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Forward

Newsletter



SEK BUDAPEST
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
HUNGARY
TO BE BETTER



A Note from the Head Teacher

Dear Readers,

It is my pleasure to bring to you the 11th Issue of the SEK Budapest Newsletter!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our student body for their participation in the SEK Budapest Student Board elections, as well as to congratulate all the elected Class Representatives and Executive Board for their positions. As an educator I truly believe that there is great value in teaching leadership skills, promoting independence, and demonstrating to our students that they are capable of so

much if they work hard.

I wish every member of the 2016/2017 SEK Budapest Student Board a successful and fruitful term!

For more SEK Budapest News I invite you to take a look at the interesting texts bellow!

Greeting,

Ms. Gabriella Gidró
Head Teacher

Calendar

09 Dec	Grades Closing
13 Dec	Luca Fair
16 Dec	Class of 2017 Graduation Ceremony
21 Dec	SEK Budapest Festival

OPINION SECTION

Daily News In a Few SEKonds!



It is my honor to announce the reintroduction of the SEK Student Board, and to present some of our important positions and aims as a community of leading students. Last Friday, the Student Board elections were held among students with approximately three students representing each class from 4th grade till 11th grade. While each and every member of the Student Board is important and vital, there are four positions that were applicable for as the executive and legislative branch.

Candidates were able to run for the position of President, Vice-President, Secretary and Representative. As the Vice-President, it is my pleasure to announce the wonderful executive and legislative team I'll be working with: Viktor Weisz as President, Lilla Naffa as Secretary and Hajas Dávid as Representative. As President, Viktor's main job is to be the link between the school's administration, preside over meetings, represent the Student Board at events, and make the final decision regarding any issues discussed during meetings. For me, my position of Vice-President requires my substitution in case of Viktor's absence, help in making final decisions, organizing the board, and also representing the Student Board at events. Lilla's job as Secretary makes her a key part of our team as she is responsible for keeping records of all the main points during each meeting, preparing the agenda for meetings with Viktor and I, notifying all other members about events and meetings, and thoroughly organizing the various details of activities. As Representative, Dávid is an important member of the Student Board as he is the link between the Board and the educational community. He is responsible for bringing the attention of the Board to various issues or activities desired by students.

Nevertheless, while these positions are vital in keeping a structured Student Board, it is necessary to highlight that all others are equally important as they serve as representatives of their own grades, and thus maintain a link between the class and the executive branch. I am extremely pleased with the team that we have, and I look forward to working alongside all of them for the rest of this year. I hope that all our efforts will make a change and that new ideas, activities, events and bonds between all of us will form. I strongly believe that such an amazingly motivated group of students can make sure that this year goes down in history! Good luck to all members of the Board, I'm excited to start our work together

FEATURES

Teacher Focus: The Motivated Mr. Sándor Patakfalvi

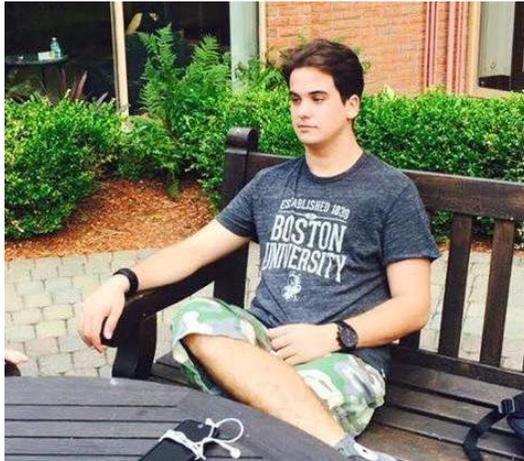


My name is Katie Zelina and I am the new primary school English teacher. I am from a small town in Pennsylvania, United States called Edinboro. I studied English at Kent State University in Kent, Ohio and obtained my Teaching English as a Foreign Language certificate in Dresden, Germany. I moved to Hungary three years ago to fulfill a personal dream of living and teaching in Europe and have been in Budapest ever since. I picked Hungary rather accidentally but couldn't be happier with my choice—this city is gorgeous and provides a collusion of history and architecture I have never experienced in the States. For example, I walk past ancient Roman ruins on my way to work every day!

Having so many students with such different backgrounds makes SEK a truly international school. I am looking forward to continuing the work I have accomplished with my students this semester. This past week the students had a surprise guest: my mom, an English as a Second Language teacher in the United States, was visiting me and came into school with me for a day. The classes prepared questions to ask her about her job and life in America and she read stories with 1st and 2nd grade.

Katie Zelina
English Teacher

Alumni Focus: A Letter from our dear Krisztián Pivarnyik – Class of 2015



My name is Krisztian Janos Pivarnyk and I'm majoring in Political Science with a focus on the international relations of Africa and Europe and minoring in German language at Boston University as the only Hungarian out of the 60,000 student population.

I always dreamt about studying in the United States. I believe that it will place me in such a unique context in the job market, that I will easily succeed in my future. The accomplishment of my dream is largely based on my opportunities offered by SEK Budapest.

I have been studying in SEK since first grade (2003) and I graduated there in 2015. IB was an obvious choice for me stemming from the program's international reputation. In my junior year in the United States, I can say that IB helped me to cope with the significant amount of work that a US university program requires. My ability to research for major term papers and time management are the two most important factors that IB taught me. These are indispensable requirements for my university studies. Furthermore, IB Diploma Program offers students the opportunity to discover a wide range of their talents, such as languages, humanities, and social or natural sciences. By immersing in all these areas of study during the two years of IB, my university courses are progressing way more efficiently than I have ever believed they would.

I'm doing course overload at Boston University and I'm already in my junior year, thus, I'm graduating one year earlier than the average student body. I'm staying for Law School in the United States after which I will practice as an international corporate lawyer in Germany.

If I could give an advice for the upcoming generations of the SEK student body, it would be to stick to your dream no matter how difficult its accomplishment seems. You are the one that should believe in it,

and if you put your heart into the path of turning your dream into reality, the results will come and you will succeed.

Good luck on your journey,

Krisztian Janos Pivarnyik

Parent Focus: Ms. Enikő Pallagi - SEK Budapest Through A Parent's Eyes



Viktor started to attend SEK Budapest International School when he was eight years old and went to 2nd grade. The reason for this late start was that we had not known about the institution before. When choosing the school, my main points were the intensive language training, the Hungarian curriculum, dealing with the children individually concerning their fields of interest, as well as the safe and motivating atmosphere that SEK offered. As a working mother, I could have not taken my son to private tutors all around the city, so it was important for me that these extracurricular activities were provided for my son at the school, in an attentive and stimulating environment.

Choosing the most appropriate school is not easy for a parent, but I believe we have made the best possible decision. Viktor has already turned 17 and he is preparing for the International Baccalaureate. According to the last few years, I can say the school has absolutely exceeded our initial expectations. I have got a kid who is a native English and Spanish speaker, has good knowledge of science and arts, who is motivated at learning, open minded and open-hearted, confident and interested in other cultures. Moreover, he loves going to school every single day. A funny little story for illustration: It happened when Viktor had already been attending SEK for two months, and he needed a little extra Spanish training. I went to pick him up in the afternoon and I had to wait at the front of the room. I could not hear anything but I could see everything through the glass door. The teacher was explaining something, writing on the board, my son was concentrating and actively following the work, he wrote down the questions and answered. I was absolutely sure the whole session was in Hungarian. When it was over and the teacher came to talk to me I was astonished since he only spoke Spanish. It was shocking and unbelievable that in just two months my child had reached that level of Spanish and he understood the teacher's explanations, he could solve tasks in written.

Thank you so much for all of this for the executive board of the school and the always helpful and great teachers!

Eniko Pallagi
Viktor Weisz's Mother

CURRENT EVENTS AND NEWS

Our First Graders Visit the Radio! - December, 2016



Egy elcsípett beszélgetés...

Ripoter: - Kedves Mikulás, először is had köszönjem meg az iskola nevében is a kirándulást, a lehetőséget, hogy elsőseink ellátogathattak a Magyar Rádió ikonikus, sokat látott-hallott stúdiójába! De had kérdezzem meg: hogy-hogy ilyen hamar érkezett?

Mikulás: - Köszöntöm a kedves hallgatókat, gyermekeket! Nos, szerencsére az idei télen még nincsenek hatalmas fagyok, így egy kicsit előre tudtam dolgozni - tudja, rengeteg jó gyermekhez kell ellátogatnom

az idén. Mindazonáltal, így régi ismerősömmel, Kardos úrral is tudtam találkozni kicsit - emlékszem, mindig is nagyon jó gyermek volt...

Riporter: Értem. És mi is történt pontosan a stúdióban?

Mikulás: Ó, kérem, hát varázslat! Egy hatalmas zenekar játszott nekünk csodás-csilingelő zenét, bemutatkoztak a hangszerek majd a kicsik egy kvíz során tudták tudásukat megcsillogtatni - és egyben "ebédelőtti csokit" gyűjteni.

Riporter: Milyen az az "ebédelőtti csoki"?

Mikulás: A legjobb.

Riporter: Vagy úgy. Rendben. Még egy kérdés. Hogyan értékeli az eseményt?

Mikulás: Pazar volt! Jó volt látni ennyi mosolygós, vidám arcot! Nem mellesleg, külön boldogsággal töltött el, hogy a kicsik ennyire közel állnak a zenéhez, hisz nagyon fontos ám az - tudniillik nem csak a fényes cipőcske számít, hanem az is, hogy minél szebben énekel valaki nekem, annál hamarabb kapja meg az ajándékait aznap este!

Riporter: Áhh, hát ezt jó tudni! Nos, kedves Mikulás, nem is tartanám fel akkor tovább, bizonyára sok dolga van még, el is búcsúzólok, a viszont látásra!

Mikulás: Igen, akad még tennivaló bőven... Viszont látásra!

Gábor Almási
Music Teacher

Mikulás Visits SEK Budapest - December 6, 2016





Mikulás, visits children on December 6th, St. Nicholas' Day, which is the name day of "Miklós." Traditionally children put boots in their windows and If the child has been good, like all SEK students, Mikulás leaves the boot filled with goodies - traditionally with candies, tangerines, walnuts, apples, dates and chocolate Mikulás figurines.

Mikulás-day is usually celebrated in schools, children sing Mikulás-songs and when he comes in the bravest children go to him, sit in his lap and tell a poem or sing a song. Then Mikulás calls them one by one, praising them for the good things they did.

There is no Mrs. Santa in the Hungarian tradition, but Mikulás often comes with one or two small evil boys, called "krampusz" .

- Angelica Cvetkovic
Marketing Assistant

OUR SEK PEERS AROUND THE WORLD



Year 6 Art



The Year 6s are well underway creating their artwork for the SIDDFAS Art project. Inspired by a painting from the Sidmouth Museum, pupils are creating their own interpretations. Once finished their paintings will be hung in Kennaway House in March of next year.

SIDDFAS is affiliated to the National Association of Decorative & Fine Arts Societies (NADFAS) which comprises more than 90,000 members in over 340 independent societies world-wide. Its aims are to conserve our heritage and to promote an appreciation of decorative and fine arts, promoting activities for young artists and being involved in cultural projects in the local community.

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