

'A SHARK IN THE PARK' by GKV Kindergarten kids



It is well-known how important stories are for children to enjoy themselves while learning, which is the starting point of the project that GKV English Department – Kindergarten Section has been operating with for three years.

Every single year, 5- and 6-year-old-kids study stories with the methodologies that trigger their creativity and with the aims to improve their listening and speaking skills in English. This year the story 'A Shark in the Park' has the specific intension of boosting their curiosity and imagination. The theme of the story has been

enriched with some lively chants and songs to support their sense of rhythm as well. On 20 April, 2015, the kids were on stage in the school theatre hall to re-tell their lovely story. In the presence of their parents and the school principals, they proved once more that kids acquire the language naturally if the appropriate

conditions are provided, which made everyone in the audience happy and proud.

The General Manager, Müfit Taşlıyar, sent his thanks to the Head of the English Department, Sultan Ulu, and their English teacher, H. Yu Connie Au, for their creative project and their hard-work.



10th GKV ELT CONFERENCE ROCKS

GKV is proud to have organized the 10th GKV ELT Conference, with the well-known ELT gurus Cenk Sarkuş, Aydan Ersöz, Deniz Kurtoğlu Eken, and Grant Kempton at the Holiday Inn on the 28th of March, 2015. Since it is the tenth year of the GKV ELT Conferences, the Head of the English Department, Sultan Ulu, gave some brief information about the history of the GKV ELT Conferences:



'It was years ago, I participated in one of the biggest conferences in Istanbul. Its contributions to my personal and academic lives were incredible; more than I expected. In a single day, I reached out hundreds of teachers and trainers sharing experiences, passing on resources to one another and exchanging the projects they have done. Unbelievable!!! So, in one hand I thought how lucky I was on the other hand I thought it was not fair. As a strong believer of 'Educational Equality', I promised to myself that I would do my best to provide the teachers in my region with educational opportunities. It is not just my personal mission, of course. It is also one of significant

mission of Gaziantep College Foundation Schools to make relevant contributions in social and academic areas to life in Gaziantep. For that reason, GKV has been supporting me to make this happen.' The primary intention of the conference entitled 'UNLOCKING CREATIVE POTENTIAL IN ELT' was to stimulate the audience to uncover their own unique potential so that they can bring out their students' creativity, which has been neglected in error-free education system. The audience, teachers from Gaziantep and neighbouring cities, left the conference with lots of practical ideas on how to incorporate their creativity with that of their students into ELT.

It must be mentioned that GKV couldn't have made the conference possible without the generous sponsors, which were Oxford University Press, the British Council, and Pearson.

WORKSHOP – WRITING SKILLS @ EARLY AGES

The GKV English Department have been studying hard to educate students to be fluent users of English both in speaking and writing.

Accordingly, on 3 April, 2015, GKV hosted a whole-day workshop presented by a well-known trainer, Laura Woodward. The theme of the workshop, How to improve writing skills, was based on the class observation and the need analysis has just been made. The workshop was organized into two different sessions according to the age groups the teachers have been working with. The primary group discussed how to improve writing skills in early ages. The participants really enjoyed themselves while they were practising the writing activities and they were looking forward to applying them in their classes. At the same time, the secondary group actively participated in 'Guided & Process writing' activities and they left with tons of creative and practical ideas.



GKV INTERNATIONAL STUDENT – CENTERED SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY PROJECT

DISABLED PEOPLE.....THE ONLY THING THEY NEED IS EMPATHY AND LOVE



A group of students with the help of their coordinators Nursev Kadioğlu and Nilüfer Bolat, are working on an ICT Seagulls project which aims to raise public awareness and empathy towards disabled people.

First of all, we did some workshops in the kindergarten, primary school and high school so that everyone can be well-informed on this topic. In addition, we gave seminars in order to foster our students' empathy towards disabled people and we also educated them on how to approach and interact with them by inviting the Gaziantep Municipality Wheel-Chair Basketball Team to our school. We have been learning sign language in our school with the help of a sign language translator in order to communicate with deaf people, who are the least-recognized disabled group. A group of students from GKV performed a breath-taking sign language song show.

From March 24 to March 26, we organized a workshop with four different disabled groups.

The aim of this workshop was to show how disabled people and non-disabled people can do different activities together if the activities are planned well and if they are given sufficient opportunities instead of being left hidden in



their own homes. This is the main reason why we decided to organize a workshop for GKV students.

To finance our activities, we decided to sell various items of food (cakes, cookies etc.) and drinks to students at break times. But even when we had collected enough money, we didn't stop. We tried to explain our ideas as we were collecting money for our project. We organized a campaign to raise money for disabled people and eventually, we were able to collect enough money to provide 17 wheel chairs for physically disabled people, 10 tablets for mentally disabled students, a chess room with all the necessary equipment for students with hearing disabilities, and 10 MP3 players for blind students so that they can record their lessons.

'GKV TALENT SHOW'



One of the significant aims of the GKV English Department is to provide students with exciting opportunities to develop their self-esteem and their social abilities.



Based on this rationale, 3rd graders put a wonderful show on the stage on 21 April, 2015 at the GKV theatre hall. The show entitled 'GKV Talent Show' impressed the audience in which the school principals and their parents were present. As the title suggests, the students proved how capable of dancing and singing they are during their



great performance. Most importantly, they stuck everyone in audience with admiration while they were performing in English, which did their teachers and their parents proud. The General Manager, Müfit Taşlıyar, sent his thanks to the English teachers Burcu Başkılıç and Ece Köksüzer for their hard-work in his opening speech.



COMMEMORATION OF AŞIK VEYSEL

Together with GAP primary school for visually-disabled children, we planned a performance to commemorate the famous blind musician, Aşık Veysel . By doing this, we had the chance to spend time with our disabled friends. The programme, which was organized by Ayfer Küçükdurmaz, included some of the songs of Aşık Veysel. The purpose of the programme was to show empathy towards disabled people and we feel we have achieved that goal.

Yaren Yıldırım F11/A



GKV WINNER BEES BUZZ

In the GKV academic schedule, there are a couple of projects that have been done for a long time. One of them is the 'Spelling Bee' contest, the general aim of which is to create awareness on reading and writing in English. Since English is an irregularly spelled language, students should be aware of the difference between regularly and irregularly spelled languages at early ages. Starting on 15 May, 2015, the second graders competed with one another in a friendly atmosphere. After long competitive rounds,

the winners were declared and they received their rewards: the spelling bee t-shirt and some stationary.



GKV CEMIL ALEVLI COLLEGE Students Participated in 17th EYP National Selection Conference of Turkey !

GKV @ TED EYP

On the 12th of March I participated in my first ever EYP session ,which was held in Ankara TED College. It was a totally different experience for me and a chance to learn how people from different backgrounds can form a tightly bonded team. Furthermore, it was a platform where students could state their own opinions and discuss them in their committees as if they were members of the European Union Parliament.

To sum up, participating in this EYP event raised my self-confidence and encouraged me to improve my English. In my opinion, every student should join activities such as EYP in which they can express their opinions freely so that they can raise their self-confidence and become people who are aware of what is happening in the world around them.

Büşra ABDULKADİROĞLU FL10/A



During 12-16 March 2015, 17th National Selection Conference of EYP (European Youth Parliament) Turkey was hosted by TED Ankara College. More than 130 delegates from different schools and cities came together for a 4- day packed programme . Additionally, around 40

experienced EYP alumni served in official capacities at the session. 6 students from GKV Cemil Alevli College and 1 teacher participated in this remarkable event which encourages independent thinking and socio-political initiative in young people and facilities of crucial social and

professional skill.

By involving sessions of the conference, our students not only strived to make vital contribution towards European unity and bridging gaps between cultures but they also developed political awareness as responsible citizens.

Özlem Kara-CAS Coord.



European Youth Parliament 17th National Selection Conference

It all began with an essay and ended with my and my committee's resolution paper. On 12-16 March, 2015, I attended the 17th National Selection Conference of EYP, which was held at TED Ankara. Around 200 students participated from schools all across Turkey.

Through these papers I experienced the warmth of friendship, ambition, pain; nevertheless, when they all merged with hardworking and collaboration, I gained what I aimed for. Although it was my first EYP conference, through the huge support of my friends and my awesome advisor, I felt very comfortable during the sessions and General Assembly. With this feeling I was fully capable of sharing my ideas briefly with other delegates while we were shaping our resolution paper. I believe that these conferences like EYPs

and MUNs increase the ability of public speaking and self-confidence in your personal lives. In addition to this, because you have to think in various ways to come to an excellent solution, in a small amount of time you need to think, then criticize, and then come to an end, so you learn how to think critically and this is something all people need to know nowadays.

During our debates a jury observed us to select the top 32 students to represent Turkey at international conferences in Greece, Latvia, Germany, and Spain. After four nervous weeks of waiting for the results, I learned that I was selected for the conference in Thessaly, Greece on 26-30 August, 2015. I hope that conference will be as amazing as the one in Ankara.

Oğulcan CENKİMENOĞLU CA/10A

Concert of Cedric Watson and Bijou Creole

On April 7th, Cedric Watson and Bijou Creole came to GKV for their concert. When I first heard about an American band coming over, I thought it couldn't be possible for a non-Turkish band to come to Gaziantep, since 'Gaziantep' is not known by a lot of people. So, the band came to the school at about 10 a.m. It was our task to organize the concert as part of our CAS program at GKV Cemil Alevli IB World School.



The concert started at about 12, they performed in front of all the high school students and teachers. The best thing about the concert was that the band was involving the audience a lot, so there was no way that one could've gotten bored. After the concert we took

loads of pictures and a massive selfie with the band, so I don't think that they will ever forget us! Needless to say that it was the most memorable experience ever! I want to thank all the people who were in this organization, to make this experience memorable

rather than forgettable one. Also on behalf of entire school I'd like to thank Cedric Watson and Bijou Creole for coming over and performing for us! It was outstandingly praiseworthy.

Rameen Kashif CA/9A

CAS Project @ Cemil Alevli College

As a Cemil Alevli College CAS project, we decided to run a mosaic club. At first we went to GAMEK to learn how to make mosaics. Our plan was, after we learned how to make mosaics, to teach it to the younger students.

Later we moved the club to our school. At the beginning it was hard for us, but our teacher taught us step by step and then we had less difficulty. Mosaic might be boring sometimes but when you focus on it, you realize it's fun. You break the stones yourself, give shape to them and paste them on the wooden platform. We use heavy hammers and pliers; it might be dangerous if you use them carelessly. My classmates and I are having fun being in mosaic club and also we have a surprise for other IB students.

Berhan ÖNGEN



NO MORE VIOLENCE!

As a response to the current problem of violence towards women, in our class we all decided to organize a show. During this show that we prepared together with Şehnaz Özer, we tried to express the feelings of women who have been exposed to violence. Our show which included oratorio, poems and dance, affected the audience deeply. I feel we have been able to raise awareness about this problem and make a difference even in a small way.

Ekin AKYAZICI F11/A



GKV rocks Destination Imagination Tournament



I'm Begüm Koçer from Cemil Alevli College. I am a member of the Destination Imagination Club. Destination Imagination is an international organization in which teams of students have fun while taking risks and challenges that incorporating STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics), the arts and service learning. We learn lots of life skills like patience, flexibility, ethics, and respect for others and their ideas while we solve problems. Teams can present their solutions at a tournament, which is what we did.

We prepared for about four months for the Regional Tournament in Ankara. We wrote a play about a child who has a book phobia, and we designed our costumes and stage set. We presented our play in front of a jury. To be honest, they really liked our play and the message we gave. Fortunately, GKV won 3rd place in the Ankara Regional Tournament. I'm so proud of us because it was our first time. I hope we can be even well-prepared for next year.



GKV STUDENTS @JMUNESCO

GKV middle school students participated in JMUNESCO 2015, held at Bilkent Laboratory & International School in Ankara. The theme of the conference was "Make the choice to change the voice." At the conference, organized between 19-22 February 2015, each school represented a country. The delegates were supposed to write their resolutions according to the country's point of view while discussing global issues.

GKV middle school students were there to represent the United Kingdom, and they did express their ideas successfully although it was the first time they had attended the JMUNESCO.

The conference provided the participants with a lot of priceless



opportunities. First of all, they used English meaningfully and purposefully outside of school. Secondly, it had a huge impact on their social skills and self-esteem. Finally, they left the conference with new friends in their networks and certificates in their hands.



The borders of the mind expand with new experiences. From the city where we live, we travelled to our capital city in order to negotiate major problems of the world, especially those that belong to our region. With our coevals from the other cities and schools, we shared our arguments and thoughts. We recognized our deficiencies and saw the limits of our existing abilities. JMUNESCO provided us this possibility. We are grateful to our teachers, especially Mrs. Ulu, and our school to create this opportunity for us.

Ceren SIGINDI



Winners of Lions Exchange Programme

Travelling to the U.S.A has been a dream of mine since I was a child. When I heard about the Lions Exchange Programme, I thought it was a huge opportunity. So, I decided to take the exam. After several days, I learned that I had passed the exam. I came 8th place in Turkey so I felt very proud of myself. Ayça and Ezgi, who are friends of mine, passed the exam as well. This summer, I am going to have the best experience of my life, I am sure about that. I hope everything will be just the way I have imagined it!

Bengi GÜRALP AL/11

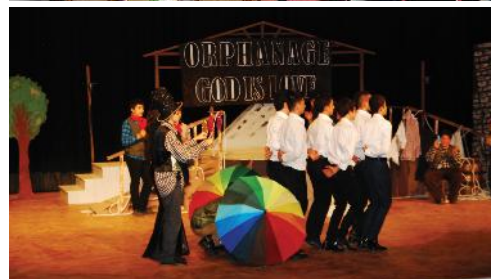


'Oliver Twist' on stage

On 27th May 2015, the GKV high school and middle school students, under the supervision of their English teachers, presented a stunning performance of the musical Oliver Twist on stage at the Atatürk Cultural Centre in Gaziantep University.

"Oliver Twist, written by the famous English novelist Charles Dickens, is a well-known novel with the classic theme of Good versus Evil. Through his good and bad characters, Dickens emphasises the consequences of poverty, which

he believes results in community crime and alienation from society. He also highlights the power of the community and the environment to overcome depravity. The novel was turned into a screenplay which won an Oscar in 1968."



The musical was thoroughly enjoyed by the audience, which included the Head of Trustees, Nüket Ersoy, members of the GKV family and a large number of parents. In his speech, the General Manager Müfit Taşlyar expressed his appreciation to the talented performers for their enthusiasm and hard work. He also congratulated the English teachers, Hakan Alniaçık, Didem Korkmaz, Özlem Orcan, Derya Ayaz Özbağ, Berkay Tahtacı and Ömer Cengiz, along with all the others involved in helping the students to achieve this high level of success. It was a really wonderful evening for everyone!