN UNIVERSITY

Advertising

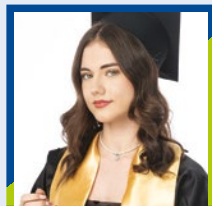


Jiakai



**ERASMUS
UNIVERSITY
ROTTERDAM**

Psychology



Maria A.



**VATEL
UNIVERSITY**

Tourism and Hospitality



Maria C.



**UNIVERSIDAD
EUROPEA MADRID**

Psychology

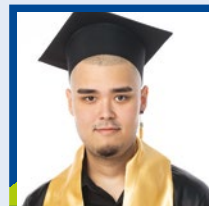


Maria V.



LA SALLE

Artificial Intelligence
and Data Science

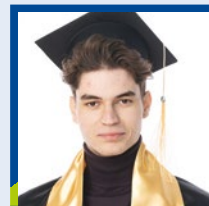


Mert



**UNIVERSITY
OF MIAMI**

Economics

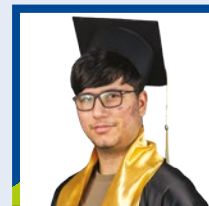


Mihnea



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AMERICAN
UNIVERSITY**

International Business

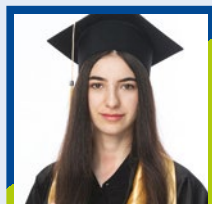


Mucteba



**CAROL DAVILA
UNIVERSITY**

Medicine

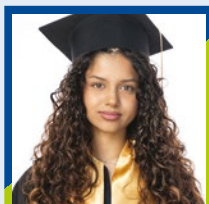


Rafiye



**UNIVERSITY
OF DUBAI**

Pre-Law



Rahela



**THE UNIVERSITY OF
NEW SOUTH WALES**

Mechanical Engineering



Rui



**JINAN
UNIVERSITY**

Business Administration



Ruyan



**LUND
UNIVERSITY**

Biomedicine

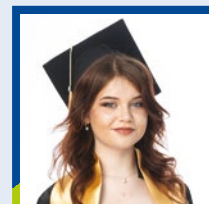


Sharon



**CAMBRIDGE SCHOOL
OF VISUAL &
PERFORMING ARTS**

Visual Communication



Sofia



**UNIVERSITY
OF NICOSIA**

Management in the
Energy Oil and Gas Industry



Zacharoula

*Wishing you all the best
for your university journey ahead.*



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