



Newsletter

December 2011

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Message from the Pedagogical Director

Comings and Goings and a Holiday Wish

It seems as if the rentrée were just yesterday, but yet, the holiday season is just around the corner! As we move from 2011 to 2012, students, teachers and ASEICA staff bid a sad goodbye to Rebecca Ramsey. Rebecca, originally from Australia, is returning to her homeland this week. Rebecca was a magnificent colleague and outstanding educator. During her short time with us, she did, literally everything: collège English and History and Geography, lycée English and History and Geography, collège theater and primary theater! Her upbeat personality, deep knowledge of teaching and the subjects she taught and contributions to the overall advancement of our educational programs have been greatly appreciated by all of us. On behalf of the entire

ASEICA community, I would like to extend our best wishes for Rebecca and her family for the future. Thank you, Rebecca!

Replacing Ms Ramsey will be Jennifer Davy, a native of Ireland. Ms Davy will be teaching English Language and Literature at the lycée and collège levels at the CIV and Eganaude. A warm welcome to Ms Davy!

Also new to the faculty this year is Ms Alison Cummings. Ms Cummings joined our History Department in September. A native of Northern Ireland, Ms Cummings currently teaches History and Geography at the lycée and college levels at the CIV and Eganaude. Welcome aboard, Ms Cummings!

I would like to finish by wishing all students, parents and colleagues all my best for holidays and the coming New Year. I wish you all a healthy, happy, edifying and serene 2012!

Kevin Jackson
ASEICA Pedagogical Director

Board Letter

Dear parents and members,

The school year is now well under way. It is a good time to share with you an update on our Board's and association's activities.

Early July the new elected Board chose its officers and agreed on the committees for this year.

Communications led by Coline Rivière

Social Committee led by Camilla Dufour and Beth Golding

IT led by Anne Chalumeau

Relations With Education Nationale led by Henri Steyaert

Finances led by Jean-Marie Pichot

Legal led by Bernard Garnier

Student trips committee led by Henri Steyaert and Catherine Larivière

Officers are:

Board Secretary: Rebecca David

Vice-President: Henri Steyaert

Treasurer: Jean-Marie Pichot

President: Cathy Ducker

The new Board met end of August to kick-start activities and held another meeting early October. Since the start of the year, most committees have met once or twice and activities are going full steam.

Two key milestones have been achieved this fall. The Rectorat sent us the 'agrément', official document that gives Aseica the legal backing to work long term with Education Nationale. This agreement has been renewed for another five years, until the beginning of 2016.

The first convention for our programme at Valbonne Primary Sartoux School was signed with the Academic Inspector and the Mairie of Valbonne. We are very grateful to the Inspection and the Mairie for the finalisation of this document that had been in the works for many years.

One key area of the Board's work is in communication. Aseica's website is going to undergo major revamp and re-launch during the next twelve months. We use the web site to share as much current information as possible. Today the technology that supports the site has become too cumbersome and sometimes unreliable. It's a good opportunity to redesign the website so that it is more animated. A questionnaire has been sent recently by email allowing you to send all your best ideas.

The "Réforme des lycées" has been a major topic for many of us. Our association continues to work closely with the Foundation for the Development of International Education (FDEI) on this topic. As communicated last year, the Baccalaureate Option International exams will continue to take place in Terminale, both in English and History -Geography in English, the 'DNL' or 'discipline non-linguistique' of our anglophone section. Details on the exams as currently formatted and past papers are posted on our web site:

<http://www.aseica.org/page1005/page1093/page1096.en.htm>

There might be updates to the Hist-Geo exam before June 2013, when the first Terminales of the Réforme take their exams. Updates will be communicated as soon as they become available.

Reminder: all questions relating to our international section should first be addressed to the student's section teachers. If questions remain, you can address them to the Collège Coordinators, the Heads of Departments and the Pedagogical Director. If you want to enrich and support the experience of your children in the international section, do not hesitate to volunteer. Contact us at board@aseica.org.

Cathy Ducker, President

YEARBOOK

This year the yearbook is being developed by a large but solid group of 3ème students at Niki.

A team of Terminale students will be covering their pages and we will also have 3ème students at the CIV and Eganaude to do the photo shoots.

This year the theme is: ASEICA & THE ARTS

We will be looking for more sponsors this year in order to add more coloured section pages especially because of the arty theme.

- **All class photos that have not been taken yet will be organized for the week of January 10-13.**
 - **All class pages will be due the same week.**
- Students make sure to get your ideas in now!**

Look out for a preview of the cover and chosen title pages in the next newsletter. Send your inquiries or pictures to yearbook@aseica.org

LYCEE THEATRE AT 'Fest'In Val'

On September 10 2011, a group of lycée students under the direction of Mrs McGrath performed 'Moments' during the first 'Fest'In Val' organised by the town of Valbonne. The five students from our international lycée performed three great scenes from three different and very popular plays, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, drama written by the American playwright Tennessee Williams in 1947, *The Death Of A Salesman*, drama written by Arthur Miller, another American playwright in 1949, and *The Importance Of Being Earnest*, a comedy written by Oscar Wilde, an Irish writer, in 1895.

Marian Guy (Terminale student) played Blanche Dubois and Maeva Dolle (Terminale student) played Stella Kowalski in the scene from *A Streetcar Named Desire*. This play won the Pulitzer Prize for Drama in 1948 and tells the story of a fragile and disturbed Blanche Dubois who moves in with her sister Stella Kowalski in New Orleans and is tormented by her brutal brother-in-law while her reality crumbles around her. Blanche explains her unexpected appearance on her brother in-law Stanley and her pregnant sister Stella's doorstep as nervous exhaustion. This, she claims, is the result of the loss of the family plantation, Belle Reve. Stanley and Blanche are opposing camps and Stella is caught in no-man's-land. But Stanley and Stella are deeply in love. Blanche begins to see a way out of her predicament when Mitch - a poker-playing buddy of Stanley's - arrives on the scene. Yet, as rumours of Blanche's past in Auriol begin to catch up to her, her circumstances become unbearable.



The next scene, *The Death Of A Salesman*, won in 1949 the Pulitzer Prize for Drama and the Tony Award for Best Play. It tells the story of an aging travelling salesman that recognizes the emptiness of his life and tries to fix it. Indeed, Willy Loman has worked for the Wagner Company for thirty-four years. He is now sixty-one years old and has been taken off salary, and he is unable to earn enough money to pay the bills. Charley, the Lomans' neighbour, has been giving money to Willy every month to meet his payments, even though Willy is too proud to accept a payroll job from him. When the present disappoints him, he hallucinates and goes back into the past. Willy's mental wanderings are getting worse; he is preoccupied with Biff's aimlessness and inability to find success in business. Linda informs her sons that Willy has been trying to commit suicide and tells Biff that his father's life is in his hands.

In this performance Carolanne Vouriot (Terminale student) played Linda Loman and Giovanni Marinelli (Première student) played Biff Loman.

The third and last scene extracted from *The Importance Of Being Earnest* was performed by Audrey Groussard, Maeva Dolle and Marian Guy. These three students played Gwendolen Fairfax, John (Jack/Ernest) Worthing and Lady Bracknell. This play tells the story of two friends (Jack Worthing and Algernon Moncrieff) who use the same pseudonym ("Ernest") for their on-the-sly activities which is fine until they both fall in love with women using that name, which leads to a comedy of mistaken identities. Jack Worthing has invented a brother, Earnest, whom he uses as an excuse to leave his dull country life behind to visit the ravishing Gwendolyn. Algy Montcrieff decided to take the name 'Earnest' when visiting Worthing's young and beautiful ward, Cecily at the country manor. Things start to go awry when they end up together in country and their deceptions are discovered - threatening to spoil their romantic pursuits.



The performance was very well received by the audience of over 100 people in the Salle Pré des Arts in the center of Valbonne.

Presented and written by H  l  ne Ducker, Premi  re student



Before and after the play, a lot of entertainment and activities were taking place on the field in front of the town hall. For a first edition, the Fest'In Val was a success thanks to all the efforts of the town team lead by Mrs Muriel Kiefel, 'conseill  re municipale d  l  gu  e    l'international'.

Under the tent set up for all the associations of international sections, the atmosphere was great too. The social committee did a fantastic job: barbecue & drinks were on sale. Nini & Benoit Pellet & their son Jack, with James Ducker prepared yummy burgers non-stop; coffee & bake by B. Golding & C.

The International Brevet Evening under the eyes of 'stars'

The annual International Brevet evening ceremony took place at the CIV at 6pm on 17th November. This ceremony was for all the International Section students in Seconde, who had passed the Brevet International in June 2011 from the three coll  ges: CIV, Niki de St Phalle and Eganaude.

Some of the students have been in the International section since CP, others since the Sixième class. All are now preparing for the Baccalauréat Option Internationale which they will take in Terminale, three years hence.

To pass the Brevet International, these 300 students had to take to extra tests in addition to the standard Brevet National: an exam in literature and an exam in history and geography, both of which had to be taken in the language of the section they are studying. In total there were 78 'mentions très bien', 121 'mentions bien' and 75 'mentions assez bien'. These excellent results are due to the hard work of our students and teachers, plus the motivating support of the families.



During the ceremony the students were congratulated and encouraged for their work in the International Section. It is a demanding course which, through diversity and mutual respect of different cultures creates our truly multi-lingual, multi-cultural youngsters.

The ceremony was given an artistic touch with some cinema graphic photographs of work by Leo and Yves Mirkine, lent to us by the heir Stéphane Mirkine-Payras. These unique portraits of film stars remind us that the joy of life is worth preserving at any price.

Many thanks to everyone who helped to make the evening such a success!

GUIDANCE

Many dossiers have already been sent out to universities in the UK and the US, but it is vital that students continue to make appointments and finalise their applications.

Do check UK university websites individually to find out what fees you will actually pay - there is a lot of money available in bursaries and grants *as well as* student loans. There is no 'global figure' that we can help you with this year, but the search is worth it!

Good luck to all!

MODEL UNITED NATIONS

The Model United Nations (MUN) lycée season for 2011/12 promises to be better than ever. The students are numerous, diverse, dynamic and articulate. Debates are heated and passionate as students engage in the political theatre of MUN and offer their creative solutions to the array of political, social, economic, moral and environmental questions and challenges facing their futures. Understandably, MUN is an excellent complement to our lycée History-Geography classes in both English and French.

Furthermore, 16 of our students will attend The Hague International Model United Nations (THIMUN) for the last week of January 2012 where they will debate and interact with over 3000 students coming from various international schools from all over the world. This year we are one of the few schools chosen to have a place on The Security Council where we will represent Portugal.

In mid November, 32 of our students took part in a French language Grasse MUN (GRAMUN) involving local lycées. This MUN conference is a new development which our students are helping to launch and organize. We are hoping that this will be the first among many.

In late March 2012, Riviera MUN, a group started in 2010 by the Anglophone Section of the CIV, The International School of Monaco and The International School of Nice, will hold another English language conference at the CIV. This will again give an opportunity to all our students to participate in an inter-schools MUN conference. Further news about this will follow in the next newsletter.

In the spring, our lycée students will also be chairpersons for the collège Eganaude MUN conference, as well as helping to support the traditional collège debate for our International Day.

Finally, I would like to warmly thank all students involved in the lycée MUN group for their continued and excellent commitment to the activity, whether it be raising funds at the International Picnic in early October or helping to launch the new Grasse MUN.

Rob Gallagher, Head of Humanities

International Picnic.

On the 2nd of October the ASEICA International Picnic took place at the CIV, by the racing tracks. Students and families from all the schools enjoyed stalls with food and browsed through a selection of used books. People ate to the sound of live music. Many students were active, participating in organized games such as tug-of-war and volleyball. There was even an MUN demonstration. It was a pleasant sunny day, and everyone appeared to be having a good time.

By Maika DufRASne and Ellie Weatherly

NEWS FROM COLLEGES

CIV news

At the CIV there were thirteen finalists at the CIV "speech-off" held on Friday 14th October from six different 5^{ème}, 4^{ème} and 3^{ème} groups. Mrs Ramsey and Ms. Bethell judged the competition and had a hard job deciding on the five winners to go forward to the Niki, Eganaude, CIV final. The students gave three-minute persuasive speeches on subjects as diverse as shark protection, healthy lifestyles, intelligent blondes (!), and CCTV. The five winners were: Patrick Scriven (5^{ème}), Dina Jundi and Fiona Meads (4^{ème}), Marion Hubin and Lisa Klifa (3^{ème}).



The annual collège cross-country event on Wednesday 19th October again saw excellent performances from many Anglophone section competitors. Particularly noteworthy was the 3^{ème} girls' podium where all three runners were from our section (see photo - 3^{ème} girls - Romane Delevoie (3rd), Morganne Guyennot (2nd) and Agathe Chave (1st)).

As the first serious rain since the summer started falling just after the last race had ended, the 4^{ème} and 3^{ème} medal ceremony was held in the gymnasium. There was a happy atmosphere as students cheered (and even serenaded!) their classmates and Nice-Matin were also present and produced a major article on the event.



Eganaude news

The 3rd Eganaude Speech Contest took place on Tuesday October 18th and was a great success. The standard is improving every year. The winners of this contest were Helena Cornu, 3^{ème}, Guillaume Goursaud, 3^{ème} and Shihan Salihu, 5^{ème}. These three orators went on to compete in the CIV Finals on Wednesday October 19th.

The Eganaude "Cross" took place on Thursday October 20th.

Monday October 10th saw huge celebrations in Eganaude, as many esteemed guests arrived for the Inauguration of the new Gymnasium. The students put on a great show, including a gymnastics demonstration and a Starmania show.

European Day of Languages, 26 Sept 2011

Did you know that there are an estimated 200 to 300 languages spoken in Europe alone today? Do you know how to say 'hello' in Slovak, Irish Gaelic, or Estonian? And from the words *écureuil*, *eichhörnchen*, *soccorso* and *scoiattolo*, which does not mean 'squirrel'?*

Students at Eganaude recently exercised their linguistic knowledge on these and other questions.

Monday, September 26th was the 10th Anniversary of the European Day of Languages, a special day celebrating linguistic diversity across the 47 member states of Europe.



To commemorate the occasion, the language teachers of Eganaude from both the English and the French Sections organized a class-run and an individual school-wide competitive quiz, with prizes for winners.

Promotion for the event was ensured by Mrs Bethell's 5eC S.I. class, who prepared a large banner that was hung at the school's entrance. Special thanks go to these students for their efficiency and enthusiasm!

Participation in the school-wide quiz was high, with well over 200 entries. A winner was declared at day's end: 3^{ème} student Antoine COULON received a prize of four dictionaries, in French, English, Italian and German.



Congratulations to Antoine!!

* Slovak: *ahoj*; Irish Gaelic: *dia duit*; Estonian: *tere hommikust*; the word *soccorso* is Italian, and does not mean 'squirrel' but 'rescue'.

PEN PAL EXCHANGES



Four classes in the Collège de l'Eganaude will be participating in pen pal exchanges with schools in the U.S.A. this year.

The aim of these projects is to take English beyond the school walls and enable our students to use their English in a relaxed and fun atmosphere.

Ms Higgins is coordinating the pen pal exchange for 5^{ème} A & B. Ms Kiechle will be doing 6^{ème} B

and Ms Collord is in charge of 4^{èmes}.

Ms. Collord, Ms. Kiechle and Ms. Higgins

NEWS FROM PRIMARY

We would like to welcome back all of our primary pupils and give a special greeting to all new pupils in our section. We wish them every success for the upcoming academic year.

IPSC

This year we have two new volunteers: Antonia Beauvoisin-Brown and Sophie Pearce, to head the International Primary Section Committee (IPSC). They have been working hard to provide some exciting opportunities for both children and parents. The first coffee morning of the year has already taken place and was well attended by parents from both schools. Kevin Jackson our Pedagogical Director and myself were present. We were pleased to see parents excited about being involved in the education of their children and ASEICA activities.

If you would like to become more involved with the parents' committee please contact ipsc@aseica.org

Class representatives have been confirmed at Sartoux:

- CP Elizabeth Santos elizabethmsantos@live.com & David or Magali Djian daviddjian@yahoo.com
- CE1 Isabelle Cronin isabelle.cronin@wanadoo.fr & Irene Boudier irenekb@gmail.com
- CE2 Virginie Barghi virginie.barghi@free.fr & Eva Christofferson echristoffersson@hotmail.com
- CM1 Irene Boudier irenekb@gmail.com & Claire Dupuis clairestricker@yahoo.com
- CM2 Marie Jo Tyan mjtyan@gmail.com & Olivia Wooldridge oliviawooldridge@free.fr

If you would like to be a representative for your class please contact ipsc@aseica.org

The Primary Register is available to all parents. The Primary Register is a list of contact information for Anglophone Section children within your child's school. If you have not received a copy please contact primary@aseica.org and a copy can be emailed to you. As a reminder, if there are any corrections to be made to your contact details please contact your class representatives.

Baker Books

Thank you to the all parents who have ordered so many books through our Book Club. As well as providing books for your own children you have also helped raise money for books for your child's class by the teachers.

The Baker Book orders have been placed and should be distributed to the children shortly after the holidays.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank the parents for their support in Primary School activities. With your help many new resources have been purchased for the primary classes that really assist in the education of your child. For example last year we were able to buy laptops and data-projectors to be used by the Primary teachers in their classrooms. We also used money to purchase a whole range of extra resources for our IPC Topic Boxes.

Jonathon Syson and The Primary Team

NEWS FROM LYCEE

Reaching Out - 1ère and 2nde Students as "Change Agents" for Ethiopia

This group was created as an «Agent of Change» project in 2nde History class by Toscane de Rouvroy and H el ene Ducker. Now in Premi ere, Toscane is leading a committee of eager 2nde students to volunteer with Ethiopia On My Mind (EOMM). EOMM, a Nice-based NGO, has brought incredible changes in a short period of time to the agricultural, cultural, social and political sustainability of the country. Last year, Toscane and Helene began their fundraising by selling EOMM calendars at the Variety show and Toscane volunteered at the annual association dinner at High Beach in Nice this past September to receive guests and assist in the tombola.

EOMM funds several projects by working directly with NGOs in Ethiopia. They have chosen the Cultural Biodiversity in the Bale Mountains project for the CIV students to raise money towards (see <http://www.eomm.org/?id=55>). This project will further develop their learning in areas relevant to the 2nde Humanities curriculum such as resource sustainability and development. The committee's ongoing communication with lyc ee students in Ethiopia will include a letter exchange beginning in January 2012.

It is estimated that 3,000 euros/year is required to sustain the Bale Mountains project. Currently the CIV committee is the only group who will be raising funds directly to keep it going. The concept is to follow a sustainability model in all aspects and to maintain the project year after year through student channels. The committee will be composed of 1 ere students who will lead the project and coordinate fundraising activities to work on with 2nde students. Parent and teacher volunteers such as Mrs. De Rouvroy and Ms. MacLeod will assist the students administratively.

The students have already developed an active 2011-2012 committee who are eager to be present at ASEICA events to raise project awareness and generate donations through the sale of small gifts at the variety show. They have also developed a group on Facebook to make communication and event organization easier for them during their busy lyc ee schedules. In addition to their invaluable learning experience from the communication exchange, the students will surely benefit from moral satisfaction and increased qualifications and volunteer experience to add to their future school applications.

For more questions, please contact Ms. MacLeod, jmacleod@aseica.or

CREATIVE WRITING

Please send in your contributions: poems, short stories! Next issue to come out in January 2012.

To start with, a limerick by Louise Cailbourdin from the Aseica Office. Thanks Louise!

Here's a couple of silly limericks to get you started:

There is an Assoc. in the South
With a distinctly eloquent mouth.
Elèves, if you please,
get A's and no B's.
On my pedagogical oath!

There's a school bilingue on the Coast
that boasts it's culturally, the Most.
Shakespeare and Voltaire,
Dickens and Flaubert.
It's the place with la cote, on the Coast.

Louise (I'm not a poet and I know it)

CALENDAR

JANUARY 22 to 27 MUN - The Hague

FEBRUARY 4 - Walkathon