

# MHG NEWSLETTER

ÕA 24/25

8. OCT 2024

NO. 6



## BIRTHDAYS

- 11.10 Marina Kärk
- 12.10 Leo Aleksander Siiman
- 14.10 Johanna Teder
- 15.10 Marje Peedison

## YOUTH EXCHANGE WITH PARTNER SCHOOLS IN BIELEFELD



- From 27 September to 4 October, the choir and orchestra of the **Ceciliengymnasium** and **Helmholzgymnasium** from Bielefeld, Germany visited MHG. Together with the mixed choir of Miina Härma Gümnaasium, rehearsals were held for a whole week, and the project ended with a concert in Pauluse Church. The concert was conducted by **Markus Leppoja** and **Claudia Gentejohann**.



## YOUTH EXCHANGE WITH PARTNER SCHOOLS IN BIELEFELD

- In addition to playing music together, we visited the Endla bog and nature house. Teacher Marje Peedisson prepared a meaningful presentation about bogs for the guests. The guest students accompanied their hosts to their classes, and within the framework of the CAS project, 11DP and 12DP students introduced the sights of the city of Tartu. After long rehearsals and a powerful concert, the evening of 3rd October ended in a place that has already become a tradition for all project participants, the Gunpowder Cellar.
- We thank our partners and teachers from Bielefeld: **Claudia Gentejohann, Susanne Puissant, Kerstin Brune, Torben Pannen, Christian Fabritz, Martin Storz.**
- We thank all the leaders of the MHG team: **Ene Tannberg, Kadri Leppoja, Markus Leppoja, Liis Somelar, Marje Peedisson, Eda Lemberg, Heiki Puusepp.**
- **We also thank all the families who hosted and cared for our guests all week!**



## TEACHERS DAY

- On 4 October, we celebrated Teachers' Day at school. Senior students took over the management and teaching at the school for one day. Also, the "new" management organized a meaningful program for the day for the teachers. In the morning, we could enjoy delicious bites prepared by the Head of Extracurricular activities, **Mia-Chanel Susi**, and the day was opened by the Head of School **Henry Jürgenson** and Head of Studies **Silvia Pärtelson**. This was followed by a folk dance workshop with alumnus **Agnes Tuule Nöps**, a lecture "Teacher ABC" by **Henrik Harjus**, **Karolin Ruumet's** workshop "Book folding", **Mia-Chanel Susi's** Kahoot and the humorous stand-up show by **Aleksander Popov** ended the day.

**Many thanks to our lovely graduate students for a beautiful day!**





## ABOUT CELEBRATING SCHOOL BIRTHDAYS

Our school started its activities on 1 September, 1906. **In May 1916, the Board of Education decided that the school's 10th anniversary would be celebrated on 1 October. This is how the school's birthday became 1 October, which after 1918 the calendar reform changed to 14 October .**

School birthdays were not celebrated every year at that time. Bigger celebrations were organized in 1931, when the school turned 25 years old. **On this occasion, the Parents' Committee presented the school with a flag.** The colors of the flag were white and blue. The blue side of the flag had the school logo in the middle, the other side of the flag was white with the rising sun, the school name in the middle (the symbol was embroidered on the flag in gold). **The school's 30th anniversary was grandly celebrated in 1936, the parents gave the school a Taara radio produced in Estonia. The celebrations took place in Vanemuine, where statesman Jaan Tõnisson gave a speech.** The school family moved to Vanemuine for the ceremony in a parade from the school. From there, the tradition of the parade of our jubilee celebrations began.

**In September 1947 , the school's Board of Education decided that the school's 41st anniversary concert will be held in the school's hall on October 14. From then on, school birthdays were celebrated every year.** Ceremonial events and alumni parties were organized on the anniversaries, quizzes, sports competitions, memory games, and eating birthday “kringels” took place in the school for the school family in the intervening years. Birthday weeks have been organized where, for example, Miina was looking for a superstar and a Mini Playback Show was held. Since 2017, the future graduates that will bear the same number as the age of the school's birthday (the future 111th graduate year of 2017 on the school's 111th birthday, hopmeroom teachers Janika Kaljula and Allar Aav) organized a birthday party at the school. This year's 118th school birthday will be assisted by the future 118th graduate year of the school, i.e. the current seventh grades.

**Since 2008, the school has had a graduation ring with a uniform design.** Graduation rings are given to 10th graders at a festive event on the school's birthday, so secondary school students can wear rings as a symbol of unity during secondary school. **At the ceremony of handing over the rings in 2012, the tradition began that an alumnus read Hamlet's monologue in English,** which all our secondary school students have memorized in English for decades and which are remembered by heart even years later. **For the first time, our alumni teachers Liisa Pärn, Mare Toompere and Helle-Mari Märtson read it at the ceremony.** Since then, every year at the ring ceremony, an alumnus has read Hamlet's monologue, giving the new secondary school students, among other things, educational recommendations for school time.

## NOTICED AT HÄRMA

- On 3 October, the **laureates of the Teacher of the Year of the city of Tartu** gathered for a thank-you event for educators in the hall of the University of Tartu. From Miina Härma Gümnaasium, **Tiiu Sasi (secondary school teacher of the year), Ene Sööt (basic school teacher of the year), Age Raimets (homeroom teacher of the year) and Ene Tannberg (head of educational institution of the year)** received recognition.
- **The National Education Awards Committee has selected three nominees from each field. The nominee for the leader of the educational institution of the year was our Head of School.**
- **Congratulations to all laureates!**



## NOTICED AT HÄRMA

- **At the 30th birthday party of the Estonian Folk Culture Center**, teacher Ivika Hein was awarded a prize in the field of recreational theater.
- In the **Chemistry Open Competition** held on 21 September, our students achieved great results. In the older age group (grades 11-12): 9th place **Uku Nael** (11DP), 12th place **Nurkhan Torekhanov** (11DP) and 21st place **Karolin Ruumet** (12a ). Supervised by Jõrgen Metsik.
- **Rando Jaaksoo (11.c) and Romet Soer (11.c) participated in the work of the XIX Estonian Model European Parliament.**
- In 1-2 October, the **Tartu Schools' Football Championship** took place. Our secondary school team was very successful and won first place, defeating the HTG team in the finals. The following contributed to our school team: **Otto Karl Kuuseok, Andri Türkson, Joonas Sakkis, Kert Alekand, Karl Kiidron, Sander Timmusk, Pärtel Pirsko, Paul Herman Järve, Ken Martti Birk, Niglas Meinson, Hannes Ehin, Hardi Ernits, Märten Toom, Rumi Kallas -Bieniecki, Markus Mängel, Uku Ruus and Joan Oskar Päkk.** Supervised by Jannar Tahepõld.



- The finalists of **Härma's best baker** were **Marian Herodes** from 9b, **Karolin Ruumet** from 12a and **Stella Dvoržanska** from 9e. **Härma's best baker in 2024 is Stella.** Congratulations!



## NOTICED AT HÄRMA

On 3 October, **Tartu schools relay day** was held at Tamme Stadium. Our teams were great and the best results were obtained by:

- 3rd place in shuttle relay – grade 4-5 boys;
- 3rd place in mixed class shuttle relay – grades 8-9;
- 1st place in girls 4x400m among grades 8-9. We were represented by: **Emma Kurim, Marleen Tamm, Laura Liisa Vider, Edith Eelmäe**;
- 1st place in young men 4x400m relay among grades 8-9. We were represented by: Gregor **Laht, Erik Eidermann, Erik Marten Zernant, Oliver Mäesalu**.
- 3rd place in secondary school girls 4x400m relay. We were represented by: **Mia Helene Laidvee, Getter-Liis Kukk, Maia Toomsalu, Sandra Movits**.

We thank everyone who contributed to the success of our school!



## NOTICED AT HÄRMA

- For many years, several foundations and funds have offered scholarships to good learners of German in Estonian schools to participate in further German language training and camps in Germany. MHG's German language teachers have also shared information about these possibilities with their students. Thus, in previous years, several students of our school have used such an opportunity to polish and improve their language skills in a language environment. This year, MHG students **Karolin Ruumet** (12a, teacher Heikki Veinimäe), **Rando Jaaksoo** (11c, teacher Maigi Varusk) and **Hannes Ehin** (11c, teacher Maigi Varusk) were the recipients of the **Dr. Inez Lember scholarship**. Rando attended a course in Bremen, Karolin and Hannes improved their language skills in Freiburg. **The mentioned scholarship was awarded by the Goethe Institute and covered the costs of an intensive German language course in Germany.**
- **Rando Jaaksoo:** "I am very satisfied with the German language course. The lessons were very pleasant and easy to understand. I studied at level B1.2. We were able to visit the city of Bremen and also discover nearby Bremerhaven and Cuxhaven during the excursions. We went to the Bremen music festival "Bremina" and played a lot of volleyball. Classes were never boring with Alicia, a wonderful teacher. During the lessons, we also learned about German culture, which was very nice. The young people who studied there with me were all very friendly and I made a lot of new friends from abroad. My summer in Germany was very pleasant because I was able to develop my German language skills in a genuine cultural environment of the language. I met many friends and acquaintances from abroad, learned about German culture, and most importantly, I was able to travel to Germany. I would definitely recommend it to anyone who is even remotely interested!"



## NOTICED AT HÄRMA

- **Karolin Ruumet:** "In the spring, I decided to apply for the Dr. Inez Lember scholarship, which is awarded annually by the Tallinn Goethe Institute to a couple of hundred young Estonians. Thanks to this, I spent three weeks this summer in Freiburg, Germany, studying the language. It was an extraordinary experience: I met new people, visited exciting places, and of course learned and practiced a foreign language. I would definitely recommend everyone else to apply this coming spring, not just because the scholarship covers absolutely everything from food and accommodation to leisure activities (although that's great, of course), but to go to Germany and practice the language there. I feel more confident speaking German than ever before, precisely because I had to use it on a daily basis abroad. The opportunity to practice a foreign language while communicating with native speakers is priceless."



## WEEK OF OPEN SCHOOL CANTEENS

- 7-11 In October, the municipal schools of the city of Tartu will host a week of open school canteens, when parents and other interested parties are invited to taste the school food that is offered to students on a daily basis. In our school, parents are welcome in the canteen from **Tuesday to Friday in the Tõnissoni building.**
- During the week of open school canteens, you can familiarize yourself with the organization of school catering, while also tasting the daily school food. The food portion can be received in school canteens for school lunch money.
- We are waiting for you to familiarize yourself with the catering of Miina Härma Gümnaasium **from 8 to 11 October 2024 between 11:00 and 14:00.** Please come at times when the students do not have a lunch break or at the end of the lunch break when the diners have received their food.
- **School lunch breaks at Tõnissoni**
  - 11.00–11.20 (3rd–4th grade)
  - 11.05–11.25 (5th–6th grade)
  - 12.00–12.20 (7th grade)
  - 12.05–12.25 (8th–9th grade)
  - 13.00–13.20 (12th grade)
  - 13.05–13.25 (10th–11th grade)
  - <https://www.tartu.ee/et/uudised/tartu-koolid-avavad-koolisooklate-uksed...>
- A good opportunity to come and taste the food yourself.



## NOTIFICATIONS

- 1-8 October - grades 1-4 students take pictures of autumn.
- 7-11 October - **Fair Trade Month activities** for 7e, 9e and Pre-IB classes.
- 8-11 October - **Week of open school canteens (only in the Tõnissoni building)**
- 8 October – 12th ABC workshop "Different Estonias" in Tallinn; 11DP and 12DP in Tallinn; 7e and 8e watching the movie "Emalõvi".
- 9 October – 4th grade national level test in Estonian; grades 1a, 1b, 1e and 2e, watching theatre Lepatriinuperformance in Aula; 2a and 2b in Meenikunno bog; 5a and 5b at the performance "The Prince and the Beggar" in Ugala theatre; 7a and 7b in Palamuse; students of the Business Ecosystem course at the conference "Student company-an opportunity for you!"; 7a class evening.
- 10 October - 4b national level test in Math; 7a at the nature education city game; UT foreign language students observing lessons; Tartu city interschool indoor hockey cup competitions for grades 8–9.
- 11 October - 4a national level test in Math; 3a at Tartu Art Museum; 7b at the nature education city game; 5e and 6e class evening; UT foreign language students observing lessons.
- 11-12 October - 11a and 12a students at Positron; Joint camp of Härmatis C and Hopser dance groups in the Aula and sports hall.
- 14-18 October - preliminary exams week of secondary school.
- 14 October - **MHG's 118th birthday**; 10th grade ring ceremony in the Ayla (alumnus Rasmus Kull performs Hamlet's monologue); literary online game for grades 7-8.
- 15 October – Tartu city interschool indoor hockey cup competitions for grades 6–7.
- 16-17 October – **12DP G4 project with Tallinn English College.**
- 16 October - students of the Entrepreneurship Ecosystem course on a study tour at the "Tartu Mill" company.
- 17 October - grades 1-4e at the Sports Museum.



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14 October is the 118th birthday of our school - we will **collect alumni's wishes** for the school on the MHG Instagram account for that day to put together a nice video.

**Film an upright video with your personal congratulation.**

Please send your short video to [maigi.varusk@mhg.tartu.ee](mailto:maigi.varusk@mhg.tartu.ee) by 10 October.





- Dark autumn is here once again, and to ensure that our lovely school family is still visible on the streets, you need to wear reflectors!
- The helping hand of Miina Härma is waiting for the reflectors you don't use yourself but also offers them to those in need. If you have a spare reflector you can't find a use for, you can bring it to Design teacher Liis Somelar or the PYP Coordinator Triinu Pihus, who will hang it on Miina Härma's hands at the Tõnissoni building.
- If you don't have any of your own, there's a great opportunity to pick one up!
- PS! You can also leave your reflector on the door handle of the handicraft/design classroom when the teacher is not present and the door is locked.