



Business Name

# Dwardu's Scoops

## All Lives matter

By *Sylvana Debono*

“I want to be a doctor, a heart surgeon, to save lives, because all lives matter”. This was Julian Coppini’s answer to the question of what he was aspiring to become. Mr Coppini has just been appointed College Captain, a prestigious post which will influence not only the students but also the college administration. “I want my fellow students to learn early on that the College is incredible,” said Julian Coppini.



*Mr Julian Coppini,  
College Captain*

### A metamorphosis

Mr Coppini described St Edward’s College as being “a massive part of my life”. As a child, school was not top of his favourite places. This changed as he grew older. He attributed this metamorphosis to an increased maturity on his part. Lessons were no longer just about imbibing information, but they became an exciting avenue of discovery: both of self and of the world. “I don’t

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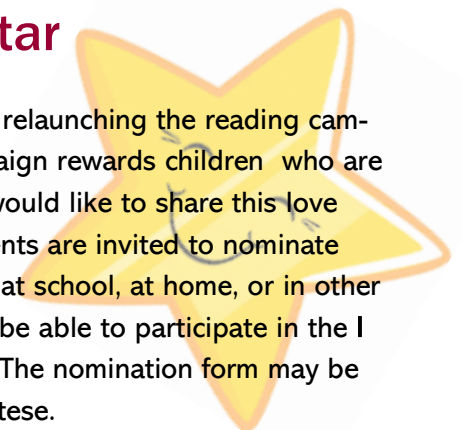
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## I am a Reading Star

The National Literacy Agency is relaunching the reading campaign Reading Stars. This campaign rewards children who are passionate about reading and would like to share this love with others. Educators and parents are invited to nominate outstanding students who read at school, at home, or in other places during their free time to be able to participate in the **I am a Reading Star** competition. The nomination form may be accessed [here](#) in English or Maltese.



## Books of the month—December



Every month, the Literacy and Information Support Unit (LISU) issues a list of books suitable for different age groups. Access the list [here](#)

## Neigh-ver a dull moment



Anyone for a ride?

Well, cold it was, yes, but no snow. At least, our younger pupils got to enjoy a quasi-sleigh-ride through the college grounds. As part of the Christmas Concert for which Ms Abigail Brown worked so hard for, Santa Claus visited the College. The Great Universal Reindeer Union

called a strike to all reindeer, ordering them not to take Santa where there was no snow. At a loss, the white-bearded gent asked for some ideas and inspiration came in the form of Jimmy from Bidnija who provided his karrozzin, duly glammed up with tinsel. And, as the Con-

cert was being filmed, most of the younger pupils got to take a ride around the college grounds.

As one of the boys put it: "It was such awesome fun!"



Mr Nollaig Mac An Bhaird

Headmaster

*Would like to thank all those who remembered his mother, Mrs Dorothy Ward, in their prayers.*

*Eternal rest give unto her, O Lord*

## The greatest story ever told

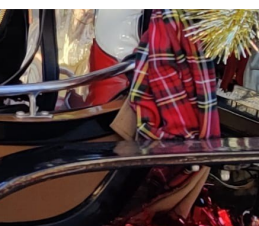
As Christmas draws near, so does end of term. And Michaelmas term normally ends with the Christmas Concert and the Christmas activities. This year, again, we have had to be innovative in the way we do things. For the second year running, we were unable to host a live audience at the college

for the concert. In previous years, this was a much sought-after event. For the Children the excitement of learning part, going on stage and dressing up. For the parents it was the pride and joy of seeing their beloved offspring perform so well. For the teachers, well, remove the hair-greying hassle

and their enthusiasm for the concert too was infectious. This year, Ms Abigail Brown very ably spun the Nativity story through all the Early Years and Junior classes and we managed to film it so that if the parents could not be with us physically, they could at least get to keep the video in their family albums.



The light of the world is born



expect school to be popular with six-year-olds, either” smiled Mr Coppini. As the years progressed, college became less of a chore and more of a community which built people up and gave them the tools to face the world. “We were given the chance to learn things which other people may not have the opportunity of learning and which our parents may not have learnt either,” said Mr Coppini. Probing into this young man’s insight, **Dwardu’s Scoops** found a mature mind who readily admitted that this change of attitude was due to a growing and increasingly nurtured maturity.



### Budding ambition

Over time, attending various college activities, both formal and informal, Julian started observing the students who made it to College Captain before him. “I started saying I want to wear that uniform, I want to wear that tie,” said Mr Coppini, acknowledging the first sparks of ambition within him. When he reached the middle of Year 11, he realised that this was it, crunch time. “I think I did my O Levels not to get into IB but to say that I had the chance of achieving the position of College Captain,” affirmed Mr Coppini.



### An all-night binge

There are, in student terms, owls and larks. Owls are those who study at night. Larks are those who rise early to finish their work. Mr Coppini smiled when he recalled the email sent by the head of the IB Diploma, Mr Jolen Galea. Received late in the evening, Mr Galea himself being an owl, Mr Coppini reacted immediately: “The first thing I said was ‘I’m not sleeping, I’m writing this thing,’” and so he did, pulling an all-nighter.

### Changing attitudes

Impressive, observed **Dwardu’s Scoops**, but what was the young man with aspirations to wear the Captain’s tie aiming to do once he became head honcho of the student body? “I have seen the evolution of the college over the years, and it is my second home. As I want the best for my first home, so too, I want the Col-

lege to be the best. I want to give the students a voice,” said Mr Coppini. Having been at the college since as far back as memory can take him, Mr Coppini said that he has a good idea of how the college works, how and what can change and where to improve. Challenged on what needs to change, Mr Coppini was clear:” What needs to change is less from the academic side and more on the facilities side as well as the students’ attitude to the college...that certainly needs to be fixed, “said Julian Coppini. School, he emphasised is not about “Oh, I got a 90 in Biology and my brain is absolutely massive” but rather that school is about living the moment within the community. Expanding on the subject, Mr Coppini said that as College Captain he gets to attend all the formal events of the school and hence he plans to attempt attitudinal change through leading by example and sharing perspectives.



### On Leadership

Mr Coppini defined leadership through an analogy involving rock-climbing. “I think that leadership is someone who reaches the top and does not keep on going on their own but helps others to reach the top themselves,” observed Mr Coppini. He praised the college as having given him and his colleagues a strong self-concept and clear life vision. “I did not miss out at all in my social development and the college has given me a strong sense of brotherhood with my friends,” said the College Captain.



### On the future

“In five or ten years, considering that I would like to go down the line of medicine, I would hope to be in a hospital and I would be saving lives,” replied Mr Coppini when asked where he sees himself in the future. He is clear in his career path: Mr Coppini wants to go into cardio-thoracic surgery. “Ultimately, I want to save lives, I want to give people the opportunity to go back to their loved ones for another day. I want to put all the years of learning and all the effort it took into saving lives”. But why saving lives, asked **Dwardu's Scoops**. “I think there are two major contributions which can be



made by humanity: help the species evolve or help to prolong its life. I choose the latter path. I want to be in the most gruesome, abnormal and complicated situations where knowledge makes a difference between life and death” explained Mr Coppini. “In my eyes there are no lives worth saving more than others. Even if I had my worst enemy bleeding out before me, I would save them anyway because lives matter. The concept of saving a life means that that person has been given an extension on their possibilities,” concluded Mr Coppini.

*I could not help smiling as I concluded this interview and later as I sat down to write this piece. The answers given by the new College Captain indicate a maturity far beyond the age of the person. And yet, it also betrays a refreshing idealism, as yet untainted by the vicissitudes of life. We wish Mr Coppini well and we shall keep our eye on him and his future exploits.*