



# Dwardu's Scoops



Tuesday, October 22, 2024

Headmaster says...

## Off with a bang!

Welcome to this edition of the St Edward's newsletter, 'Dwardu's Scoops'. College has been in session now for just three weeks. And there are a great variety of activities going on.

The College Fête was a huge success. The organisation, guided by Ms. Debono, and her helpers, resulted in a fete where the 'feel good' factor was one commented on by so many people who attended. What was noticeable this year were the number of student volunteers who partook. Collection of food for MSPCA, guided tours of what is a remarkable historical site, police horses and naturally food and drinks! Prosit to all involved, it was a day where the college spirit was truly on display.

Our recent start of the year PD days for staff included a vast range of sessions from a training session for staff regarding inclusion during Physical activities led by 'I'mpossible', to a reminder of 'Health and Safety' in a school setting, to a session from MATSEC officials who presented the new model and spoke with teachers explaining the new system and the requirements. We also had a presentation on the use of a 'Virtual staffroom', and the usual, and very needed, meetings with Heads of Section, including the INCO, time for staff to set up their rooms and the long anticipated 'Team Building exercise'.

The team building exercise involved staff being split up into groups and having a detective 'Da Vinci Code' day in Valetta. Everyone got their 10.000 steps in! A thoroughly enjoyable put together by Ms. Domenici.

As I write students are taking IGCSE examinations and we will soon have IBDP students for their resits. The first of our live-ins, with the Year 11 students will start on October 23<sup>rd</sup>, the year 7 'sleepover' takes place on October 28<sup>th</sup>, the new look parent's consultations will be held on October 30<sup>th</sup> and the Year 9 thrip to Barcelona starts on October 31<sup>st</sup>.

St Edward's College is a vibrant, dynamic college with a focus on students and learning, with a spoonful of fun thrown in!



## Embracing the New School Year

By Samantha Abela

Every new school year is like the opening of a fresh chapter—a blank canvas ready to be filled with experiences, challenges, and triumphs. Whether you're a student stepping into a classroom for the first time after moving from another country, a returning student full of stories from a memorable summer, a teacher starting their journey in a new school, or a seasoned educator entering their 14th year, each September brings an opportunity to begin anew. What we make of that beginning is entirely up to us.

For some, a new school year brings excitement, the thrill of starting fresh and meeting new people. For others, it may stir up anxiety and uncertainty. Personally, I have often found myself in the latter group, both as a student and later as a teacher. However, this year, I'm embracing a mantra that I want to share with our entire school community—students, teachers, and parents alike: **Think Positive, Talk Positive, Feel Positive.**

Emotions play a vital role in our lives. We all experience them differently, and our ability to show empathy varies. It's important to remember that the strongest people might be

carrying the heaviest burdens, such as loneliness or fear. But here's something I've come to realize—while we cannot always control what we feel, we can work on how we respond to those emotions. And with a positive mindset, we can navigate even the most difficult days with greater resilience.

**Why is positivity so powerful?** It helps us shift our focus. Instead of getting bogged down by what went wrong, we can learn to recognize the small victories and the good moments we might otherwise overlook.



A smile, a kind word, or the feeling of accomplishment after completing a task—these

Cont Pg 3

“

Positivity  
helps us shift  
our focus.

”



## Olympic-related Winner at St Edward's College

By Jan Fiorentino, Year 7U

*Malta may yet have to distinguish itself in the Olympic Games, but these games have spawned an Olympic winner in another way. The following introduction and essay were written by Jan Fiorentino, an Edwardian among us, who felt inspired by the sporting ethic of swimmer Andrew Chetcuti. This achievement by Master Fiorentino is not only a tribute to the college but, more importantly, a badge of honour for his ability not only to see the great qualities in his hero but also to convey these in words. The rest of this write-up is by Jan Fiorentino—The Editor.*



A few months ago, the school sent us an email about a competition related to the Olympic Games that were going to take place in Paris this summer. This was a competition for primary and secondary schools, and we had the option of painting or writing a creative piece on an athlete we admired. I made the decision to write a creative writing about Andrew Chetcuti, a Maltese swimmer who competed in the Olympics, years ago. I chose Mr. Chetcuti because I got to meet him and was struck by how modest he was.

To be honest, I'm not that athletic, but I enjoy watching sports on television, which is why I chose to enter this competition. To my surprise I learned that I had won, and my essay took first place among the secondary schools. My parents and I were invited to the award

presentation event this week, where I had the chance to meet with a number of athletes and hear about their experiences and the sacrifices they make to improve their athletic abilities.

When the prizes were presented, I received a certificate and other prizes, including a voucher that the school could use to purchase additional sporting goods. However the prize I liked the best was the Maltese gear that our athletes wore for this year's Olympics. This was signed by the majority of the athletes who competed.

It was definitely an unusual event from which I gained a lot of knowledge. As one of the athletes said, I learned that no matter what life throws at us, we should never give up because where there is a will, there is a way.

“

I learned that no matter what life throws at us, we should never give up

”



The Winning Essay

## An Inspiring Maltese Athlete

Andrew Chetcuti is the first athlete that comes to my mind when I think about Maltese sportsmen. He has competed for Malta in numerous competitions, including the Olympics, and is an incredible swimmer. I think that Andrew is an inspiration due to his determination, commitment, and sense of national pride.

Andrew Chetcuti was born on November 19, 1992 in Pietà. He took up swimming at an early age. Of course swimming is a common hobby on the island of Malta where Andrew grew up because it's surrounded by the sea, but Andrew went above and beyond. He balanced his love of swimming with his academics by working hard in the pool every day.

Andrew's hard work paid off when he began breaking national records. His areas of expertise are the freestyle and butterfly strokes. Being able to qualify for the Olympics, was one of his greatest accomplishments. In both the 2012 London Olympics and the 2016 Rio de Janeiro Olympics, Andrew competed on behalf of Malta. He gave his all in a competition against the world's top swimmers, and he made us all proud.

He is my favourite athlete because of his commitment, humility, and hard work in addition to his accomplishments. He speaks about the importance of hard work and never gives up, even in the face of difficulty. For instance, training for the Olympics necessitates extremely early wake-up times, dietary regimens, and occasionally skipping out on enjoyable social events.

For younger people like myself, Andrew Chetcuti is a role model. He demonstrates that no matter where you are from, you can achieve great things with determination. Despite our modest size, athletes like Andrew show that Malta is capable of competing on a global scale. He also teaches us the importance of sportsmanship and staying humble no matter how successful you become.



The Inspiration: Swimmer Andrew Chetcuti





Last of the Summer Wine

By Sylvana Debono

It was a gorgeous day, mellow and bright as any could wish for and, quite unusually for Malta, not deadly hot. But, I jump ahead of myself. Yes, it was the St Edward's Day Fête, a big day for the college and the attendance to this event underscored its popularity.

Preparations for the fête had been underway for months. This is not the type of activity one rustles up in one's spare time. These preparations are, very often, significantly low key, but, if those steps are not taken, the end result will often be a shambles. From co-ordinating stalls to ensuring sufficient food outlets (yes, we love our food!) to enough fun activities for children and adults, the to-do list was quite long. There was one basic governing thought however: this had to be a day of fun for children and chill for adults.

As the day approached, anxiety rose exponentially. To paraphrase Churchill never was the weather monitored by so many, so frequently and for so long! That was a variable we had no control over and was crucial to the success or failure of the day. On the final week, we confirmed the food, the activities, the drinks, the market stalls and all the little details such as buying bunting to brighten up the lawn. When you get to organize this sort of thing you realise the details one needs to go to, to make the experience enjoyable and repeatable. Attention to detail is key.

The day dawned after three sleepless nights and with it came some very pleasant surprises. It had been some considerable time since I last worked

Cont Pg 7 ➡

“ This had to be a day of fun for children and chill for adults. ”



← From Pg 3

A journey of positivity for all

positivity that can brighten even the cloudiest of days. By choosing to focus on the positive, we reduce our stress and anxiety, putting our challenges into perspective and identifying what is within our control.

That's not to say we should ignore our problems or pretend everything is perfect. Positivity isn't about putting on a mask or avoiding the tough stuff. It's about recognizing that, even on hard days, there are good things happening too. And when times are tough, we can seek help, knowing that we'll come out stronger on the other side.

This year, my wish for everyone in our school community—students, teachers, and parents—is to approach each day with a positive outlook. Let's celebrate the small wins, no matter how insignificant they may seem. Did something go right today? Did someone say something kind to you? Hold on to those moments. Instead of fixating on what didn't go our way or what frustrated us, let's choose to acknowledge the good and let it uplift us.

There is so much to celebrate if we open our eyes to it. By fostering a positive environment, we can create a school culture where energy and enthusiasm flourish, where challenges become opportunities for growth, and where each day begins and ends with a smile. Let's make this school year one filled with positivity, hope, and endless possibilities.

Together, let's embrace this journey—and let positivity lead the way!







## My Summer Adventure: Diving, Volunteering and Water Polo

By Thomas James Gatt Year 8U

This summer was truly unforgettable in every way, filled with exciting new experiences that brought me closer to my dreams.

I started with my first ever scuba diving experience. History has been always my favourite subject and I've always been fascinated by archaeology. Since I can remember I always knew that when I grow up, I want to become an archaeologist. One of my biggest dreams is to dive at archaeological sites, exploring ancient ruins and maybe one day even discovering a new one myself. To prepare for that future, I decided to get some early practice by taking a scuba diving course. The training was both challenging and exhilarating, but I loved every minute of it and I can't wait to dive even deeper into this passion as I grow older. Literally and figuratively!

Aside from diving, I also took part in our Local Council's annual event, "Traditions, Olive oil, Wine and Honey" in Ghasri, Gozo; where I volunteered to help for the second consecutive year. On the day, I was in charge of one of the many stalls and I was thrilled to have most of the items sold out within the first couple of hours. I enjoyed every minute of this experience and it was also a great opportunity to learn about our local customs and produce, meet new people and be part of something bigger than myself. The sense of community was amazing and I felt very proud to contribute to preserving our traditions.

As if that wasn't enough, I also enrolled in the under-12 water polo team this summer! After some intense training, I was thrilled to be chosen to play with the team. Water polo has always been one of my favourite sports and this experience made it even more special. I managed to score several times during our friendly matches but the real highlight was when I scored during my first ever water polo tournament, which was a huge boost for my confidence and skills.

Overall, my summer was a mix of excitement, adventure, learning and teamwork. Each experience brought me closer to who I want to become and I can't wait to see where my future takes me!



## Erasmus exchanges grow stronger

By Samantha Ablea

It all started in October 2022, when St Edward's College proudly collaborated with Erich Fried Comprehensive School from Germany in an Erasmus Project, an initiative that embodies the spirit of international learning, cultural exchange, and the fostering of cross-border friendships. Fast-forward two years and again we were happy to welcome back another group of students from the same school to work on a different project and this time to work closer together. This collaboration, funded by the Erasmus programme, proves to be not just a platform for students to broaden their horizons, but also a unique opportunity for our school to showcase its educational ethos on an international stage.

This time around, a group of 10 students, aged 14-15, along with two of their teachers, visited Malta from Thursday 10th October, to Wednesday 16th October 2024. The focus of this visit was to immerse themselves in the English language, learn about Maltese culture and history, and explore the democratic practices in Malta. Upon their arrival at St Edward's College on the 11th October, they were warmly welcomed and had the privilege to participate in the vibrant St Edward's Day celebrations. A group of Middle School and Senior School students, some of whom were excited to practice their German, guided our guests through the College. This tour offered them insight into our educational philosophy, our school's unique atmosphere, and even a look at classes ranging from Nursery to the IB program, showcasing the wide scope of our student body.

Cont Pg 5 ➡



“Each experience brought me closer to who I want to become”





## Settling in nicely!



The first days are always the hardest, for all concerned. For parents, they worry, lots. And who can blame them? Thing is, you can tell parents that teachers have been dealing with this for years and that countless children have gone through their care, but the reality is they feel the wrench. Children too feel that wrench. Three months, for an adult, are but a dream. But when your life has barely spanned 60 months, three months is a good chunk. This is why we seem to remember, as children, that holidays lasted forever. So, getting back to a winter routine, back to school or going to school for the first time is a biggie for parents and children. And for the teachers? Well, they should be called diplomats, tight-rope walkers and saints for most cases!



← From Pg 4

The visit aligned perfectly with the celebrations of our patron saint, offering a fitting backdrop to learning about our school's history and values. Sunday's visit to the St Edward's Fête was another memorable experience for the German students, allowing them to meet and interact with our welcoming school community. The heartwarming sense of unity and joy during the event left a lasting impression on our visitors.

On Monday, the students were treated to a tour of Valletta, accompanied by Year 9 History students from St Edward's. They explored the stunning St John's Co-Cathedral, marveling at the grandeur of its Baroque architecture, and visited Europe House, where they learned about Malta's accession to the EU and its ongoing role in the European community. The students also received a thoughtful token from Europe House, enhancing their understanding of Malta's place in Europe.

The final day of the visit, Tuesday, saw IB students from St Edward's take the lead. Under the guidance of Mr. Cardona, they delivered a series of presentations that ranged from Maltese culture and history to a debate on democracy. The day culminated in an engaging discussion on whether 16-year-olds should be granted the right to vote—a topic that sparked lively exchanges and deepened the understanding of democratic principles.

This project highlighted the value of Erasmus initiatives in offering students, from Middle School to IB, the chance to develop both academically and socially. Erasmus projects allow our students to interact with peers from different cultures, enriching their perspectives and enhancing their global awareness. For St Edward's College, such collaborations are invaluable, as they enable us to promote our school internationally while giving our students a chance to shine on a broader stage.

Looking ahead, we eagerly anticipate more opportunities to collaborate with international partners through Erasmus and other initiatives. By fostering these relationships, we can continue to provide our students with meaningful, transformative experiences that prepare them to thrive in an increasingly interconnected world. Here's to future collaborations, greater cultural exchanges, and more chances for our students to broaden their horizons!





## New Leaders among Edwardians



As is traditional on St Edward's Day, we celebrate leadership: not as a distinction but as a service to others. Adam Caruana succeeds Miguel Aquilina as School Captain while Calvin Qian and Rugile Intaite are Head Boy and Girl. Three new monitors are Craig Pellicano, Maddox Attard and Luigi Smith La Rosa. Finally, three house captains are Luigi Gatt, Luca Manicaro and Matias De Flavia.

Well done Edwardians!

## Celebrating through Sports

On the 13th October the College celebrates its patron saint: St Edward the Confessor. This is a day when the boys reflect on the charisma and virtues of St Edward and follow in his example. As a man Edward the Confessor, king of England, lived in a very bloody time – disputes were resolved by the sword, punishments frequently involved mutilation and the differences between the rich and the poor were vast. Edward the Confessor was known for resolving issues through peaceful, loyal and just means, bringing a calm in England which fostered prosperity and decreased the hardships of the poor. St Edward's College takes on the motto Virtus et Honor (Virtue and Honour) with its Coat of arms to carry on the work of St Edward the Confessor.

As a college, sports is very important to us and the tracks, fields and gyms can be the 'battlefields' where competition, fair and honourable is carried out. that is why, our mission statement reads: *"At St Edward's College we strive to create exemplary citizens in this increasingly globalised and technological world, placing strong emphasis on character formation, genuine intercultural understanding and leadership skills which will assist them to contribute to the well-being of society."*

This year, students have designed two posters to celebrate the day.



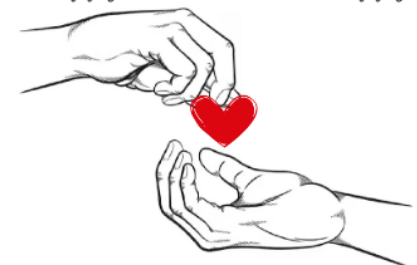
## Healthy heart–Healthy mind

As part of Mental Health Awareness, St Edward's College is promoting a Healthy Heart and a healthy Mind. All too often, we tend to justify and compartmentalize our actions. "I had to do this" is something we tend to say, frequently because we are uncomfortable with an action we have taken. Our Heart is not at peace, it is not healthy. When that happens, our mind is stressed. Kindness, on the other hand, brings peace to the giver as well as the receiver creating a healthy mind and heart.

Spearheaded by Nurse Flora, this campaign seeks to promote kindness and awareness of the peace that it brings with it. The students have been given a kindness card where they can fill in an act of kindness and have it acknowledged by a supervisor (member of staff). At the end of the month-long campaign, a Kindness Wall will be displayed so that all students will be able to see what (not who) acts of kindness happened throughout the college.

### Kindness Ideas

*Be Happy - Make Others Happy*



*Help a classmate with their homework*

*Share a compliment with someone*

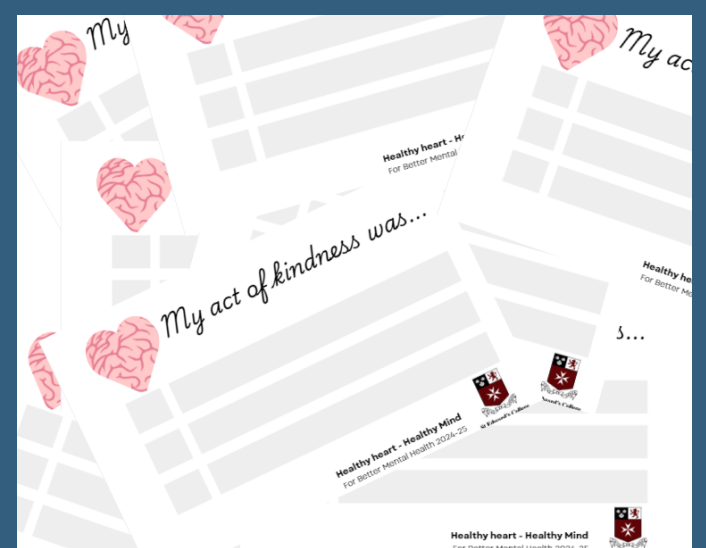
*Include a friend in a game during Break*

*Write a positive note to someone and give it to them*

*Offer to help your teacher clean up the classroom*



**Healthy heart - Healthy Mind**  
For Better Mental Health 2024-25







## I am the voice of Danny Dog

By Andreas Bray Year 8X



I am sure everyone of us, one day or another, watched an episode or more of Peppa Pig Series. This summer a massive project was embarked on by Media Exclusive Limited, in collaboration with Ċentru għall-Ilsien Malti, for the episodes of Season One to be translated and broadcasted in our native language, Maltese. Following a call for application for Maltese-speaking children, this summer I audited to be part of the voice-over team for one of the characters, following which I was informed that I am to be entrusted with the voice-over of Danny Dog. Hence, in a professional, well-equipped full-size recording studio, I met with an incredible team and recorded the relevant episodes.

This was my first experience in such an environment, which honestly was something out of my comfort zone. Yet, it was such an incredible experience which left me eagerly looking forward to the upcoming seasons.



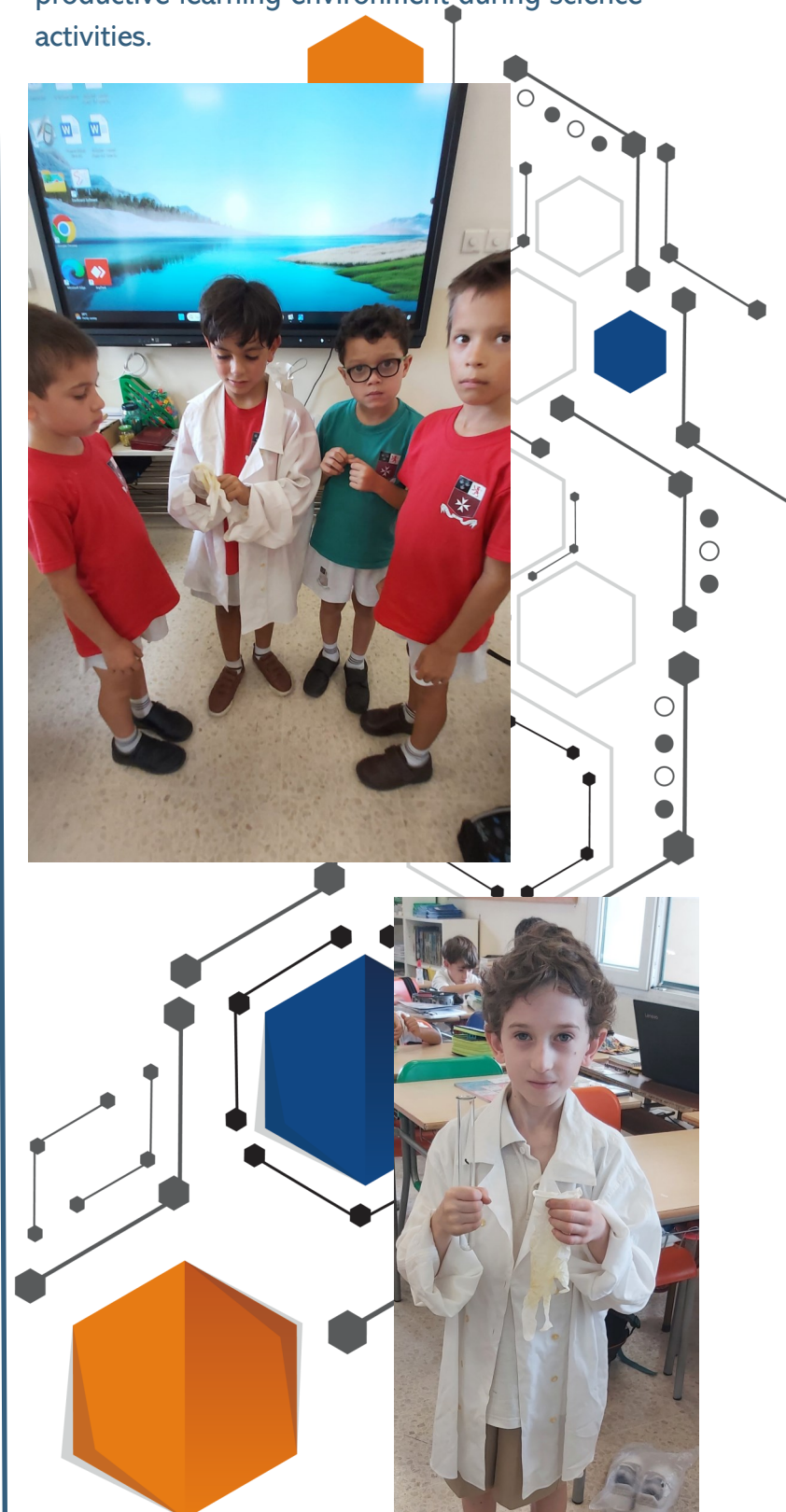
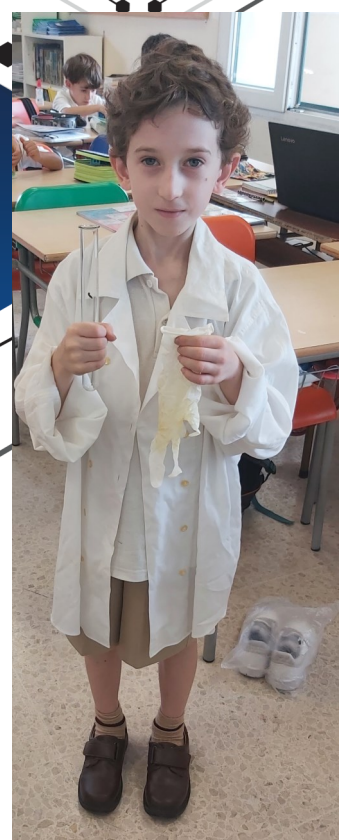
“It was such an incredible experience -”



## Science Safety In Year 3U

By Margaret Bartolo

In Year 3y, we have been emphasizing the importance of safety when conducting science experiments. To illustrate this, the students were asked to identify key items that help reduce risks. The first item highlighted was the requirement to wear lab coats, which should always be used in designated laboratory areas to protect the skin from harmful substances. Furthermore, goggles, gloves and closed-toe shoes are essential for providing protective barrier against hazardous materials. Implementing these safety precautions is crucial for maintaining a safe and productive learning environment during science activities.







← From Pg 3

with young people. What an absolute joy it was. These were a group, a very sizable group, of CAS students. CAS is a cultural and voluntary component of the IB Diploma that stresses the importance of doing and not simply knowing. The students were volunteering CAS hours and learning skills in the meantime. First surprise: they understood direction, acted promptly and adapted to sort out problems which arose. I was totally impressed. No surprise, I said to myself, that we produce leaders here! First tasks ready and the college was set up for business, some of the students proceeded to set up charity stalls. The Pre-Loved toys was one such stall while other students helped in other stalls. A concept that the students appreciated immediately was that of the 'four-eyes principle' where cash was concerned. It was very encouraging to see them relieve each other at the stalls to ensure that where cash was concerned, there were always two persons on the stall.

And the day flowed smoothly. From the 'cutting of the ribbon' by the Chairman of the Board of Governors Mr M. Paris and Mrs Paria and the Mayor of Birgu Mr J Boxall, to the pleasant notes by DJ Lino, the exciting presence of the Mounted Police and the K9 Unit, horse rides for children archer, bouncy castles swordfights, historical tours, cookery classes, crafts, Project Green and its green-fingers approach, Richmond Foundation, Lace makers and artists, artisans and their market stalls and a relaxing chill-out area on the lawn, it was a day to remember.

This is the place where one would be very remiss if thanks are not made: firstly to Headmaster for sanctioning the enterprise, Ms Cioffi for the practical help in various aspects particularly on the day, Ms A Attard and Ms M Gatt, parents who gave their time to the organization particularly of the stalls and food, Ms Anna and her troops for keeping the place spotless and the CAS students marshalled by Mr J Cardona. Thank you also goes to the various members of staff who provided encouragement along the way.

Will there be another? Who knows, but this one was truly memorable.



“

No surprise, I said to myself, that we produce leaders here!

”





## A Science-filled weekend

By Matthew Barbara Year 7X

I really like Science in The City because it is very fun and interactive so I was very excited to participate as a helper on one of the stands. The stand that I helped at was related to robotics and 3D printing, it even had a Rubik's cube solver made out of Lego!

### Day 1:

The first day was very exciting for me because I knew that it was going to be a fun experience. First, I had school since it was a Friday. When school finished I went directly to Science in The City. After finding my stand, I quickly started to help visitors. I generally helped children in building Lego robots. These robots actually move with Lego motors. When the children finished the robot, they could program it to do different actions.

### Day 2:

Day two was very similar than day one but there were some differences. Firstly, I was way more confident in helping out and interacting with visitors. I also used a 3D pen. A 3D pen works by putting a plastic filament in the top of the pen, then the plastic is pushed down into the nozzle which melts the plastic so it can be shaped.

In conclusion, it was an amazing and a unique experience.



“The robots actually move with Lego”



## Pepper for Hygiene

By Alessia Spiteri



Year 4Y conducted a soap and pepper experiment. This experiment was intended to highlight the importance of hygiene. The pepper represented the germs and the soap was then applied to pepper. This showed the germs getting dispersed when using soap to wash out hands and remove the germs. This was discussed as part of the science lesson on maintaining good hygiene.







The Canteen is a place where we go to eat and talk to our friends. We ALL go there. This means that no one should make a nuisance of themselves during break.

1. **Queue in an orderly manner** – Wait patiently for your turn to be served without pushing or cutting in line.
2. **Use polite language** – Say “please” and “thank you” to canteen staff and fellow students.
3. **Follow instructions** – Listen to and follow any guidance from canteen staff or supervising teachers.
4. **Do not touch food with bare hands** – Especially bread or other shared food items; use utensils or tongs provided.
5. **Only touch cutlery when using it** – Avoid playing with cutlery or handling it unnecessarily.
6. **Do not request hot water** – For safety reasons, hot water is not provided to avoid potential accidents.
7. **Consume hot drinks on premises** – If hot drinks are served, they must be consumed within the canteen to prevent spills and burns outside.
8. **Ask for ingredients if unsure** – Always check with canteen staff about ingredients if you have dietary restrictions or allergies.
9. **Eat at designated areas** – Stay seated at the tables while eating, and avoid walking around with food.
10. **Have your payment ready** – Be prepared to pay quickly and efficiently to keep the line moving.
11. **Maintain cleanliness** – Clean up after yourself by disposing of trash in the appropriate bins and put empty plates and cutlery in their designated area.
12. **Respect others' space** – Avoid shouting, loud conversations, or disruptive behaviour that could disturb others.
13. **Handle food carefully** – Avoid wasting food, and do not play with food or drinks.
14. **Practice good table manners** – Use utensils appropriately and eat in a respectful manner.
15. **Respect personal boundaries** – Do not take food from others or touch someone else's meal without permission.
16. **Use time efficiently** – Finish meals within the allotted lunch period and avoid lingering unnecessarily.
17. **Be considerate of the environment** – Recycle or dispose of food packaging responsibly and avoid littering.



St Edward's College, Malta

Triq San Dwardu  
Birgu BRG 9039  
Citta Vittoriosa

Phone: +356 27 88 11 99

Editor: Sylvana Debono

Email: [communications@stedwards.edu.mt](mailto:communications@stedwards.edu.mt)

Founded in 1929, St Edward's College is an all-boys college for both day and boarding students. Boarding is offered between the ages of 11 to 18. At nursery and kindergarten as well as at post-secondary level, the college is co-educational. As a private educational college, St Edwards offers excellent teaching facilities, high teacher-pupil ratio, a very wide range of sports facilities and scrupulous personal attention to the students.

At St Edward's College, students receive a well—rounded education ending up in the IB Diploma. Most of the students go on to study at world class universities. Our top students are leaders in society ranging from Science and Business to traditional professions and the arts. Most Edwardians retain a love and appreciation of sports throughout their lives.

