

# CTI NEWSLETTER

سنة ٢٠١٠  
April 2010  
Our fiftieth year!

What is **Eyjafjallajokull**? If you know, you are either incredibly well-informed, or you are really following the news. It is the name of the volcano that erupted recently in Iceland, spreading ashes over Europe, and disrupting air flights worldwide.

**Happy Easter!** We welcome you back from the holidays. Easter celebrations were many and varied at the CTI. The CTI choir, under the leadership of Mr Vartan Agopian, gave two touching performances for Easter. We also had a series of talks and presentations about the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.



As for the inevitable egg hunts, there were several, and in diverse green places!

Prior to these, **Mother's Day** was celebrated with panache, in a special 50th year program. The kindergarten students gave their all in word, song and dance, as the excited parents snapped photos and traded smiles. **Teacher's Day** was a special 50th year dinner. The occasion was formal, the food plentiful and the joy immense. Many



teachers were honored, with special mention to those teachers who were previously students of the CTI. Teacher's Day was part of a 50th anniversary week, so mementos were distributed to the teachers during the dinner, and to the students subsequently. During that week, there were presentations about the history of the CTI, highlighting the school's founding and its many

memories. One outstanding offering that week was a play about the schools of the past and the schools of the present in Lebanon. The comic and lavish play was presented by grade 11 and directed by Mr Elias Haddad.

We are happy to announce that the CTI was singled out for outstanding performance in the **Model United Nations**, as organized by the LAU. This is an activity that the

CTI secondary students are involved in every year. This time, the **CTI students, as a group, won the award for “creativity and vision in the eco-friendly competition.”** Moreover, the following awards were gleaned by the CTI students:

**Winner – first in Think Express:** Milad Mattar

**Winner – first in the eco-friendly competition:** Reem Saab

**Winner – diplomacy award:** Milad Mattar, again

**Winner – diplomacy award:** Elias Haddad

Their work was published, as well. We are proud of our participating group, whose research country was that of Haiti. And thanks to Miss Sahar Saba who supervised the progress of the group. Congratulations!

**The winners of the year-long reading project, as organized by the Lebanese Organization for Children’s Books, and followed up by Mrs Samaha, are:**

Anna Maria Khoury

Joy Moussa

Ray Char

They received their awards at a formal ceremony at the UNESCO palace. Bravo!

Sports activities are many, current and projected, now that the weather is more clement. The basketball and football teams are participating in an ongoing NDU tournament. At the school level, we have our traditional inter-class games. Coming up are several very special meets, to be announced in due time, including the long-awaited Dutch Athletes in Action vs (or with?) CTI! As for the **Taekwondo** tournament, which includes groups from all regions in Lebanon and was presented at the Murr Stadium, the winners from the CTI are:

**First position, nationwide:** Alex Loutfi – Chris Deeb – Michael Moussa – Kevin Ashkar

**Second position:** Giovanni Nassar – Angelo Hajj – Elie Wehbe – Geoge Saab – Joe Saade –

Matthew bou Malham – Rafqa Maria Jammal – Sharbel Keirouz – George Younis.

Good job! The team is coached by Mr Albert Nadde.



The **talent shows** this year (and we had three of them) had diverse offerings ranging from the trivial to the outstanding. First place went to a group of grade 11 ladies, and the prize was no less than a 12 megapixel camera, still to be awarded after further screening. More on this later.

The Haigazian University **environment conference** was even better this year. Several students from grade 10 had the honor to participate, and as usual they both enjoyed being there, and were good ambassadors of the CTI! Coming up, are the traditional **AUB Science Fair**, activities pertaining to reading week, outings galore, and . . . a very special dramatized workshop from **Saltmine**, England, about the use and misuse of the internet. Much more! Keep tuned!

It is common knowledge by now that during the Easter break a group of 41 people from the CTI traveled to **Prague**, Czech Republic, and are now back in Lebanon, safe, sound, and much much happier!

The trip, thank God, was a resounding success. A CTI alumnus told Dr Chris that Prague is the city to get lost in. This turned out to be very true for Prague is an outstanding city, where every building, every street and every shop is a beauty to behold. It is full of churches, museums and palaces – not to mention the innumerable souvenir shops that our students patronized from the very first hour in the city!



We learned that Prague is divided into several districts, including the Old Town, New Town, Lesser Quarter and Prague Castle District.



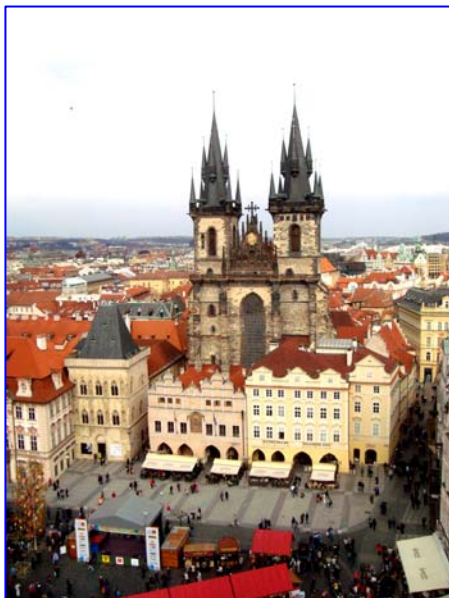
The Old Town still has not changed much from the Middle Ages, and we got to visit the famous Clock Tower. We were regaled there by an Easter Fair that was out of this world! The New Town is as old as the 1400's! Wenceslas Square and many monumental edifices were our share. We particularly loved the

Natural History Museum! The Lesser Quarter (Mala Strana) had an incredible Baroque church, the St. Nicholas. As for Prague Castle, we spent a whole day there, admiring the palace, the changing of the guard, St. Vitus and the Golden Lane – totally undeterred by the cold! One special day, we traveled to the UNESCO heritage medieval town of Kutna Hora, where one of the attractions was a macabre but reverential chapel – ask a student for details! We also got to see how money was minted in the past, and we . . . made



quite a few coins for ourselves, as well!

It was a blessing to be there, and we are glad to be back here. During the weeks after the Easter vacation, the talk of the school was the Prague trip. The pictures taken amount to the thousands, some of which are on Facebook. A few pictures of this memorable occasion are presented here. Our website has a few posted, and there will be more in our special 50th anniversary yearbook, this year.



Coming up: **Marvelous May** – a month filled with extra special activities. During this month, as well, we bid farewell to grade 12, the class of 2010. After the official exams, followed by a 50th anniversary commencement that promises to be extra spectacular, our students will be ready to face the world. We will miss you!

**For you to ponder:** Oh, how great is Your goodness, which You have laid up for those who fear You, which You have prepared for those who trust in You in the presence of the sons of men! (Psalm 31:19)

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