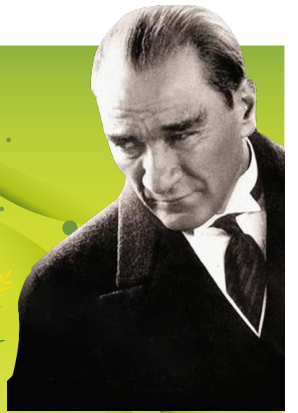


VOICE OF

GKV

Spring  
2011



# My Fair Lady

**The English musical “My Fair Lady”, the musical version of Bernard Shaw’s Pygmalion, was staged to a packed house, at the Atatürk Culture Centre, Gaziantep University on May 3<sup>rd</sup> 2011 by GKV students.**

The evening was a great success and the play was appreciated by everyone in the audience because of the magnificent costumes, very successful choreography, professional dances, and especially

the students’ great performances. The students acted out their parts very effectively in a professional manner. Congratulations to GKV students and teachers who have contributed to this fantastic musical.



## From Us

Welcome to the Voice of GKV Newsletter. We hope you enjoy it and find the information presented for you in this issue worthwhile. GKV is having an outstanding school year led by its truly exceptional staff and students. We are really proud of the work and accomplishments of our students and staff. As we are approaching the end of the 2010-2011 school year, we want to share some of the highlights. Our students reached great academic success in several local and national tests given by various educational institutions. Among the other outstanding accomplishments of this school year are: Regional Champions in Basketball, several Champions in Volleyball, Chess and Swimming, a large number of students receiving local and national degrees and awards in sport, fine art and literature competitions and many, many more awards and accomplishments.

As we look ahead to the future of GKV, we see great opportunities for the growth of our school and students. We are trying to prepare each of our students for whatever challenges lie ahead. This is the reason why GKV has been a leading school. We make a commitment to our students and parents that we will work hard to ensure that there are exceptional opportunities for our student population so that we can evolve into a truly great school. Every student that walks through our doors deserves no less. We look forward to the future as we continue to make progress toward the implementation of our Mission Statement.

The administrative team, the faculty and staff of Gaziantep College Foundation Private Schools thank you for your support and trust.

## GKV Welcomes Its New Sister School IGS

GKV started a student exchange program with our new sister school Integrierte Gesamtschule Gartenstadt from Ludwigshafen, Germany from May 17 - 24, 2011. A group from IGS including two teachers and twelve students came to GKV to participate in a one-week cultural tour of Gaziantep. The program achieved the expected outcomes of friendships, enhancement of

cultural understanding and increased language skill development. The German students had a close insight into culture and life in Gaziantep, as they stayed with a Turkish family, attended some lessons at GKV and participated in a variety of daily excursions through the program. The GKV group will pay a return visit to Germany in September.



# European Youth Parliament at Galatasaray High School

Who is eligible for EYP (European Youth Parliament)?

First of all, you need to be a fluent speaker of English. In addition, you should have an understanding of international affairs as well as skill in debating.

## My journey from Gaziantep to Galatasaray

I would like to share my fabulous adventure through EYP (European Youth Parliament). If you have some ideas about politics, the Middle-East or especially about the EU, then EYP is definitely for you! So, what is EYP? It's an international conference all around the world. You can discuss your ideas, give some facts and reasons and finally you should present your resolution according to your topic. Now I will explain how my journey was. Firstly, I was stressed as I knew only a bit about politics. We started studying our topics at school a month ago and I had to work out some ideas about politics.

On the first day, there were team-building activities. Do you know what that means? Games all day long! It was one of the best projects I have ever participated in so far. So,

on the first day we met some new friends in our team. The next two days we discussed our ideas by learning some facts and reasons. We realized that the best thing to do was to present our opinions with no hesitation. Then, it was time for us to present our resolution to the parliament in front of the jury. The jury decided whether we passed or not. After the parliament, there was a closing ceremony, where they let us see some funny videos that the organizers had made and listen to the song 'Imagine' by John Lennon. That was the last day. After that, there was a party that we unfortunately couldn't attend – I wish we could have been at the party. When the session ended, we felt sad as it was the first and best project I have ever attended.



Ali Enver BILECEN A9/A



## Unforgettable Experience

I learnt so many things through EYP and had the opportunity to have lots of new friends from Galatasaray High School. I really had fun there and I will never forget those four days. I'm looking forward to attending another EYP conference in the future.



Tark Saroğlu A10TM/A

# Debating Championship

GKV Students have been selected for the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of the Debating Championship among High Schools in Turkey.

We went to Istanbul on 10 March, 2011. We were really excited because this time, our rivals were stronger than the ones in the first round 2 months ago. There were 28 teams and we had to beat 20 teams to be able to go to the finals. Actually, it was a difficult thing to do but not for us. We were determined. We were a group of seven. (Yasemin Menteş, Elif Naz Araz, Ecenur

Kurt, Hüseyin Birkan Şahin, Emre Bozırat, Yiğit Başbuğ), but just 3 of us could speak in one debate. We didn't mind who was going to speak, because we knew that he/she would do his/her best.

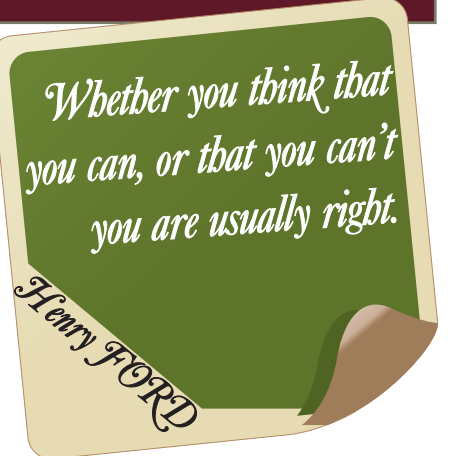
The first day was really good. We beat two teams. We were very happy on the first day. We celebrated our success in a restaurant and tried to motivate each other, and got ready for the next day.

On the second day, we were very disappointed. We lost two matches and we beat just one team. We were in a dangerous position because of that. If we lost two more matches, we would be eliminated, which made us a bit disappointed at first. We went to our hotel early and started to prepare. One of us, H.Birkan Şahin said something meaningful. He said: 'Sometimes we win, sometimes we lose. It's debating, yeah, that's debating. What can we do, sometimes? But, I don't want to look at the past, I want to look ahead'

We were affected by those words. I think that's the reason why we were successful the next day. Nowadays we are working hard for the championship. We believe we will be successful in the end.



Cahit Yiğit BAŞBUĞ FL 11 A



## THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2010 - 2011

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Y.Celalettin ERSOY  
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Head of English Department

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Olive BUCHANAN  
Eva-Maria BAUMGARTNER  
Nilüfer BOLAT  
and  
GKV English Department  
for their collective contributions

Graphics  
Sevgi AKYÜZ

Güvenevler Mh. 1 Nolu Cd. N:1 27060  
Şehitkamil/GAZİANTEP  
Tel: 0.342 321 01 00 pbx e-mail: gkv@gkv.k12.tr

## Interview with GKV's Comenius Language Assistant Eva-Maria Baumgartner

### What do you think about Turkish people?

*After more than 7 months in Turkey I can say that Turkish people are in general very friendly and open to meeting new people. Wherever I went, people were very curious and asked a lot of questions. As people in Gaziantep are not so used to foreigners in their city, they always wondered who this 'yabancı kız' was. For this reason I had a lot of contact with people. Also Turkish people really fulfill what is said about them: they are very hospitable. I was invited to many families' homes and always enjoyed learning about their culture and private life.*

### When you came to Gaziantep, did you feel lonely or did you miss home?

*As I already said, from the very beginning when I first arrived in Gaziantep I met a lot of people who cared about me, invited me to their houses and integrated me into their family life. So I never felt lonely. What I miss about Germany is not being close to my friends and family, and also not being able to take part in the leisure activities there. German people love doing sports outside.*



*For example, in my university town I always go cycling, skating, jogging or just for a walk along the river side. Also, my friends and I like going out at night. For this reason I am looking forward to going back to my life in Germany now but I will always remember my special time here and all the experiences during this year. I know for sure I will come back to Turkey and feel at home here forever.*

### Why did you come to Turkey? What was your aim? Was it just for travelling?

*Well, one day, about one and a half years ago, the idea came to my mind, that related to my studies at University and regarding the fact that I will have a lot of students in the future who speak Turkish at home, so I decided to learn Turkish and come to Turkey. After doing some research I found out about the COMENIUS Programme and I really liked its ideas. The philosophy is to live in another country for a while and be an assistant teacher there at a school to gain some teaching experience. At the same time you can learn about culture, language and traditions. Luckily my application was successful and I got the chance to be at GKV for nine months. Of course I also took the chance and went travelling in Turkey. I am always happy to discover new places and Turkey has a lot of historical places and amazing natural areas to visit.*



# Sweta

**Robert College and GKV together organized a joint workshop SWETA on 5<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> March at GKV in which many teachers from local schools participated.**



Sweta Presenters:

**Gülnur Şahin, Amy Callahan, Sultan Ulu, and Erica Hoffman**

SWETA (Summer Workshops for English Teachers of Anatolian High Schools) run by Robert College organized another workshop at GKV which was a great opportunity and very beneficial to the participants.

First of all, it was a great pleasure for us to meet colleagues from different cities and share the experiences and challenges that we faced while doing the activities for a month on the internet. All of us used the same activities in our classes, yet we learned some

different ways of doing them that were completely based on interaction, creative thinking and cooperation. We adapted and implemented the activities according to our own needs and this made our classes more active and motivated. It was an acclaimed and invaluable workshop for teachers. We also felt very proud to see Sultan Ulu, the Head of the English Department of GKV, as a teacher trainer next to the teacher trainers from Robert College.

## A visiting student at GKV

### My experience in Gaziantep

After a long eleven hour flight from New York to Istanbul at last, I was heading to Gaziantep from the Sabiha Gokcen Airport. Then we eventually at our final destination, Gaziantep. We were all filled with excitement and ready to start our adventure.

After a week of settling in, we began to attend Gaziantep Kolej Vakfı as we do today. The students and teaching staff were all very friendly and helpful. They helped us learn a lot about Turkish culture and helped us master the Turkish language. When we don't understand something, a lot of students and teachers are able to communicate with us in English, we were very lucky that they knew English. We were surprised by how close relationships the students and teachers had: they were like another family and made us feel as if we were just at home.

On the weekends, we usually spend our time shopping at Sanko Park, touring around the famous historical fortress, looking at the animals at Gaziantep Zoo and shopping for traditional items at the Bazaar. At Gaziantep Zoo, we first found it hysterical that the monkeys were smoking; however, upon reflection it could be very harmful for the monkeys. We were amazed at the aquarium; it was filled with unique and beautiful sea creatures. We also enjoyed watching the different species of birds flying all around the room. We must say that Gaziantep Zoo was very thrilling and in our opinion; a little bit better than the Columbus Zoo which is listed number one in the top 10 zoos in the United States.

My experience in Gaziantep has honestly been great so far. This will always be an experience that I will never forget. I really want to thank the teaching staff and the students of Gaziantep Kolej Vakfı for helping me learn about the Turkish culture and the Turkish language. They will always have a special place in my heart.

## AIESEC

This year a number of foreign university students visited our school with the help of an organization called AIESEC (International Association of Students in Economics and Business Management). So we met some friends from different countries such as Germany, Afghanistan, Slovenia and Japan. We talked to them and we learnt about their schools, their education programs, and lifestyles and about their culture as well. All of us liked these lessons because they were so much fun. Also, in my opinion this program helped us to improve our speaking skills. I hope I will be able to join in this program in

the future. Many thanks to my school and the teachers who let us meet different friends from different cultures.



Nur NEYAL FL 9/A

## Satisfaction Questionnaire

**With the aim of helping the students to specifically improve their English speaking skills GKV launched a program at the beginning of the academic year 2010-2011. The program, supported by Robert College, first started with two pilot classes 7A and 9A. In order to get feedback from parents, a Satisfaction Questionnaire prepared with the help of Human Resources Specialist Tuğba Demirpençe ÖZGÜVEN was applied in April 2011. It is gratifying and motivating to see the positive results.**

**Here are some parents' comments:**

'With the help of this program, English is not just considered as a school subject where they are supposed to get a PASS mark. It has become a part of the students' lives.'

'It is really obvious how much my son has improved since he started this program.'

'In the previous program, the focus was on Grammar but this program is full of activities which help students improve their speaking abilities.'

## A further comprehensive ELT workshop will be coming soon

We are proud to announce that on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> of June, GKV is to be the venue for a comprehensive ELT workshop, organized by Raymond Kerr and his staff working for the British Council. You can get further information about the workshop in a couple of weeks on the school website.



## English activity outcomes: A Classic Fairytale in a modern version



Özge Nur  
BÜYÜKÇELİK  
8/A

### Rapunzel's strange hair

Rapunzel was the most hardworking student at school. But she had a problem with her hair. Her hair was too long. She couldn't comb her hair in a short time so she was always late for school.

One day Rapunzel's friend thought it was better to cut her hair, and she cut it. But Rapunzel was very sad and she went to the shopping center to buy a big spotty pink hat. While she was buying that hat, a little girl came up to her and asked: "Are you really Rapunzel? But you had long hair!" Rapunzel answered: "Yes, a stupid girl cut my hair. What should I do? Now I can't get into my house anymore because I used my hair to get into my house!" The little girl looked at Rapunzel and said: "I've got an idea! Let's go to the hair witch and make your hair long again!"

So, Rapunzel and the little girl went to the forest where they found the hair witch's house. They saw a lot of strange things like hair creams on mushrooms and hair on trees.

They entered the house and talked to the witch. The witch explained: "I can help you but I can't make your hair the same color as it is now..." "No problem!" said Rapunzel. So the witch gave Rapunzel a special drink. After Rapunzel drank it her hair was long and beautiful again. But here there was another problem now: half of Rapunzel's hair was blond and the other half was black! But at school everybody liked her hair. So Rapunzel lived happily ever after with her strange hair... THE END.



## The 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual English Performance Day

The 4<sup>th</sup> Grade students of GKV put five different shows on the stage on 10<sup>th</sup> May, at the Atatürk Culture Centre, Gaziantep University



All 4<sup>th</sup> Graders were involved in the fabulous show. The students did an excellent job and the show went very well. They all sang, danced and performed a wide variety of short plays.

Everyone in the audience was enchanted with the performances of the talented young actors and actresses.

The show was a real riot of colors and the auditorium was filled with applause. Thanks to our teachers for preparing the show and to all 4<sup>th</sup> Graders who exhibited their talents and entertained us in such a magical way.



## Istek Schools ELT Conference

To keep up-to-date with our constantly-changing world, as the Head of Department I am participating in seminars all over the country whenever possible.

Istek Schools hosted a splendid and well-organized two-day ELT conference in Istanbul in April. Before going there I had great expectations. I came back fully satisfied and inspired by the long-term experiences of hundreds of experts, teacher trainers and instructors. I had the chance to meet ELT stars and gurus and make a fantastic network of colleagues. For example, I met a marvelous storyteller, Jan Blake whom I watched in admiration, a well-known author Andrew Wright who helped me renew my passion for teaching, and experienced teacher-trainers such as Scott Thornbury, Dr. Jack C. Richard, the president of IATEFL Eric Baber, and many other experts.

Sultan ULU



# The 6<sup>th</sup> Annual ELT Conference

The 6<sup>th</sup> Annual ELT Conference was held on April 16, with a wide variety of teachers in attendance. This year's theme was "Multiple Aids in Teaching English" and we had three outstanding speakers who helped

the English teachers to broaden their horizons. All the participants agree that they had a good chance to exchange ideas and share experiences in the field of English Language Teaching.



Douglas Scott Groesser



The first speaker of the conference, Douglas Scott Groesser, gave a presentation focusing on how to develop lead-ins and follow-up activities which help students to be more engaged and eager to learn.

Meltem Bottomley

The next speaker, Meltem Bottomley encouraged everyone in the audience to consider the positives and negatives of project work and be aware of how to assess it.

Roberta Jean Kemp

Roberta Jean Kemp presented a seminar on how the differences between young learners and their older counterparts affect lesson planning and the execution of the lessons.

**GAZIANTEP COLLEGE FOUNDATION PRIVATE SCHOOLS**

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The Tenth **SPRING CELEBRATION**

The Tenth **SCIENCE - ART ACTIVITIES**

**26 - 28 May 2011**  
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## Essay prizes to GKV from Directorate General of Foundations

Throughout the academic year, GKV students have received numerous awards from the various competitions in which they participated.

Recently, 9<sup>th</sup> grade student Nebile Aydemir's essay called "The Sap of Education; The Foundations", was chosen as second best in the province composition contest organized by the Gaziantep Branch of the Directorate



General of Foundations. Nebile was presented with a prize of a Cumhuriyet gold coin.

In the same contest, 10<sup>th</sup> grade student Irem Oral's essay entitled 'The Selçuk Foundations in Anatolia' was announced to be third in the province, and she was also awarded a special gold coin. The students were presented with these prestigious prizes at an award ceremony held in the Faculty of Law at Gazikent University.