Mariana Grade dos Santos
Merit Scholarship

The Católica - Lisbon School of Business and Economics awarded a Merit Scholarship to Mariana Aleixo Grade dos Santos, a former student of the International School of the Algarve, where she studied, in the National Section, from Year 5 to Year 12, which she finished last year (2013/2014).

Mariana Aleixo Grade dos Santos started this year a Management Degree at the Católica - Lisbon School of Business and Economics. This higher education institution provides scholarships to new students that begin with high grades their undergraduate at Católica - Lisbon. This was the case of our former student, whom the university awarded a Merit Scholarship, which corresponds to a high percentage of the school fees.

The recognition of merit to our former students is our best reward. The International School of the Algarve congratulates Mariana for her academic success and appreciates the kind words by the Católica - Lisbon: "We wish to congratulate the International School of the Algarve and their teachers for the excellent preparation they have been providing to their students."
Christmas Bazaar Success

On Saturday 15th November the International School of the Algarve held its most successful Christmas Bazaar ever at its Porches site. In excess of €4100 was raised for a local orphanage ‘Casa de Nossa Senhora da Conceição’. This impressive amount was due to the hardwork of the pupils and teachers from all three school sites – Almancil, Espiche and Porches – who came together for the Christmas event.

There were over 40 different stalls, including Pre-school handycrafts, the Design Technology stall, Hook a Duck and the ever popular Tin Can Alley. The stalls were run by the pupils and teachers. Father Christmas made his arrival in a convertible Aston Martin and met over 100 children.

Head of Primary, Ms Best the event organiser stated: “It was overwhelming to see all three school sites coming together as one, for such a good cause. I am thrilled with the amount raised and would like to say ‘Thank You’ to everybody for all their wonderful hard work especially all our sponsors. We have guaranteed a Happy Christmas for the children at the orphanage”.

[Images of the Christmas bazaar event]
Algarve Bonfire Night

The International School of the Algarve and the Open Media Group organised the first Algarve Bonfire Night, a British tradition that celebrates the failure of the "Gunpowder Plot" against King James I in 1605. The celebration was held in Fatacil, Lagoa, on Saturday 8th November, and was a charity event to raise money for the Lagoa fire brigade. The €1000 raised were already handed to the ‘bombeiros’.

The British community celebrates the arrest of the Catholic soldier Guy Fawkes in the cellars of the parliament building in London on November 5th, 1605. Fawkes was arrested while guarding barrels of gunpowder that would detonate during a parliamentary session with the presence of the Protestant King, James I.

Sticking to tradition, the Algarve Bonfire Night, in Fatacil, had a show of fireworks and a huge bonfire, in which were burned three effigies of Guy Fawkes built by the Primary students of the Espiche and Almancil sites and the main-school (Porches) of the International School of the Algarve. It was an evening of family fun with food, drink, raffles and musical entertainment to people from all over the Algarve to celebrate the tradition and help the Volunteer Firefighters of Lagoa.
‘São Martinho’ Fair

The International School of the Algarve today took 250 children to the ‘São Martinho’ fair ground in Portimão. The trip brought together Pre-school and Primary school children from the Espiche (Lagos) and Almancil (Loulé) sites and from the main school in Porches (Lagoa), and also the ‘1º Ciclo’ students of the National Side from Porches.

It was a morning of smiles and lots of fun. The kids enjoyed themselves on rides and roller coasters. This has been a tradition of the International School of the Algarve for many years. In the afternoon, children gathered at the main school in Porches for a picnic of roasted chestnuts to celebrate ‘São Martinho’. They also had an assembly to think about ‘Remembrance Day’ and held a one minute silence in honour of the day.

Pre-school Halloween

Halloween was celebrated at the International School of the Algarve by the children of the Pre-school. On October 31st, children came to school in masks and ‘haunted’ the playground during the half term. It was a day of colour and fun, complete with a very sweet snack.
Marshmallow Challenge

To build the tallest and most stable tower with a marshmallow on top using only 20 spaghetti sticks, 1 metre of sellotape, 1 metre of string and a pair of scissors. This was the Marshmallow Challenge, given by the Science Department to students and teachers of the International School of the Algarve, on Friday 19th September.

Teachers and students formed mixed groups of four to take the challenge in the school library. The Marshmallow Challenge is becoming an EIA-ISA tradition and the event, now organised at the beginning of the school year was no exception, providing a fantastic moment of fun and creativity.

The groups had 11 minutes 56 seconds to build their towers with a marshmallow on top. Some towers supported the marshmallow more than half a metre high, which clearly demonstrates the commitment placed by teachers and students to the challenge. The winning tower held the marshmallow 71 cms above the table and was built by the group formed by student António Freitas (Year 7 National Section) and teachers Rita Falcão, João Tavares and Nuno Rodrigues.

Toy Cars from Recycled Materials

The Science Department of the International School of the Algarve organised a competition for toy cars from recycled materials with teams formed by students and parents. The time trial for a 10 metres distance was held on the basketball court in our main school in Porches (Lagoa), on Friday 17th October.

Each team participated with a single prototype, which had to be built from recycled materials, including at least one package. The organisation provided an electric motor for each team. Each electric car could only have one battery, maximum of 9 V, and was forbidden to use parts of commercial models.

The imagination of the competitors produced different prototypes and some even managed to develop amazing speeds. Some faster than others, but all contributing to a moment of great excitement in the school and also for greater complicity between parents and children and for a better understanding of the science subjects involved in the project. Congratulations to all!
World Food Day

The World Food Day, 16th October, was this year celebrated at the International School of the Algarve by a lively program of activities developed by the ‘1º’ and ‘2º Ciclo’ helping students to better understand food nutrients and the importance of having a healthy diet. During the morning, students held a ‘peddy paper’ contest with challenges that tested their knowledge about food. In the afternoon, ‘1º Ciclo’ invited Year 1 to watch a puppet show presented by teachers on the importance of caring for teeth. Then the classroom students made a presentation prepared by them on Food.

Health Box

The Infirmary of the International School of the Algarve introduced this week, in the school, a new process called ‘Health Box’ that intends to serve as a place for students and adults to put any questions they have regarding Health; this links to the Portuguese National School Health Program.

Questions about health may be raised by any member of the school community and placed in one of the two Health Boxes that will always be available in the dining-room and in the school library.
Mascots of the ‘6ºA’

Within the subject Design and Technology, the students of the ‘6ºA’ accomplished individual mascot projects. Vasco Escudeiro’s project (centre) was the best mascot, ‘Pára-Árvores’, and had a strong message: “Stop destroying the lungs of the Earth”. The second best mascot was presented by Rita Borges, for the Portuguese Association of Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis. Thomas Ainsbury conceived and built the third best mascot this year, a symbol for recycling.

Year 9 Art Exhibition

Art students in Year 9, International Section, of the International School of the Algarve produced artwork for a public exhibition in Vale do Lobo. The collection is dominated by paintings with colour and landscapes alluding to the Algarve and the exhibition was visited by the artists on December 4th. The exhibition is open to the public from the 4th of November at the Vale do Lobo Art Gallery, and can be visited until January 7th 2015.

Sixth Form ‘Outward Bounds’ Trip

On Friday 17th October, Years 12 & 13 students visited Parque Aventura in Albufeira in order to carry out personal and social skills exercises in order to improve their teamwork and communications. The activities used for this were a high ropes course and paint-balling. The sixth form thoroughly enjoyed themselves, many stating: “This was the best trip ever!”
Head Boys; Finn and Thomas

Finn Longmuir and Thomas Cavailhes were elected Head Boys of the International Section of the International School of the Algarve for the academic year 2014-2015. In addition to the duties related to the supervision of younger colleagues, the two Year 13 students have many ideas and have already created a new system to support colleagues with problems and a ‘Worry Box’ on the Internet.

The new Head Boys are both 18 years of age. Thomas returned this year to the International School of the Algarve, where he studied from Year 6 to Year 11 and Finn is attending his second year at our school. "I am very happy. I have always imagined myself in the role of Head Boy to help my classmates”, Thomas said. "We have many ideas," added Finn.

Thomas Cavailles and Finn Longmuir created a support system for younger students - "Sixth Form Buddy System" - naming students of Years 12 and 13 as advisors (‘buddies’) to specific classes of Years 7 to 10. "Talking to a student who has gone through similar situations can be a big help", justify the Head Boys. Accordingly, in order to be easily contacted, the new Head Boys have created an email account (HeadBoy.EIA@hotmail.com) and a box of anonymous suggestions on the internet, in ask.fm service (HeadBoyEIA).

The Head Boys also want to create a lounge for all students, with music, television, games and sofas. To achieve this, Thomas and Finn will promote collection of donations at the school. The two Head Boys also want to increase the number of Non-Uniform Days in order raise money for charity, through the Association of Social Solidarity of the International School of the Algarve (ASSDEIA).

Citizenship at School

The International School of the Algarve runs a programme for Sixth Form (Years 12 and 13) students named Citizenship at School. This involves supervisory tasks of younger students during wet breaks. Another weekly task is to help Primary students to develop their reading skills. Head Boys must organise rotas for the Sixth Form as part of the Citizenship at School programme.
First Aid In-Training
The International School of the Algarve is developing a first aid in-training program for all its 128 employees and teachers. The training improves the well-being of our children by ensuring that all our professionals are able to respond effectively in emergency situations. The course lasts 20 hours and is made up of groups according to the hourly preferences of the staff. The training occurs during the months of October 2014 to January 2015, at the premises of the main school in Porches (Lagoa), Espiche and Almancil.

Workshop on Dyslexia
The International School of the Algarve hosted a workshop on dyslexia for parents and teachers with the internationally renowned expert Dra. Paula Teles. The session took place in the main school in Porches (Lagoa), on Saturday 11th October. Reading is a basic skill for the academic success of our students. The International School of the Algarve has given training in this area to all teachers and conducts frequent assessments of reading fluency for all students.

Teresa Mascarenhas Honoured
Teresa Mascarenhas was a teacher at the International School of the Algarve for three decades until her retirement at the end of the 2012-2013 school year. On the 15th October, Teacher's Day, Teresa Mascarenhas was honoured by the ‘Câmara Municipal de Lagoa’, in a public ceremony held at the Arade Congress Centre in Parchal. In the presence of representatives of the Pedagogical Board of the International School of the Algarve, Teresa Mascarenhas took the stage to receive a plaque and a bouquet of flowers in appreciation to the teacher’s commitment to the education of young people in the municipality.
Team Nobel Education Network at the Berlin Marathon

The International School of the Algarve sponsored a team to enter this year’s inline skating Berlin Marathon wearing Team Nobel Education Network branded uniforms. The event was held on the September 27th. Competing against the world’s best inline skaters, our team achieved outstanding results. Andreia Canha, 20, raced for the Nobel Education Network Team in Berlin and finished 4th in the women’s division, concluding the marathon in 1h09m18s. The young skater was aiming for a Top 10 place and achieved a stronger finish almost winning a podium place.

In the men’s division, David Pedro finished the marathon in the leading sprint group, three minutes behind the winner (a new world record) but with almost the same time as the third place winner. The Nobel Education Network Team skater finished 17th with amazing pace (speed average) of 40,11 km/h. David Pedro is 26 years of age and is an elite skater of the Sports Club of the International School of the Algarve (CDEIA).

Biosphere International Tournament

CDEIA achieved excellent results in the second year of the Biosphere International Tournament in speed skating, held on Madeira Island, on the 4th and 5th October. Carolina Ferreira and Laura Nagiller dominated the competition in the age group Girls Cadets (14-15 years). Carolina won 5 of 6 individual events and Laura won the other. Bernardo Freire won the tournament in the age group Boys ‘Iniciados’ (12-13 years); Maia Batista finished 2nd in Girls ‘Iniciados’ and Miguel Bravo was 2nd in Juniors B (16/17).

National Indoor Meeting

CDEIA was successful in the two rounds of the National Indoor Meeting for the age groups ‘Benjamins, Escolares’ and ‘Infantis’ in Cascais (25th October) and Veiros (8th November). The CDEIA Boys ‘Escolares’ team - Hugo Pina Freire, Miguel Ferreira and Guilherme Ferrolho - finished runner up. In Girls ‘Infantis’, Maria do Carmo Sotero and Maria Beatriz Santos took CDEIA to the 3rd podium place.
IX ISA Cup

The start of the new school year at the International School of the Algarve was once again marked by a sports tournament, the IX ISA Cup, inter-class competition in boys basketball and girls football.

The tournament was divided into three age groups: ‘2º Cycle + Year 4 (Years 5, 6 and 7 of the International Section); ‘3º Ciclo’ (Years 8, 9 and 10) and Secondary (Years 11, 12 and 13).

The Secondary group had no girls football competition, therefore this IX ISA Cup had only five winning teams (pictured), highlighting two classes, which won in football and basketball.

Year 12 (National Section) won an extremely hard fought final (16-14) against Year 11 (NS) in boys basketball, which was only decided after extra time. In the other two age groups, the 6ºA and 9ºA team classes (NS) won the boys basketball and girls football finals in their age groups. The tournament took place in early October, with short games (20 minutes), played from 1.30pm to 2pm, always with many students on the side lines supporting their classmates.

Autumn Festival

The International School of the Algarve attended the Autumn Sports Festival held at the Carlucci American School of Lisbon (CAISL), between the 13th and 15th November. The ISA delegation was composed of 30 students, divided into three teams (boys football ‘Infantis’, girls basketball ‘Infantis’ and girls football ‘Iniciados’). “The students behaved very well at the hotel and in the competition where all teams won at least one game,” concluded the ISA Physical Education Department.
Camping at School

Sixty students from the International School of the Algarve, Years 5 and 6 (National Section) and Years 6 and 7 (International Section), took part in a camping experience at the Porches school site (Lagoa), during the weekend of the 18th and 19th October.

The camp began at 10am on Saturday and ended at 12pm on Sunday. A team of teachers was always present and constantly guided activities with the children. "It was really fun", said Catarina Casanova (6ºA). "What I liked most was the archery and blowgun", said Maria Beatriz Parente dos Santos (5ºA). "The best was playing dominoes," said Carolina de Lagos (6ºA).

"It was fun and we did many things. I enjoyed waking up before the sun rise and playing with torches", said Rianna Kanabar (Year 6). "I enjoyed learning how to use survival skills," said Alexandra Littlejohn (Year 6).

The camp also strengthened ties between students. "I got to know other students and that was a good thing", said Pedro Virginia (5ºA). "It was really fun and important to know the new children from Almancil," stated Max Robinson (Year 7).
Fun Science

In anticipation of Halloween, teachers of the Science Department dressed as witches and visited the Primary Assembly held on the 24th October, at the International School of the Algarve in Porches (Lagoa). Our ‘witches’ prepared several experiments, which surprised and amazed the children, promoting the magic of Science.

Practical Lesson

Year 7 students, of the International Section, conducted a practical science class on the 1st October. Students dissected hearts and observed directly the various types of tissues that make up the organ. The Practical science lessons are customary at the International School of the Algarve as an effective method to complement and consolidate the theory taught in class and in textbooks.

Book Fair

The library of the International School of the Algarve in Porches (Lagoa) hosted the traditional Book Fair before Christmas. The fair took place between the 17th and 21st November in partnership with the publisher of children’s books Usborne Books. The event gives students the opportunity to buy books in English.
School News – November 2014

Mathematics Olympics
The first round of the 33rd Portuguese Mathematics Olympics was held at the International School of the Algarve in Porches (Lagoa), on the 12th November. At this stage, the round is played by students in their own schools. A total of 41 students of the ‘2º’, ‘3º Ciclo’ and Secondary, of the National Section, participated by solving a Maths test.

The Importance of Saving
Secondary students attended a lecture entitled ‘The Importance of Saving’, in the school library, on the 23rd October. The session was sponsored by a bank, arranged by the mother of a student, whom the International School of the Algarve wishes to express their ‘Thanks’ to.

ABRSM Music Examinations
The International School of the Algarve is very proud to be the exam centre for ABRSM Music Examinations. In June 2014 we were able to enter our pupils for a variety of musical instruments for the examinations; PrepTest to Grade 6. As these exams are from PrepTest to Grade 8 it is clear to observe the number of very talented musicians we have in our school.

Career Counseling
Career counseling is a key concern in education, particularly at Secondary level. Our students have information available at the school on universities around the world, some of which make presentations at our school, as was the case of IE University, on the 15th October.
New Classrooms Built in the Espiche Site

The Espiche Site (Lagos) of the Algarve International School has undergone major changes in the 'junior area' building, comprising of two new classrooms for Years 3/4 and Years 5/6, which are larger, more comfortable and modern. The building work also created a service area at the school entrance and improved the aesthetics of the property as a whole.
Upcoming events:

- **1st December: Almancil Primary ‘Christmas Assembly’** – International School of the Algarve Almancil Site (Loulé), 15h00

- **6th to 13th December: Snow Trip** – Pas de la Casa, Grandvalira, Andorra

- **9th December: Pre-school Christmas Party** – International School of the Algarve (Porches, Lagoa), 14h30

- **10th December: Espiche Primary ‘Christmas Assembly’** – International School of the Algarve Espiche Site (Lagos), 15h00

- **12th December: Christmas Carol Concert** – Silves Sé (Cathedral), 18h30

- **13th December: 1º Ciclo Christmas Party** – Arade Congress Centre (Parchal), 15h30

Merry Christmas