MHG NEWSLETTER

ÕA 23/24

19 DEC 2023

NO. 15



BIRTHDAYS

- 19.12 Kari Kalk 19.12 Eleriin Käo-Zirk
- 31.12 Marje Kuus
- 01.01 Lilia Ilves
- 02.01 Ita Ilves
- 08.01 Jana Kübar



WINTER CHOIR CAMP

• On 15-16 December, the girls and mixed choir singers of Miina Härma Gümnaasium gathered at Vara School to participate in a camp. In the camp, there were three-hour song rehearsals on both days, and the evening of the first day, the management of the mixed choir organized an initiation and two party games for the new singers. At the initiation, the new singers recited a prayer in which they promised never to be late for a song rehearsal and to read the Stuudium's letters very carefully. The night passed peacefully, and in the morning, everyone was well rested. The MHG choir camp was fun and educative, both vocally and socially. The camp was organized by choir leaders Kadri and Markus Leppoja.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 19 December 11a visiting Konrad Mägi exhibition at ERM; 12b study trip to the museum of KGB cells; 3a class morning; 5a annual Christmas lunch at Pierre's; 7a on an excursion at Vanemuise and Christmas lunch in Vilde; 8a and 8b at Christmas lunch in Kolm Tilli; 11c at the festive Christmas lunch at Püssirohukelder; grades 9-12 Christmas party.
- 20 December 10c Christmas lunch at Püssirohukelder; 11a Christmas morning at Pierre's; at 11:00 Homeroom lessons; at 12:00 Christmas service at Pauluse Church; 7.b class night.
- 21 December–7 January school holidays.
- 5 January Teachers' Collaboration Day.
- 8 January 5b skating in the Town Hall Square.
- 10 January 9th-grade Personal Project Fair.
- 11-12 January Five Schools Competition.
- 12 January 5b class night.
- 16 January Pre-IB and 11DP visit the biobank of the UT Estonian Gene Repository.
- January 19 end of the 1st semester in basic school.



Christmas service songs and performers

MHG HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2023

Initiatives

- **Teachers** started collaborative learning in **study circles** to better support the teaching of approaches to learning.
- Principles for **the use of artificial intelligence** were articulated in the Academic Integrity policy, and the school staff were trained on the possibilities of using artificial intelligence.
- The **updated secondary school curriculum**, featuring all nine study modules, has been fully implemented.
- We were the first secondary school in Tartu to receive the Schools in Motion Badge.
- In collaboration with Seiklushunt, an **orienteering day** took place at Raadi with the entire school community.
- A Culture Day organized by international students and parents celebrated diverse cultures.
- On Valentine's Day, a **movie night** was held for students from grades 1 to 12 at the Näituse building.
- The design of the MHG ring was updated.

Continuity

- All educational programmes (PYP, MYP, DP, RÕK) underwent evaluation, leading to the creation of a new MHG Strategic Plan.
- Six choirs and six folk dance groups from our school participated in the XIII Youth Song and Dance Festival, "Püha on maa."
- Among high school graduates, there were 11 gold and 4 silver medalists.
- In the 2023 **Best in English** competition, with 24,343 students, 702 schools, and 34 countries participating, MHG achieved 4th place among all schools and 1st place in Estonia. Maria Kuris secured 9th place in the overall ranking.
- German language learners went on a language trip to Vienna, and enthusiasts of natural sciences went on a study trip to the European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN).
- With the leadership of parents and as part of Service as Action, **activity tracks were drawn in the schoolyard**.
- For 11 consecutive years, we have not produced digital waste and have sent paper Christmas cards drawn by students to our partners, selected through a public competition within the school community.

MHG HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2023

Accomplishments

- At the National Student Research Competition, Elo Joandi won the 1st prize, and Joosep Toom won the 2nd prize. Both represented Estonia at the European Union Contest for Young Scientists in Brussels.
- Alla Vinitšenko, our History teacher, was named the national laureate for Estonian Basic School Teacher of the Year. Kirstin Karis, our Biology teacher and Tartu secondary school teacher of the year, was nominated as a finalist.
 Anita Kreen, our folk dance teacher, was chosen as the Estonian Folk Dance and Folk Music Society's dance leader of the year. Our choir conductor, Markus Leppoja, conducted the mixed choir at the youth song festival.
- In the overall ranking of Estonian schools, MHG's teacher walking group collected the most steps in the charity walking contest "Sinilillerännak".
 MHG teachers won the national teachers' basketball tournament.

Have a wonderful

Christmas!

NOTICED AT HÄRMA

- Silvia Kronberg (7a, teacher Marilin Lõhmus) won 2nd place in the youngest age group (12-15 years old) in the essay contest "Turning over a new leaf" organized on the occasion of the National Library's birthday.
- In the **preliminary round of the Informatics Olympiad**, **Märt Mattias Alas** (4b) took 6th place among basic school students.
- History teacher Ilmar Tammisto's doctoral thesis was recognized as worthy of the 1st prize in the national competition for students' scientific works.
- On Friday, 15 December, grades 8a and 8b opened an overview exhibition of their work from the 6-week study period. The learning took place at Tartu Children's Art School. Rait Rosin guided the drawing of different parts of the face, Anita Trink guided the creation of a self-portrait in linoleum, and Silver Rannak guided the modelling of the face/mask from clay. The exhibition will remain open until the end of January. Thanks to teacher Ivika Hiis for organizing the exhibition!



22 DECEMBER IS JAAN TÕNISSON'S 155TH BIRTHDAY

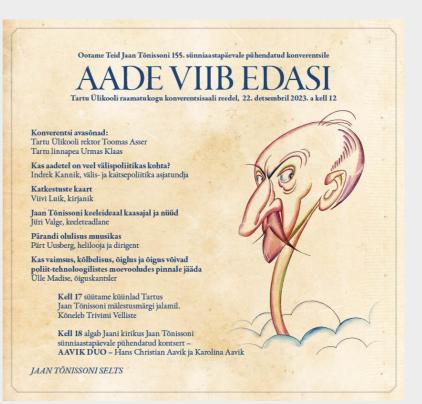
Jaan Tõnisson was a creator. **He was a statesman, politician, and jurist,** one of the creators of Estonian national political ideology and the leader of its moderate direction. He advocated a nationalism based on a solid moral foundation, aiming to become more significant in spirit. In many ways, his organization laid the foundation for the so-called Tartu Renaissance. In 1896, Jaan Tõnisson and his friends bought the newspaper "Postimees", turning it into a tribune of the national movement for decades.

At the beginning of the 20th century, young Estonian intellectuals led by Jaan Tõnisson founded the first Estonian-language secondary school, the present-day Miina Härma Gümnaasium, and in the following decade, came to create their own country. He was a member of the Constituent Assembly and Riigikogu, a minister, prime minister and head of state. Jaan Tõnisson was one of the creators of the Estonian state.

At the conference "Aade viib edasi", dedicated to the 155th anniversary of Jaan Tõnisson's birth, held on 22 December at the library of the University of Tartu, the spirituality, morality, justice and law will be discussed, which Jaan Tõnisson was guided by in his activities. These are the values on which our school was founded at one time and which we still consider important today.

All those interested are welcome to the conference dedicated to Jaan Tõnisson starting at 12 on 22 December in the University Library; also to the lighting of candles at the foot of the Jaan Tõnisson monument at 17:00 and the concert at St. John's Church at 18:00.

Ene Tannberg



WALK INTO CHRISTMAS WITH JOY



We invite all members of the MHG school family to walk around in December and take photos of the nice Christmas decorations in the urban space of Tartu.

The online gallery is open to everyone, and the best moments will be published on the school's Instagram account!







MHG BALL DANCE

