



Success!

2016-17



BRITISH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
OF CHICAGO, SOUTH LOOP
A NORD ANGLIA EDUCATION SCHOOL





Creative Writing Challenge

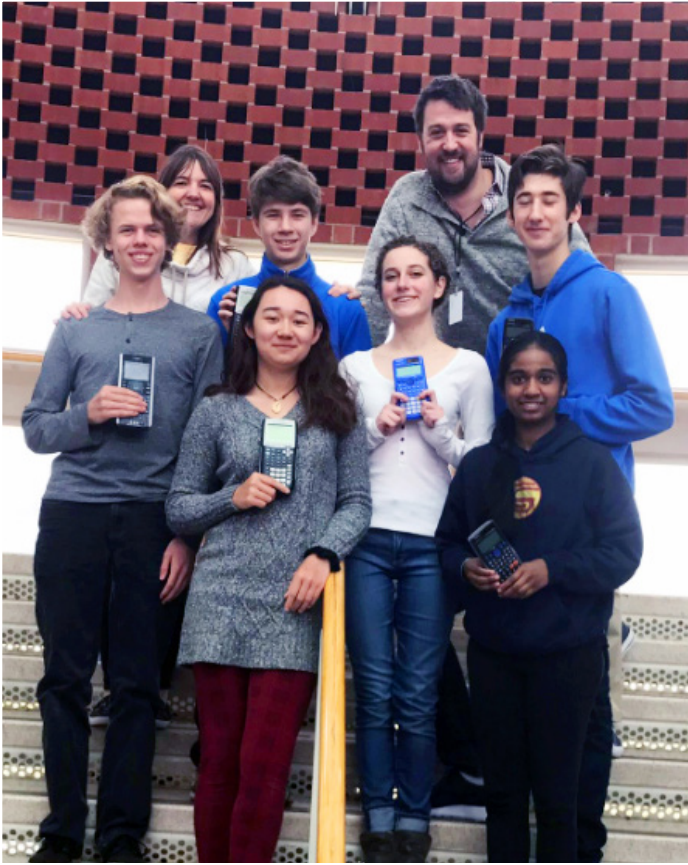
Our school was home to four winners of the Global Campus Creative Writing Challenge. Rois Ramani (Year 2), Alistair Mack (Year 4), John Bloomer (Year 9) and Michael Miller (Year 11) were among the winners. The students' work was published in Nord Anglia's annual *Creative Writing and Visual Arts Anthology*. Thousands of Nord Anglia students in three age categories penned stories about family, fan fiction, or a topic that sparked their interest. Our school was one of just 10 that scored a winner in every age category.

Debate Club

It was an unforgettable year for High School Debate Club. The students competed in five competitions across the city and suburbs, where they won three first-place medals and six third-place medals. At the Illinois Communication & Theatre Association State Debate Tournament, Debate Club competed in the quarter-finals, winning four medals and the fourth best speaker. Success followed at the National Speech & Debate Association Greater Illinois District Tournament, where two students once again made the quarter-finals. We are so proud of Maddie An (Year 12), Oliver Cohen (Year 11), Amaya Guevara Beristain (Year 12), Theo Koenig (Year 12), Brigid Maher (Year 10), Caelan Reeves (Year 10), Jackie Spencer (Year 11), and Kayla Turanski (Year 10).



Math



“World Series” of Math

Emre Mutlu (Year 10) qualified for the C Team in the American Regions Mathematics League (ARML) Competition. ARML brings together the nation’s finest High School students for the “World Series” of math contests. Competitors take part in a team round, individual round and two relay rounds.

ICTM State Math Contest

The Illinois Council of Teachers of Mathematics (ICTM) recognizes outstanding achievement across topics like Algebra, Geometry and Calculus through competition. At the Regional Contest, hosted by Chicago State University, our Secondary students won first place in five categories: Algebra I,

Geometry, 2-Person Team, 8-Person Team and Overall Winner. In the State Contest at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, students won first place in two categories, plus second and fifth place in others.

UKMT Contests

Each year, thousands of students from more than 30 countries compete in the UK Mathematics Trust Math Contests. Eighty-two Bulldogs won Gold, Silver or Bronze Certificates, which are awarded to the top 40% of scorers worldwide. Four students landed among the top 5,500 scorers worldwide, qualifying for the Kangaroo Competition. Two students also advanced to the Cayley Olympiad, reserved for the top 500 scorers worldwide.

AMC 8, 10 & 12 Competitions

Emre Mutlu (Year 10) became the first student in school history to qualify for the American Invitational Mathematics Examination. This is an incredible achievement, as only the top 2.5% of scorers qualify. Competitors answer 15 questions in three hours – without a calculator.

Middle School Math Contest

Students made us proud at the annual Middle School Mathematics Contest at Latin School of Chicago. Twenty-four students in Year 6-9 competed against 18 schools in individual and team rounds. Dominic Catizone won second place in the Year 7 individual contest.

MATHCOUNTS

Our Middle School team placed second in the MATHCOUNTS Illinois Chapter Competition. Students competed in four rounds over three hours that focused on speed and accuracy, problem-solving, mathematical reasoning, and collaboration.

IGCSE

For the first time we offered IGCSE Further Pure Math, a challenging advanced course that prepares students for IB Mathematics. We are proud to report that 12 students in Year 11 pursued the course after completing IGCSE Math a year early in Year 10.

A-level Student in Year 10

Having achieved A* in IGCSE Math *and* Further Pure Math in Year 9, a Year 10 student sat five A-level modules. These are typically pursued in Year 12 & 13.

Peer Mentoring

High School mathematicians partnered with Middle School students for tutoring. The program proved to be very successful, with 12 pairs working together throughout the year.

$$+ 4\frac{1}{x} - 2x + \frac{1}{4} - 8x^2$$

$$2 - \frac{7}{x} = 79x + 4\frac{1}{x} - x^2$$

$$4^3 + 9x + 2 - \frac{7}{x}$$

Science



Science Olympiad

Science Olympiad functions much like a sports team, requiring preparation, commitment, coaching and practice throughout the year. For every competition, each school team brings 15 students who cross-train for a variety of events in their skill set.

Primary School

Our very first Primary Science Olympiad team, comprised of children in Year 3-6, competed in the Elementary Science Olympiad Tournament in May. Five schools took on 12 events that covered anatomy, trajectory and much more. We are proud to report that five Bulldogs – Jane Baffa (Year 6), Sara Cutinho (Year 3), Luca Caffarelli

(Year 3), Damon Strahan (Year 4), and Jasmine Ching (Year 5) – won third place in their events. This is an outstanding accomplishment, especially because this was the first tournament for all the children.

Secondary School

After great success at multiple invitationals, students in Middle and High School won 15 medals at the Regional Tournament where approximately 50 teams competed. While the Middle School students narrowly missed a bid to the State Tournament, they won seventh place overall – a great honor. Overall, Secondary students won five medals in the top-three positions. Challenges ranged from electric vehicles to experimental design, optics and wind power.

Science Fairs

Primary School

Continuing on last year's success, 100% of children achieved Commended or Highly Commended Awards for their fantastic projects. Prior to judging, children enjoyed a chance to work with students in Year 12, who planned and delivered a huge array of inspiring science activities.

Middle School

Students put forth impressive projects linked to Nord Anglia programs, like Global Games, The Juilliard-Nord Anglia Performing Arts Program, and Citizenship Expedition to Tanzania. They designed musical instruments, investigated sport science, and solved issues related to technology production in developing countries. Way to think outside the box!

NAE/MIT Curiosity Challenge

When students arrived at school in October, they were a bit perplexed. Why were there animals in the lobby? Who taped question marks on the mini buses? Students soon discovered the odd occurrences were part of the Curiosity Challenge. As part of our STEAM collaboration with MIT, students pondered topics that made them wonder, from web design and baking, to service animals and creating the next Mars rover. A whole-school vote uncovered the most thought-provoking question: "Is life real or a simulation?". Students across the school united to create a display that represented their collective curiosity. They decided on the theme "Alice in Wonderland", which draws on humans' captivation with the ideas of reality and make-believe.

Nord Anglia-MIT STEAMFest

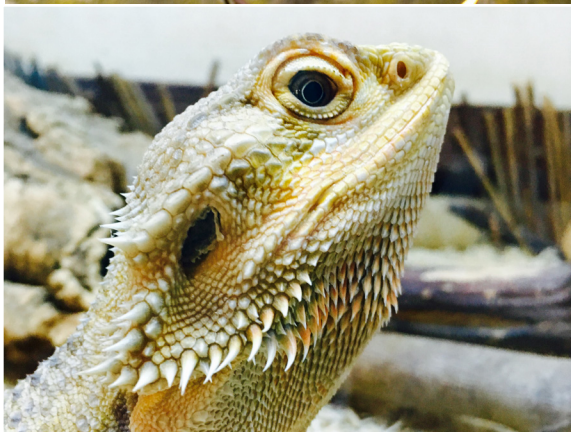
Four children in Primary School joined more than 100 students from 25 Nord Anglia Education schools for MIT-Nord Anglia STEAMFest at MIT in Boston. The week-long event immersed students in science, technology, engineering, art and math with leading experts and researchers at MIT. Working with professors and researchers from the university, students took part in innovative hands-on workshops in bioengineering, robotics, and coding to music production, gaming and virtual reality. They also toured MIT and Harvard for a taste of life at these prestigious universities.

Children Pilot New Software with Programmers

On top of Computing lessons, Year 5 also had a special chance to work with Codeverse, a company dedicated to teaching kids how to code. Codeverse was founded by notable entrepreneurs, including the former CEO of Techweek and the co-founder of Belly, the nation's largest loyalty rewards program. Children in Year 5 became the first ever to test the Codeverse coding platform and curriculum. With guidance from professional programmers, the children coded, created and played their very own game.



Creative Arts



Photographer of the Year

From Lebanon to Arizona, our students captured amazing shots for the Global Campus Photographer of the Year Competition. Congratulations to Aysu Tziahanas (Year 9), Jane Baffa (Year 6) and Georgia Scarr (Year 8) who were among the Highly Commended entries. Their photos appeared in the 2016-17 Global Campus Calendar.

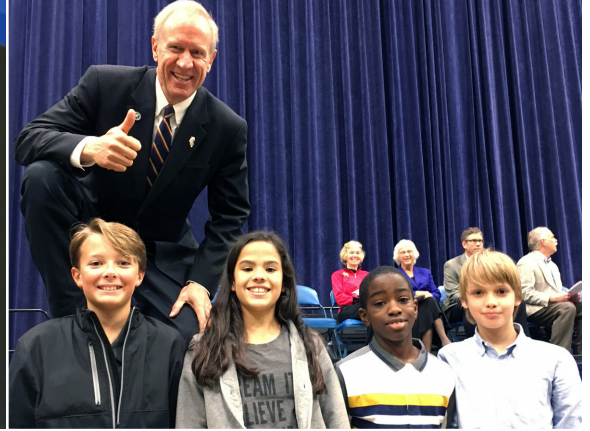
Visual Arts Competition

The Global Campus Visual Arts Competition gives students the chance to become a published artist. Shortlisted and winning entries are published in the annual *Creative Writing and Visual Arts Anthology*. Congratulations to Colette Brill-Foreman (Year 7) on being shortlisted and to Jessica Ibraeva (Year 8), who won Nord Anglia Young Artist of the Year in the age 11-14 category.

Artwork from left to right: Aysu Tziahanas (Year 9), Jane Baffa (Year 6), Georgia Scarr (Year 8), Jessica Ibraeva (Year 8)



Social Studies



Illinois History Fair

For the third straight year, we competed in Illinois History Day, a statewide history fair in Springfield, Illinois. Taking part in the event is a huge achievement. Only 5% of the 15,000 projects submitted qualify. This year we took home a Ribbon of Excellence! Year 7 students Liam Nelson, Tooni Adisa, Sofi Burciaga and Eddy Pitron qualified after outstanding exhibitions at the Middle School History Fair and Chicago Metro History Fair.



Performing Arts



Drama Studio Makeover

Newly formed BisTech, a technical theater club, enjoyed learning about the new equipment we installed in the Drama Studio: industry professional lighting, Qlab, a green screen, and Final Cut Pro & ETC Colorsources.

Student-Led Productions

Middle School students produced a series of special performances for parents and peers. While Year 7 created a mimed show, Year 8 & 9 put on pantomimes: *Jack and the Beanstalk*, *Cinderella*, *Sleeping Beauty* and *Aladdin*. In addition to performing, the students were responsible for all areas of production, from lighting to sound. Despite some comical disasters, the shows went spectacularly well.

Battle of the Bard

Our brave thespians competed against 50 High School teams for a chance to perform at Chicago Shakespeare Theatre. They put on a fantastic scene from *King Lear*, as well as a hilarious piece using text from a dozen Shakespeare plays.

Composer Club

Children in Year 1 and Year 5-9 spent two terms working on original compositions, which debuted at a performance for parents. A trio of Juilliard alum played their pieces!

Holiday Performances

In December we took center stage at the famed Bean in Millennium Park. With the magnificent city skyline as a backdrop, students performed traditional carols. Fox 32 Chicago News featured this performance, plus a studio set by Katie Baffa (Year 8), Theo Koenig (Year 12), and Chris Rejman, a teacher for After School Arts with Juilliard. Sounds of the season also rang out at Harold Washington Library, where Santiago Oskandy (Year 11), Simon Cohen (Year 13), Bella Berman (Year 9), and Nika Bochorishvili (Year 10) played piano for community members.

X-Factor Competition

Students dazzled us at the annual X-Factor competition. Middle School performers were joined for the first time by children in Year 5 & 6. The performances demonstrated incredible range, from Flamenco dancing to beat boxing, and a comedy sketch. Judges awarded the Most Entertaining, Most Original and Most Emotive acts.



World Languages



World Languages Week

Mandarin was the focus of World Languages Week, and students learned about the language in a number of ways. Secondary students taught each other, as well as Primary children, Chinese martial arts, Physical Education and Dance lessons in Mandarin.

Memorable Trips

The World Languages Department hosted some of the most memorable trips of the year, including to Christkindlmarkt, National Museum of Mexican Art in Pilsen, Chinatown, and even Beijing.

French Examinations

Two students in Year 11 completed the AS French examination, a challenging qualification usually completed in Year 12. Both students achieved the highest grade of A. On top of that, four Year 10 French students sat the external IGCSE French exam one year ahead of schedule. All of these students earned grades of A* or A.

Spanish Play

Children in Year 2 took part in their very own production of *Blancanieves* (*Snow White*) performed entirely in Spanish, to parents, staff and students across the whole school.

Athletics



League Champions

What a year for the Bulldogs! In volleyball, we reigned supreme. The Varsity Girls, High School Girls, and Junior Varsity Boys won the league championship. Our soccer teams achieved similar success. The Middle School Boys, Middle School Girls, and High School Boys teams also became league champions. On top of that, the High School Girls won runner-up. In basketball, the Junior Varsity Boys and Junior Varsity Girls won second and third place in the league, respectively. Meanwhile, the Year 5 & 6 Coed team won first place. The Middle School Track team scored big, too, becoming the overall champs. We also made our mark at the inaugural Global Games; see the Global Campus page for highlights.



Global Campus & Community



UNICEF Collaboration

Our new collaboration with UNICEF invited students to help end extreme poverty, inequality and climate change using the World's Largest Lesson, an initiative co-led by UNICEF. As part of the Global Challenge, students in Year 9 pitched solutions to these issues. Then Year 12 students Maddie An and Theo Keonig developed an action plan for ending hunger in Chicago by redistributing food that is near its sell-by date from areas of plentiful supply to areas of need. They presented their plans at the UN High-Level Political Forum in New York, addressing representatives of governments, the UN, UNICEF, the President of the UN General Assembly, H.E. Peter Thomson, and Executive Director of UNICEF, Anthony Lake.

Inaugural Global Games

Eighty Middle Schools students traveled to Windermere Preparatory School in Orlando, Florida for the first annual Global Games. Nord Anglia students from 11 schools across North America came together in the spirit of competition and friendship, and left with a lifetime of memories. The Bulldogs took home an incredible 16 medals. While the games centered around sport, to Nord Anglia they represent so much more. This unique event brought the “Be Ambitious” philosophy to life as students were encouraged to reach outside their comfort zones, participate and compete beyond what they are normally accustomed to.

Virtual Choir

We joined more than 2,000 students from 43 Nord Anglia schools in the Global Campus Virtual Choir. Each school recorded a video of students performing an original composition by Jack Blume, arguably the most talented a cappella song writer in the field. It was an exciting opportunity that made us feel like one global music department.

Visit from Jim Gump

In February we hosted Jim Plunkett-Cole, a runner from the UK, who embarked on an incredible adventure emulating the epic run of fictional character Forrest Gump. Jim stopped by on his way to Nord Anglia schools across North America. He spoke about the importance of a healthy lifestyle and participated in a series of “Talk and Runs”.

Supporting Chicago Commons

Our efforts to support Chicago Commons raised approximately \$10,000! Fundraising events included a Cubs spirit day and fantastically fun fairs with themed games, activities, and food. We also held collection drives that gathered school supplies, food items, and holiday gifts for community members in need. Well done!

Tanzania Fundraising

Year 12 organized activities to raise funds for the annual citizenship expedition to Tanzania. They planned a dress-down day, *Star Wars* screening, a High School dance, plus a raffle and babysitting services. The funds supported the work they carried out in Tanzania: building classrooms and desks at a local school, goat sheds and smokeless stoves, and installing solar lighting in homes.



Class of 2017



National Merit Scholars

Simon Cohen and Nicholas Binyon were named Commended Students in the 2017 National Merit Scholarship Program. Commended Students placed among the top 5% of more than 1.6 million students who entered the 2017 competition by taking the 2015 Preliminary SAT (PSAT).



College Acceptances

United States

Beloit College
Bennington College
Columbia University
DePaul University (3)
Drake University
Elon University
Emerson College
Emory University
Fordham University (2)
Franklin & Marshall College
George Washington University
Hampton University
Howard University
Illinois Institute of Technology
Illinois State University (2)
Indiana University - Bloomington (4)

James Madison University
Lake Forest College
Lewis and Clark College
Marquette University (2)
Michigan State University (3)
New York University
Northwestern University (2)
Oberlin College
Ohio State University
Ohio University
Ohio Wesleyan University
Purdue University
Rhodes College
St. Xavier University (2)
SUNY Albany
Syracuse University
Tulane University
UC Berkeley
UCLA (2)
UC San Diego (2)
UC Santa Barbara (2)
University of Illinois at Chicago (2)
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (8)
University of Iowa
University of Michigan
University of Minnesota - Twin Cities
University of Missouri
University of North Carolina (2)
University of Notre Dame
University of San Diego
University of Southern California
University of St. Thomas
University of Vermont
University of Wisconsin - Madison (5)
Wesleyan University

UK, Canada & Europe

Bishop's University
Goldsmiths, University of London
Leeds College of Art
Loughborough University
Lunds University of Technology
Oxford Brooks University (2)
Queens University Belfast
Royal Holloway, University of London (2)
Dalhousie University
The Glasgow School of Art
University College London
University of Bath
University of Birmingham (3)
University of Bristol (2)
University of Chester
University of Exeter
University of Hertfordshire
University of Kent
University of Manchester
University of Nottingham
University of Reading
University of Roehampton
University of Southampton (3)
University of St. Andrews (2)
University of the Arts London - Central Saint Martins
University of Warwick
University of Western Ontario
Wilfrid Laurier University
York St. John University







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