

LISA 4 U

Newsletter for Students, Parents, Staff and Friends

Spring 2015

Easter Essay Contest 2015

L.I.S.A. Library invites you to enter a contest to win a voucher and a chance to post your essay on LISA 4U. Just read one of the books

checked out from L.I.S.A. Library and tell us your thoughts in the form of an essay before the deadline of 8. March 2015. More page 12

Despite **Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead** lasting for more than two text-heavy hours, the audiences on all four occasions were captivated, making the experience unforgettable for everybody.



Dear L.I.S.A. students, teachers and friends!

Spring's just around the corner and along with it, we have released yet another issue of LISA 4U. Now that the summer term has started, it can happen that you're so busy that sometimes you don't even know what is currently going on in our school. Why is the wall in front of the RT suddenly painted blue? What happened to our website and its improvements?

Additionally, we have asked Mr. Kim to give us an insight into "the world of IB" and we have asked 4 alumni to tell us about their current academic life.

We hope you enjoy the read because the next issue will be around June/July, we wish you all a happy Easter!

■ YENA KEUM

What's Inside

German as a foreign language



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Currently 25% of the students at the LISA are attending German as a foreign language (DaF – Deutsch als Fremdsprache)

L.I.S.A. Library



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This library is made up by students and parents together, so our goals are to make the library a friendly place for reading.

USA Exchange 2014



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My name is Chloe and I am an exchange student from Oregon, USA. People always ask me why I decided to leave

Mascot Items



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Cheany Udeani received the prize for the idea of our new mascot from Mrs. Swords after Christmas.

Dear L.I.S.A. families,



Grade 6 has just returned from their exchange in South Africa, grade 2 had a wonderful time on their winter sport' trip, grade 4 has successfully worked on fantastic drama performances and grade 8 is busily preparing for their IB and RP exams in May. Furthermore, regular staff development training and motivated teachers continue to provide high quality education for your children. Hence, I have to say that I am very proud of being part of such a great team.

Moreover, behind the scenes there are many people working on the development of the L.I.S.A. as well as having to remain up to date with the many standards and requirements. Maybe some of you might have already noticed our new bright blue IB information wall on the third floor. There, Mr. Kim, our IB DP coordinator, will display all IB DP relevant information and also general information about the IB DP so that pupils, parents and visitors can gain more insight into the IBO.

Furthermore, we are very proud to have a new school mascot (see homepage: www.lisa-school.at) and a class set of iPads for class work. Additionally, our Social Studies teacher, Mrs. Calo, is busily working with classes and individuals to provide a creative, welcoming atmosphere for our IB learners. These are just a few examples of the many activities taking place behind the scenes! Other projects like PTO, ASC, Topic of the Year, Crash courses, etc. are still running and working really well.

I want to say thank you to all of you who support the L.I.S.A., be it actively or financially. It is this cooperation and collaborative work coming from all - pupils, parents, teachers and friends of the L.I.S.A. that make our school so special and successful and help us fulfil our vision: We open the gate to the world!

■ MAG. DR. ASTRID WANSCH

L.I.S.A. Express

I have been sending out the L.I.S.A. Express for about one year now. It contains important dates and information for each month. Unfortunately not all email addresses seem to be working. Please let me know in case you have not received the L.I.S.A. Express, so that I can update the email list: wf@europagym.at

Thanks,
■ MAG. DR. ASTRID WANSCH



Dear readers,

This edition has been dedicated to, amongst other things, our 5 year Diploma Programme evaluation visit in November 2014. We were very interested in how far the L.I.S.A. had met all the IBO standards and programme requirements. In short, the overall feedback of the inspection was very positive and acknowledged good progress. The visitors were strongly impressed with how we encourage our students to take the full Diploma Programme and the national final exam (the Reifeprüfung) at the same

time and how we manage to provide a national and international programme under one roof. We tried to make clear that the excellent results of our students in both exams are due to their willingness to work hard, the highly professional staff, and the excellent relationship within the school community made up of teachers, parents and students.

We are very proud to offer this dual programme not only to our international students, but also local students, regardless of their financial and social background. We are strongly convinced that teaching national and international students in the same classroom and preparing them for entrance to national and international universities together, makes our school a shining example of integration. We strive to prepare our students for a better understanding of cultural and religious diversity.

I want to say thank you to all the people of our school community who contribute daily to a peaceful and respectful study environment and foster a tolerant and global community.

■ MAG. GOTTFRIED JACHS, HEADMASTER

NEW 2015/16: New possibilities for international students

We are happy to announce that the LISA is now offering a new program for international students. Starting school year 2015-16 students with mother tongues other than German will attend a course system in grade 7 (age 16-17). They will have extra support in Crash courses, and a mother tongue and a German as a foreign language program. This new course system therefore also is a step towards individualization and we are convinced that this measure will not only further improve (the already great) IB results, but it will also make it much easier for students from other school systems to continue their studies in the IB Diploma Programme of the L.I.S.A.

L.I.S.A. is proud being able to offer a unique program that meets the needs of Austrian and international pupils and supports the individual skills of each pupil. For further information contact Mr. Kim, Mrs. Herzog or Mrs. Wansch.

■ MAG. OLIVER KIM

IB Information Wall

The IBO asked us during their last visit to reinforce how positive the IB DP is. This has thus given birth to another creative project at the L.I.S.A.: The IB information wall on the third floor where our



IB coordinator, Mr. Kim, will display all IB relevant information. In addition pupils can read more about their IB choices and learner profiles. We are extremely proud of the fact that we have been an IBO world school for 23 years.

■ MAG. DR. ASTRID WANSCH

German as a foreign Language

Currently 25% of the students at the LISA are attending German as a foreign language (DaF – Deutsch als Fremdsprache). DaF is offered in 8 differentiated groups, from beginners to IB German B Higher Level. All levels are based on the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR). The DaF-Team consists of four Teachers.

Every new international student sits a placement test in order to assess their level of German. The results of this test and a short interview determine which DaF-group is most suitable for their level. For students with a different mother tongue than German there is also the possibility to join regular German classes, if level of German is sufficient. Our main focus is to concentrate on the language development, therefore we aim to be as flexible as

possible and students are grouped or fast tracked, but we also provide extra support where needed. With languages skills in lessons there is also cultural, geographical and historical content. We focus on D-A-CH (Germany – Austria – Switzerland). Since the majority of DaF-students are from non-German speaking countries, we see it as important to help to integrate in our school system and Linz surroundings.

The IB Program: German Ab Initio and German B

For students who enter the L.I.S.A. in year 5 or 6 with no previous knowledge of German, there is the opportunity to study German at Ab Initio level. We also offer German Ab Initio for the IB Diploma. German B is offered both standard and higher level. This course also includes Literature.

Self-taught Program

It is important to our school that international students retain and study their mother tongue, therefore we offer the self-taught program. Students study their mother tongue both in school and independently. They are supported by an International students guide from school and a tutor also provided by the school or employed by the parents/guardian of the student. Students meet on a regular basis with their guide and tutor to discuss their learning progress. The end of each school year concludes with an oral and written exam (Muttersprachliche Prüfung).

The IB programme offers 55 different languages. Hence international students are able to study their mother tongue until graduation from school. This gives them a diploma that shows that their mother tongue language skills are equivalent to those students from their home country.

If students opt to do a self taught program for the IB, they choose their best language. This may not necessarily be their mother tongue, especially if students are e.g. bilingual. The self-taught Programme is offered at standard level. This IB Program is a literature course.

Further information on German as a foreign language and self taught program is available on the L.I.S.A. homepage.

■ M.ED. NICOLE HERZOG



Mission and Principles

Over the past few months, staff members have developed a five year strategy plan as well as a mission and vision statement.

We proudly present our L.I.S.A. VISION:

Open the gate to the world!

L.I.S.A. MISSION STATEMENT: Educating for life; establishing a global, open-minded, international, academic outlook.

L.I.S.A. PRINCIPLES: **'C' the L.I.S.A.**

Create- we are constantly developing our programme and offer a variety of cross curricular projects

Co-operate- we work with partner schools finding ways to improve both academically and socially

Communicate- we provide newsletters and magazines and keep parents, pupils, staff and friends of the L.I.S.A. informed via modern media to ensure everyone stays up to date

Colour- we have pupils and parents from 50 nations speaking 23 different languages, which makes daily life and special events like FACES colourful and unique

Care- we use IB Creativity, Action & Service hours (CAS), the walkathon and other events to make our pupils aware of their surroundings and help them to develop a good social conscience

Challenge- we support our pupils and help them develop their individual skills in order to meet their full potential

Collaborate- we support each other by providing crash courses, the L.I.S.A. library, CAS helpers, Guardian Angels, the Parent Teacher Organisation (PTO), the monthly L.I.S.A. Tea and much more

C IS FOR COMMUNITY, C IS FOR L.I.S.A.!



The IB Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Ask Mr. Kim!

Isabella, 2L asks:

Is the universe endless?

We now know, that the universe is not endless. Many years ago, people thought that the universe might be endlessly large. But we now know that this is not so. It does have a limit, and it is growing bigger. But it is not endless. Some people thought that the universe might give us the impression that it is endless, even though it is not. They thought that if you go out on one side of the universe, then you come in on the other side. It is like going around in a circle. You then think that it never stops, but in reality the circle is also not endlessly large. But even this idea might not be correct.

It was Heinrich Olbers (1758-1840) who came up with a really interesting idea. He asked himself the question, why the sky is dark at night. If the universe were endless, then there would also be an endlessly large number of stars in it. And if there are an endless number of stars in the universe, then you should be seeing a star everywhere you look. The whole sky would then be filled with stars and the sky would be as bright as the sun itself, during day and during night. Now, we know that this is not the case because it is dark at night. Therefore the idea that the universe is endless must be wrong. As a matter of fact, did you know that you can see to the edge of the universe with your eyes? You do not need a telescope for this. The edge of the universe is the black area between the stars.

Armin, 7M asked:

How could prehistoric animals such as dinosaurs become so large compared to species living currently and why don't we have such large terrestrial animals today?

The largest dinosaurs were about 10 times larger than the largest mammals living today. Dinosaurs could not control their own body temperature (they were "ectotherms" or cold-blooded). We humans are warm-blooded and always keep the body temperature close to 37°C, but the temperature of the dinosaurs changed with the outside temperature. When it is colder outside, then the body temperature of the dinosaurs became also colder, and the other way around. At the time when the dinosaurs lived, the temperature was much higher than today. Cold-blooded animals can become much larger when the temperature is higher, because they do not have the danger of over-heating. Larger mammals have problems getting rid of too much heat and would therefore overheat too quickly. The large dinosaurs had a much lower problem of over-heating.

Now, there is one next question: if mammals cannot become large because of the heat problem, why do other cold-blooded animals (crocodiles, lizards...) grow to the size of dinosaurs? Some scientists believe that this is due to the fact, that lizards have their legs stretched out to the side and that they cannot carry the heavy weight of a dinosaur. By being smaller and close to the ground, the lizards can also be warmed much better by the ground.

What is the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma?

The IB Diploma is a program, which prepares you for university. You have to take exams in six subjects, write an Extended Essay and do the CAS Program (Creativity, Action, Service).

How are the IB Diploma and the Austrian Reifeprüfung (Matura) linked?

Students who have German as a mother tongue are able to complete both of these Diplomas. Students who have a different mother tongue will only do the IB Diploma.

Is there a disadvantage if you only have the IB Diploma, but no Matura?

For university admission in Austria there is no difference. The Austrian Ministry of Education has released a recommendation to the universities to accept the IB Diploma. If you want to study in universities abroad, then the IB Diploma is highly recognized, because it is so well known, much better than the Austrian Matura, because there are simply many more people with the IB Diploma who study abroad.

How many schools worldwide offer the IB Diploma?

The number of schools is becoming more and more every year. In 2013, there were 2461 IB Diploma schools world-wide. These schools tested over 70000 students in 2013 and they took over half a million exams.

What do I have to do to get the IB Diploma?

You just attend the L.I.S.A., choose the courses that you want to take for years 7 and 8 and we will prepare you for the IB Diploma. We are offering a wide choice of different IB subjects to choose from.

What are the advantages of the IB Diploma?

The IB Diploma gives you advantages both inside school and later on at university. Students who did the IB and now study at university tell us that the IB really helped them a lot. They now know how to write research essays without problems, they know how to self-organize and they know how to deal with standardized test. But there are other advantages as well. One of the biggest advantages is that you have a much larger choice of subjects to choose from. Let me give you an example. If you like Biology a lot, then you can choose Biology Higher Level. If you like it a little, then you choose Biology Standard Level. The same holds true for Mathematics and many other courses. We offer Mathematics SL and Mathematics HL,

for example. Different people have different interests. The IB Diploma Program at L.I.S.A. therefore allows you to "individualize".

Do I have to do the IB Diploma?

All students who attend the L.I.S.A. have to choose IB courses. They are a part of our school philosophy. Some of the "normal" courses are already taught as IB courses. The English, German and Math classes, for example, are already IB courses.

What about the Austrian Matura? Can I also do this?

If you have German as a mother tongue, then you can also do the Teilzentralisierte Reifeprüfung (this is the new name for the "Matura"). There are two written exams (German and Math) and there is no separate English exam, because the IB Exam for English and other foreign languages counts towards the Matura.

How is the Matura different from the IB Diploma exams?

There is only one written Matura exam per subject. In the IB, there are two sometimes three exams per subject. Now, this does have a big advantage, because your final mark does not depend on one single test only. You also have to write portfolios throughout the last two years and these points also count towards the diploma.

Is the IB difficult?

Good news! Most L.I.S.A. students pass the IB Diploma on the first try. As a matter of fact, we have had years when all of the students passed, and in most other years 95% or more made it at the first try. The world average is 80% pass. Students that do not get enough points for the IB Diploma only have to retake those exams that they did not pass, and not the whole IB. You have three possibilities to try. You do not have to repeat the whole school year, of course.

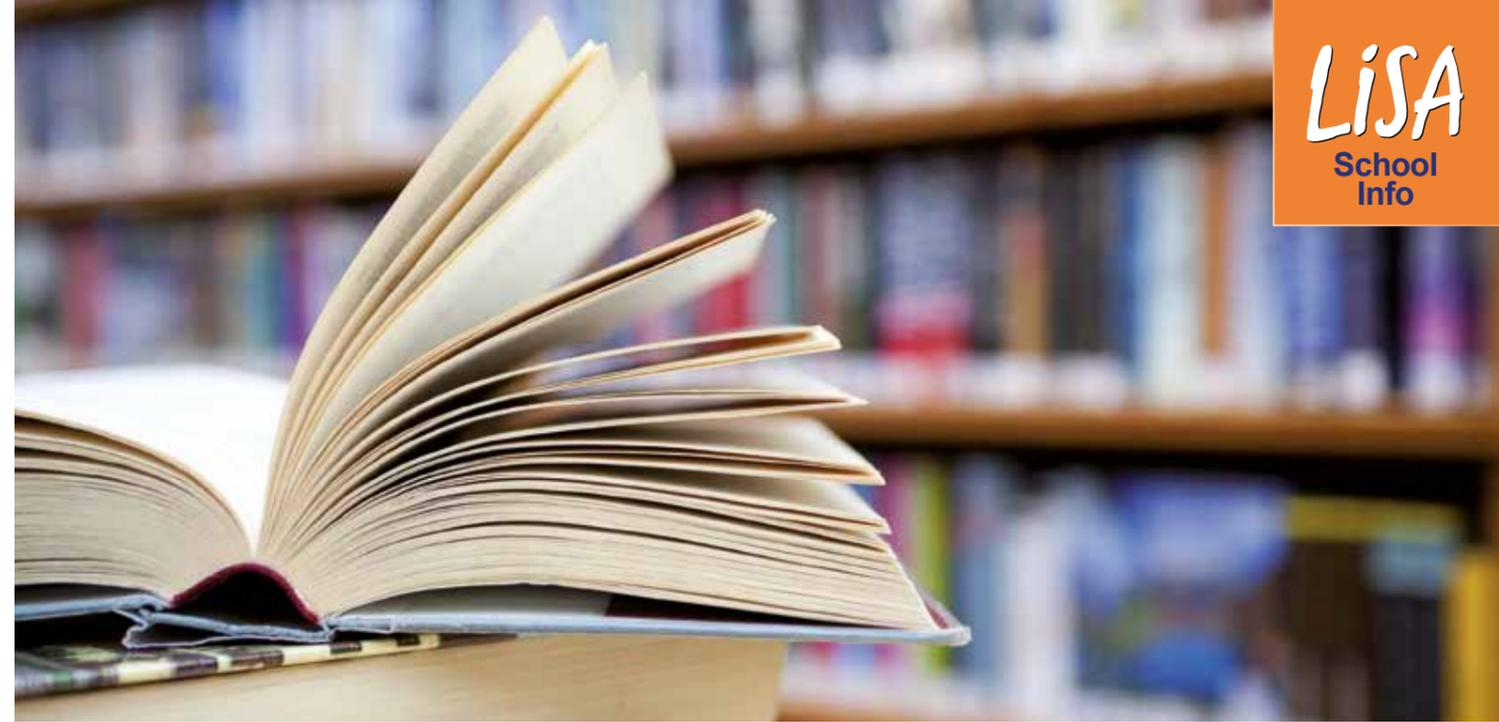
What is the Extended Essay?

All students who do the IB Diploma have to write an Extended Essay. The good thing here is that this essay can also be used to the "Vorwissenschaftliche Arbeit" (VWA) for the Matura.

What courses do I have to take for the IB Diploma?

All IB Diploma students have to take 6 courses: 2 languages, a humanities subjects, a natural science, math, and an arts (or another subject replacing arts). The L.I.S.A. offers many courses to choose from.

■ MAG. OLIVER KIM



The L.I.S.A. Library

As volunteers for working in the L.I.S.A. Library, we have many responsibilities. There are a lot of books just waiting to be sorted into the right shelves and of course students cannot wait to get their hands on the newest books. In order to keep the books in good shape, we have to make sure that the book covers are protected.

Scared of not understanding anything because all the books are in foreign languages, mostly English? No problem, there are many dictionaries :) ... Just kidding, actually there are multiple books at different language levels, ranging from Easy Readers to advanced literature.

So if you are interested in borrowing a book of your choice, do not hesitate and come to visit us in the L.I.S.A. Library on the 3rd floor at the end of the L.I.S.A. corridor. We would feel honoured to check out your book soon!

■ AMELIE GITSCH,
JANA TRAN,
ANNA WEISS,
FARRAH
FALLMANN, 7L



Soyeon Park

5 Questions about L.I.S.A Library Interview with Soyeon Park

We all have heard about the Lisa Library somehow, but could you tell us more about who's in charge of it and who else is helping out?

Ms Bettina Steinhauser is in charge of the L.I.S.A. Library. We have 4 CAS students from 7th grade, 2 voluntary 6th graders, 4 irregular participants from 2-4 grade and 7 parent volunteers including 1 professional librarian. Each student and parent who's involved in the library has their own project. That includes cataloguing and processing new books, wrapping and repairing books, classifying and listing, and promoting the library.

Since when are you in charge? Would you like to tell us more about yourself?

My name is Soyeon Park and I am in charge of the library since last December. I have 6 year old twin boys currently attending the ELC of L.I.S.A. Junior.

I received a master's degree of Library and Information Science in Florida State University. Along with the L.I.S.A. Library I am currently working in the library of Katholisch-Theologische Privatuniversität Linz.

We think of the LISA library as being relatively new, how did all of this start?

Four to five years ago Mr Mühlstein, Ms Schinko and Ms Funk initiated the "project" L.I.S.A. Library and shortly after the idea was born, some parents already offered their help on a voluntary basis to catalogue the piles of IB and donated books stored in a room at the end of the L.I.S.A. corridor.

What do you do to promote and expand the library? I've heard something about the contest, could you tell us more about it?

We organised the "2014 L.I.S.A. Library Christmas Raffle" and had great responses. That made us think about further projects we could initiate and therefore we launched the "2015 L.I.S.A. Library Easter Essay Contest". Students might have noticed small posters in front of their classes.

Do you have any final remarks about the library? What goals do you want to achieve in the future?

The L.I.S.A. library is not a splendid library with a huge collection. Rather, we try to make it a small but valuable library which is an excellent resource to support teaching and learning and we have up-to-date books to encourage love for literature. This library is made up by students and parents together, so our goals are to make the library a friendly place for reading and quiet chatting.

■ YENA KEUM



2015 L.I.S.A. Library Easter Essay Contest

L.I.S.A. Library invites you to enter a contest to win a voucher and a chance to post your essay on LISA 4U. Just read one of the books checked out from L.I.S.A. Library and tell us your thought as a form of essay before the deadline of **8. March 2015**.

Division & Rules

- Grades 1&2: Max. 100 words
- Grades 3&4: Max. 200 words
- Grades 5&6: Max. 400 words
- Grades 7&8: Max. 500 words
- should be the original work of the student.
- should include the name and grade of the student and the title of the book he/she has read.
- should be typed and in English.

Submission & Deadline

should be submitted by online (lisalibrary@europagym.at) or in person at L.I.S.A. Library (on the top floor during the big break on every weekday) **before 10:45 am of 8 April 2015**

Recognition & Award

- Winners will be each one from four divisions and awarded **10 Euro voucher from Buch Auhof**.
- Four essays will be posted on the next issue of LISA 4U.
- Winners will be notified on the **L.I.S.A. library bulletin board** (next to the teachers' room on the top floor) on **15 April 2015**

Disqualified if the essay is

- not about the book checked out from the library.
- not original work of the student.
- more than the number of words.
- not including student's name and grade, and the title of the book he/she read.
- submitted after the deadline.
- not typed and written in English.

For more information:
Please call Soyeon Park at
06769362382 or email to
alexsoyeonpark@gmail.com

L.I.S.A. alumni commentaries

“Hello guys, my name is Johannes Schatzlmayr, and I graduated in June 2014 from the LISA. I guess that some of you still remember me as your student's representative in the year 2012/2013. What am I doing now?

Well, not politics or something else highly sophisticated but I simply took a year off. I'm not enjoying a classical gap year abroad, but I decided to go for a „Freiwilliges Soziales Jahr“ in the Lebenswelt Pinsdorf. There I work with mentally or physically impaired people, who are additionally to their other handicaps deaf. This means that I had to start learning sign language and adapt to an entirely new surrounding. Here, performance becomes trivial and we simply try to support and sometimes also challenge our clients. We do practical work as cooking, basketmaking, simple pottery, repairing bikes or constructing bird houses but also spell names, try to learn first rules of arithmetic or practice using the train alone. Together we also go on excursions, for hikes or enjoy other activities. I certainly could learn a lot in these previous months and I guess there is a lot more to come. In the fall I want to start studying medicine and so I have started to study for the entrance exams already. To be honest, I'm surprised by how little I have to study in addition to what I learned anyways for my IB finals. Now, I certainly benefit a lot from the in-depth courses in the sciences I chose - it has really paid off.”

■ JOHANNES SCHATZLMAYR
GRADUATE 2014



Johannes Schatzlmayr

“To begin with, I will go ahead and say that it was not easy. However, looking back, it has helped me a lot in numerous various aspects of my life. It is easy to believe that highschool does not have much of a great role in your further career and yes, that is partly true. However, highschool period of your life is also one of the most important phase of your life. Taking this into consideration, how could high school not play a significant role in your career?

The reason why I recommend L.I.S.A. is not solely because of the quality of teaching. There are many schools who offer teaching of similar quality as L.I.S.A. What differs L.I.S.A. from other institutes is that it offers the circumstances for students to think differently and most importantly accept differences in life. Facing various languages through classes, friends and international trips from early ages on does help you. It does make you into a global person. Now where I know and feel that the world is getting smaller very fast, it makes me a different person to others because I have a broader understanding of cultures and people. Critical thinking is becoming more and more important nowadays and that is what one gets out of from studying in L.I.S.A.

If I were asked the question whether I would study there again, or send my kids there, I would gratefully grasp the chance.”

■ DOHOON KIM, GRADUATE OF THE YEAR 2012, STUDYING ENTREPRENEURSHIP AT THE FH VIENNA

“L.I.S.A. helped me to get a diploma valid in Austria even though I am a foreigner without the chance of taking the matura. L.I.S.A. enabled me to make friends from all over the world without leaving Linz, a mid-to-small sized European town. L.I.S.A. enhanced my English skills and polished it to degrees I can't imagine any high school in my hometown would. With the great focus on languages, L.I.S.A. broadened my horizons though always keeping my foot set firm on the ground: improve my English and teach me German without neglecting my native language, Portuguese. Regular meetings with pro-efficient speakers kept me in touch with my roots. L.I.S.A. first taught me to write scientific papers under an internationally accepted set of (not so) basic rules. Systematic brainstorming and outlining were also habits I only discovered once I partook some of the essay-writing workshops.

All in all L.I.S.A. was a well round high school period that provided me all the tools to engage the academic standards of a university life.”

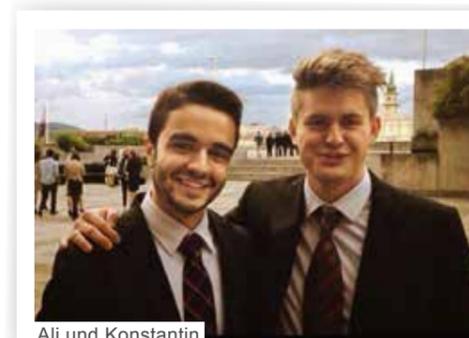
■ CAIO COTTA, GRADUATE OF THE YEAR 2012, STUDYING MEDICINE IN VIENNA



wikipedia, Foto: Poco a poco

From L.I.S.A. to LMU

We both started off with the 1M back in September 2006 and graduated in June 2014 from the L.I.S.A. with excellent achievements. We share a common dream since we befriended: studying Medicine. In pursuit of our aim, we chose specific IB subjects such as Chemistry, Biology, etc which aided our interest.



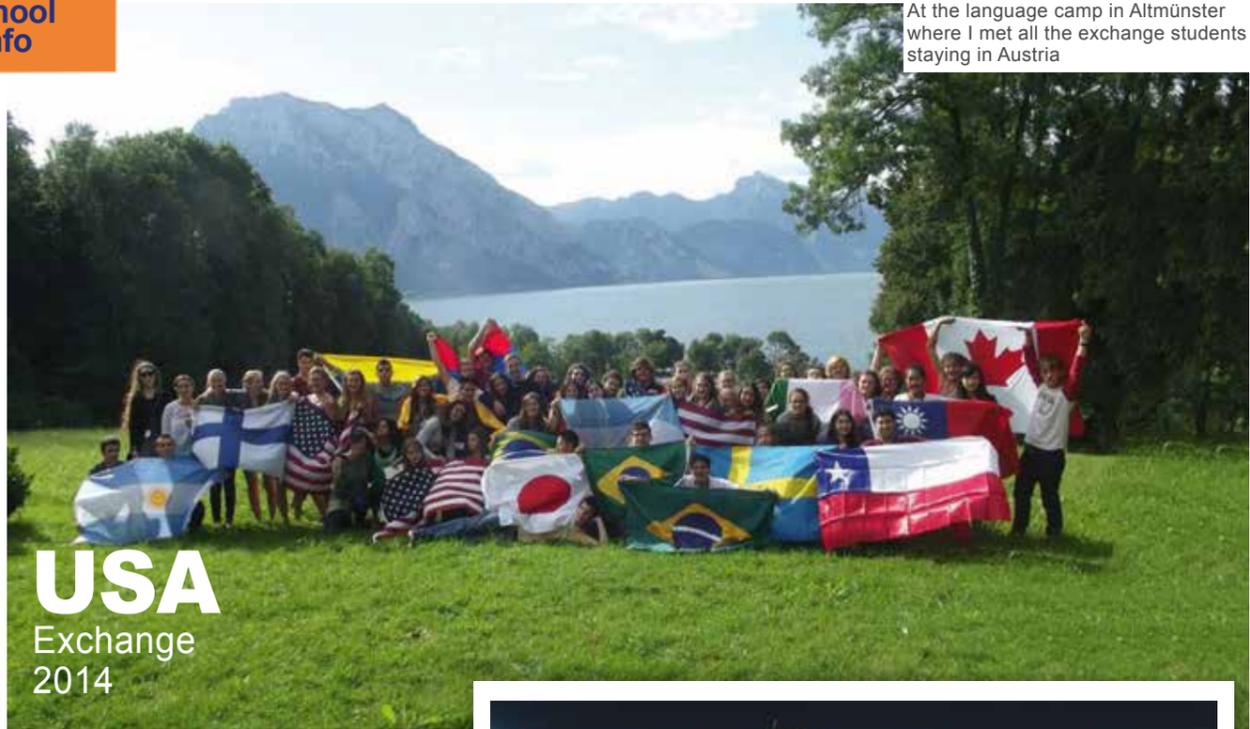
Ali und Konstantin

During our last months at school we had to choose where we would apply: Konstantin preferred Vienna and I wanted to go to Graz. Whilst applying for those universities, we also thought about applying for the Ludwig-Maximilian University of Munich. Eventually we never managed to study sufficiently for the Austrian admission test due to time issues. However, with an average grade of 1.0 & 1.1, we got the university entrance approval on September 3rd, 2014 and started studying medicine in Munich on October 1st. Life dramatically changed for us – both social and academic. We had to take care of our own lives, buy food, do housework, pay bills and with that not being enough, we were also supposed to study for exams. Pretty much act as a full grown adult. Back in spring 2014, whilst we were studying for our IB exams, we all told ourselves that this surely must be the most academically difficult time of our lives. Never had we been so wrong. The first term of Med school in Munich is one of the most difficult of all – designed to further screen students. In the first month 70 students quit. Now - at the end of the first semester -approximately

870 of the original 980 students are remaining Exams were numerous and tough. Subject matter was extensive, with 300 pages of anatomy per exam not being a rarity. Examiners were, not like in school, harsh and unforgiving – trying to test our expertise to the highest detail. In this case “survival of the fittest” is not an exaggeration. We can surely say that those four months were among the most difficult of our lives, but also one of the most enjoyable. Medicine is a beautiful study full of new experiences, like dissection human corpses for the first time and not trying to faint, or studying the subject, learning the symptoms and trying to come up with reasonable diagnoses when confronted with similar cases in university and even on the streets. These examples may be just several reasons why medicine is by far the most popular course. We love it and we know that it was the right decision.

■ KONSTANTIN KLAMBAUER (18) & ALI BEHESHTI (19)
GRADUATES OF 2014

At the language camp in Altmünster where I met all the exchange students staying in Austria



USA
Exchange
2014



My name is Chloe and I am an exchange student from Oregon, USA. People always ask me why I decided to leave behind my family and friends to go live in a foreign country for a year but I think that's a stupid question because why wouldn't you?!

Your family and friends will be there when you get back and in the mean time you get to learn a new language and culture, make new friends, and experience lots of things that you wouldn't normally ever get the opportunity to experience. People also always ask why I chose Austria and for that I also don't really have an answer. When I signed up for the Rotary exchange program I had absolutely NO IDEA where I wanted to go, and 3 months later when it was time to choose I was faced with a long list of countries that I didn't know a whole lot about, and still no clear idea of what country I wanted to spend a year of my life in.

I ended up picking Austria because I wanted to learn German (I know, I know, there's a dialect) and because I had absolutely no idea what it was like. The only thing I knew about this lovely little country I can now call home was that the Sound of Music came from there, and I was completely heartbroken when I arrived and discovered that all Austrians don't run around in dirndls and lederhosen and sing in the mountains. However, I soon found

out that Austria really isn't that much different than where I live in the USA. The culture is pretty similar so it wasn't that difficult to adjust. Except for the lack of gigantic trucks and American flags and the crazy dialect German that I was being bombarded with, I felt practically at home.

Of course there were some things I had to adjust to, such as school going until 5 or 6 o'clock (what the hell Austria?!) and sports not being associated with the school the way they are in the US. I also was used to having the freedom to drive and that was always my mode of transportation so it took a bit to adjust to relying on public transportation all the time. I never expected that I would have to wear different shoes in school than I would wear outside and I actually didn't believe it at first when I was told I needed "school shoes". I was also shocked at the amount of young peo-

ple that smoke in Austria because in the US there is such a negative stigma around smoking, and here it is so normal.

So far I have been in Austria for over 7 months and I have been able to do such a large amount of things in what is really a small amount of time. I have travelled to Sweden twice, visited Switzerland (and saw my best friend from the US there), travelled through the Czech Republic and Germany, and have gone to many places throughout Austria; and I still have more to look forward to because I will be taking a trip all throughout Europe in May! I have made so many new friends, both from school and from the other exchange students in Austria, and I know that these

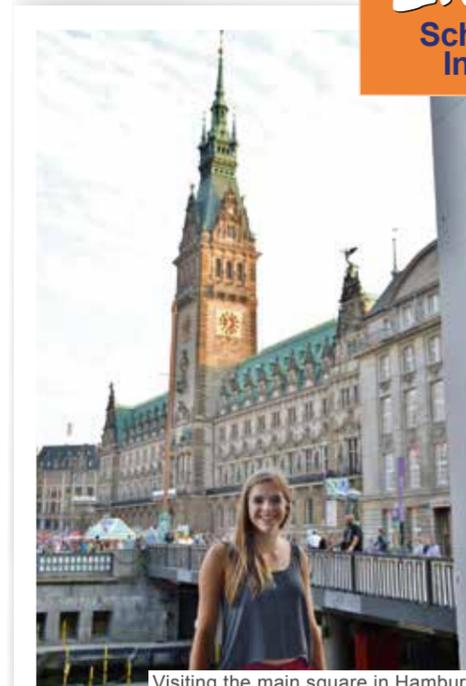


The view in Hallstatt was amazing

friendships will last a lifetime. I have experienced a lot of things I never even dreamed of doing, such as attending an Austrian soccer (football) game, going dog sledding in Sweden, sliding in salt mines in Hallstatt, and experiencing the holidays in a foreign country(s).

But of course exchange can't be amazing all the time because that would be unfair to the people who unwisely decide not to do it.

I miss my family and friends back home a lot, and that can be really hard. Sometimes I really just want to sit down with a burger and a taco and pet my dog. I also do have to attend school on a regular basis and do homework which is definitely not the highlight of my day, and a lot of times I get bored. Sometimes things don't work out how I imagined they would, and I often find myself getting tired of trying to speak German all the time. But despite these difficulties there is no doubt in my mind that I would make the same decision to go on exchange. I still have 4 more months to go in my exchange, but the time that I have spent here so far has been something I will never ever forget. From the trips with the other exchange students, to just hanging out with friends I have made so many memories that will make it that much harder to return home. Being an exchange student is truly a life changing experience, and I would recommend it to anyone who wants to have the best year of their lives.



Visiting the main square in Hamburg

P.S. If you have any questions feel free to ask me! I'm (most of the time) in the 7L!

■ CHLOE PAMPUSH, 7L



I went to the Austria vs. Brazil soccer game with my best friend from exchange

Etwas zur Seite legen wollen. Und dann?

Wir suchen für Sie eine Sparform aus, die zu Ihrer Lebenssituation passt und auf Ihre finanziellen Möglichkeiten abgestimmt ist. So haben Sie bald die finanziellen Mittel für spontane Extrawünsche parat.

Oberbank. Nicht wie jede Bank.

New L.I.S.A. Website in April

At the beginning of April the L.I.S.A. website will get a brand new look with some useful new features.

We have listened to pupils, parents and teachers in order to streamline the look of the website, making better use of the screen to provide only the most commonly used features such as the calendar, news and essential information.

Alongside this a new login menu will be introduced which will allow pupils and parents to access information on pupils' timetables, class dates, email accounts and more.



Good evening Katharina Victoria, here are a few options for you:



The new page will also be optimized to work better on tablets and mobile phones and will be completely bilingual (English and German) to further support communication

with Austrian and international families. We hope you enjoy and make use of the new look website.

■ PROF. FOULKES-JONES

Bildung darf keinen Bart haben.



Wir erzeugen Zukunft Die OÖ. Industrie

Die OÖ. Industrie unterstützt Schulinitiativen tatkräftig.

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- Angebot internationaler Schulausbildung (IBO)
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www.wirerzeugenzukunft.at



Behind LISA 4U

Interview with Dini Hroß

Hello Dini, you're now into the third year of designing our Lisa 4U Magazine. We think it is time to allow us to know you and give us a little insight into your work.

Certainly. My name is Dini Hroß and I am a graphic designer with all my heart. Since 3 years, me and my husband are managing our own ad-agency "ad.hroß". We serve a broad spectrum of customers from different branches with all sorts of advertising material. Classic advertising, book- and catalogue-design as well as online media and commercial photography. Our emphasis however, is the culture-branch.

Is there something like a favorite customer?

We love all our customers :) However, we are very attached to the OÖ Kulturquartier. Not only by size, but due to the creative and charming spirit of this institution. The Red Cross, Freistädter Bier, Lange Nacht der Bühnen and Theater Phönix are or have been playing important roles in developing who we are now.

What made you say: "Ok, let's become a graphic designer"?

I've been sketching for most of my secondary school time so it was quite evident for me where my interests are. After graduating the HTL for Graphic Design in Linz, I started working at a number of ad-agencies in Linz.

And now the LISA 4U Magazine?

I sort of slipped into this. I have been approached to revitalize the L.I.S.A. Logo, which seemed to have been an open topic

in the faculty room for quite some time. One leading to the other, a transparent, an invitation and finally the magazine which was scheduled for three issues per year. Working with students, their ideas and open attitude brings a very welcome fresh breeze into my daily routine.

How long does it take to complete one issue?

After the editorial deadline (receipt of all texts and images), I usually need two to three days. Together with the edito-



rial team we review the preview-issue, add missing content and fine-tune the design. The final revision consists of

sending all participating authors and responsible people the preview. With all final approvals at hand we're sending the data to the print-shop which delivers the magazines within around 10 working days.

What have been your highlights in the world of advertising.

Surprisingly, the rather small things like recognition and if you succeed in creating something that shines a bit longer in the very fast moving starry sky of advertising media. A little thank you, some design you're still proud of even after many years

or awards like the Ceasar which I thankfully received twice.

Thank you for the interview and would you please have some finishing words for us?

I hope the LISA 4U project is there to stay, which highly depends on motivated and dedicated students, as well as support from teachers, parents and sponsors. I think it's a valuable experience for all and all worked out very well so far.

■ ELSA & HANNA HROSS, 4M



Dini Hroß, graphic-designer with over 20 years experience in leading agency positions. Mind of ad.hroß since 3 years. www.adhross.com

Parent Teacher Organization Board 2015 Looking for Help

2015 PTO Board

- The 2015 PTO school board is
- Hedwig Beuer (child 2L)
- Barbara Gitsch (children 3L, 5L, 7L)
- Jennifer Preschern (child 1L)
- Claudia Salzbrenner (children 4L, 8L)

What is the Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)?

- Improves cooperation between parents, teachers and students
- Nurtures an international environment
- Organizes extracurricular activities

On-Going Projects

- LISA Tea: Opportunity for parents to socialize and exchange information
- Welcoming committee for new international families
- Supporting the topic of the year (e.g. LISArts Program)
- Organizing After School Clubs
- Supporting L.I.S.A. Library
- Sponsoring Committee
- Organizing German and English classes for Parents
- Walkathon Committee
- Support for LISA 4U Magazine
- Supporting the L.I.S.A. summer event

Goals

- Enrich the school community
- Involve families
- Broaden the impact of the PTO

If you would like to be more involved, please contact one of the PTO representatives or email us at pto@europagym.at. We look forward to your participation and input.

All are invited to attend our next PTO meeting

April 15, 2015 19:00

Gasthof Luftner, Klausenbachstr. 18, 4040 Linz

Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead



brother, the king of Denmark, to find out why the latter's son, Hamlet, is behaving so strangely. Trying to accomplish their task, Rosencrantz and Guildenstern stumble through Hamlet, pondering, amongst other things, the law of probability, the nature of theatre, life and death, while the events take one turn after the other, heading for the seemingly inevitable end...

As an 8th grade student, this production provided me with a much-needed balance to academic life. I started rehearsing with Viktoria Voller

During the first week of school after the winter holidays, you might have seen some strangely clad people roaming school. I can reassure you, nobody has invented a time-machine during Physics class and visited the Elizabethan era, these students starred in *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead*, a modern look on *Hamlet* by Tom Stoppard, directed by Professor Mary-Katherine Stickel and myself.

In short, the play regards Shakespeare's famous *Hamlet, Prince Of Denmark* from two minor characters', Rosencrantz and Guildenstern, point of view, showing how they have no control whatsoever on the events. They are instructed by Claudius, who murdered his

(7M), who interpreted Rosencrantz, and Yovo Nikolov (also 7M, Guildenstern), back in October, and the three of us sacrificed a number of afternoons for this production, but seeing it come to life this month, it was all worth it. Despite *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead* lasting for more than two text-heavy hours, the audiences on all four occasions were captivated, making the experience unforgettable, smiling even when things did not go quite as planned. It was simply magical watching the actors breathe life into this play.

I believe I should not miss this opportunity to say thank you to everybody involved with the production. First and foremost, Viktoria and Yovo, who are both wonderful actors and

did a great job interpreting their characters, making my life easier and a lot more fun. Of course, I also need to thank Prof. Stickel for giving me this opportunity, an opportunity an IB student could only dream of. I should also thank Mrs Ellison-Kempf, Mrs Jacyszyn, and Lukas Zangerl, a fellow student from 8L, who did a marvelous job managing the sound, the lines, and the sound, as well as Erika Oniga from 6M, who really outdid herself with the make-up. Not to be forgotten is Denys Savchenko, who designed and created the awesome barrels from act three, and also took the pictures you



see (and around 700 others). Thank you also Severin Standhartinger, 8L, for designing the poster for the production. A special shout-out to Veronika Gataric, 6L, and Bogdan Savchenko and Niklas Krabb, 6M, who all performed all four times, jumping in for colleagues who fell sick. Last, but not least, thank you so much 6L and 6M for four magical performances!

■ PASCAL SALZBRENNER, 8L



Mascot Items

Cheany Udeani received the prize for the idea of our new mascot from Mrs. Swords after Christmas. The items are being sold on the 3rd floor every big break: lanyards 2 €, badges 1.50 €.



Mrs. Swords and Cheany Udeani



Book Review

FIGHT CLUB
by Chuck Palahniuk

"Tyler gets me a job as a waiter, after that Tyler's pushing a gun in my mouth and saying, the first step to eternal life is you have to die."

With these words commences one of the most absurd, bizarre, tragically comical, and profoundly disturbing books I have ever held in my hands. Nobody really knows what Chuck Palahniuk's *Fight Club* is actually about, and it is indeed hard to describe the plot without giving away too much. Basically, the nameless narrator has some serious psychological issues, which get him involved with a man named Tyler Durden. He is subsequently pulled into an underground fight club and soap making scheme, which later escalates into a sort of anti-capitalistic do-



Chuck Palahniuk Foto: Wikipedia, AlexRan

mestic terrorist organization. Chaos ensues.

If you like fun facts about explosives and don't mind violence too much, then this is definitely a worthwhile read for you. Also, it helps if you dislike society in general and don't have an aversion to mind-blowing plot twists and confusing...weirdness. But be warned, this is a book written as a response

to a publisher rejecting another novel for disturbing content. Palahniuk's aim was to get back at said publisher by disturbing him even more with *Fight Club*. So if you are more of a kittens-and-cuddles kind of person, I suggest taking up another book to read over the Easter holidays.

■ MAGDALENA HINTERKÖRNER, 7L

Atelier de Théâtre



le 23 février 2015

Comme chaque année la quatrième classe de la filière linguistique de LISA participe à un atelier de théâtre.

Encadré par une actrice professionnelle, Paloma Obispo, cet atelier de théâtre a pour but de favoriser la confiance des participants en eux-mêmes et leurs connaissances de la langue française.

Les activités commencent de façon ludique avec des exercices d'échauffement en groupe et de petits jeux de corps et de voix. Ils permettent aux élèves de prendre conscience de leur corps et de perdre leurs inhibitions.

Dans un second temps, l'atelier se poursuit avec la création des séquences à partir des thèmes de la vie de tous les jours. Les jeunes

eux-mêmes inventent des petits scénarios, apprennent et mémorisent leurs textes pour les ensuite interpréter devant leurs camarades de classe.

Paloma soutient les élèves en travaillant sur la prononciation et l'intonation et les aide à faire naître les personnages qu'ils ont créés.

Pour les acteurs la scène devient un lieu d'apprentissage et d'exploration où le groupe - l'enseignante, les professeurs de français et les autres élèves - joue un rôle de soutien et d'écoute.

L'atelier de théâtre se termine avec l'interprétation musicale et scénique d'une chanson.

Paloma partage avec les jeunes son expérience d'actrice et de réalisatrice et les récompense avec une vidéo des scènes enregistrées.

■ 4L



Jerry Jacobi

On a Friday in December, a very funny comedian came to our school: Jerry Jacobi. The 2L and 2M had the privilege to experience him. His jokes are very funny and he integrates the audience, which I like very much. He and his wife are also very good musicians, he plays the guitar and she plays the violin.

This is a statement from a pupil of the 2L: "Jerry Jacobi has a great job. He has a good sense of humour and is very funny."

I hope he will come again next year.

■ 2L





Marilena in action

„Talking volleyball“ Interview with Marilena

Hi Marilena. You are our volleyball “expert” here. So maybe just quickly introduce yourself to our readers.

Hey! I’m Marilena; I’m 17 and a student of the 7m class.

Let’s start right away, shall we? When and where did you start playing?

I started playing almost seven years ago in a club called ADM. ADM stands for Auhof Dornach Magdalena and it’s not only a volleyball club but also offers swimming and rhythmic gymnastics courses amongst other sports.

Why volleyball, though?

The first sport I practiced for real was actually gymnastics (for 6 years!). I first tried out volleyball when I was still in primary school, but I was by far the youngest on the team and did not really feel comfortable. So



U15 Kader 2015

when I changed to the Europagymnasium Auhof, I gave it a second try. I was a bit older and they then offered a practice for my age group. I probably fell in love with the sport when I saw what a big influence everyone on the team has and how important every single player is to achieve good results.

You play in some leagues, correct? Maybe you want to explain how that works.

I do play in the U17 and the U19 team which are the junior teams of Upper Austria as well as the first squad (Damenmannschaft) where we are currently trying to hold ourselves in the second “Bundesliga”.

That’s impressive. So how often do you train for that? And how often do you play games?

I go to practice three times a week and with the “Bundesliga” team we have a game almost every weekend. The junior leagues are played in little tournaments where one always plays two opposing teams on one day. Usually those tournaments are set approximately once a month. It only happened twice this year that a U17 game was set the same day as a 2nd “Bundesliga” match.

What’s the best thing about volleyball, in your opinion?

That’s hard to answer. But one of the things I do love is that everyone always knows where he belongs and everyone has his place on the team.



U19 Vizemeister 2015

What was your favourite moment of playing volleyball for 7 years?

There is one thing, for which playing Volleyball helped me a lot and that was while I was in Costa Rica on a student exchange. I played there for 1 year. When I arrived my Spanish knowledge was almost non-existent, but I did fight hard to find a team with whom I could practice that year. The great part about playing over there was that although I found it extremely difficult to communicate, bonding with my team mates seemed like no problem at all. I felt that I experienced a lot of things, because I played Volleyball that I would have otherwise missed out on.

Any great successes you want to share?

My greatest achievements so far were winning the title of Vice Austrian U15 champion with the Upper Austrian squad (OÖ Kader) in 2013, this year when we obtained the title Vice Upper Austrian Champions



Bundesliga

with the U19 team and, last but not least, simply that I get the chance to play in our first squad.

Do you find it difficult to manage your time with both volleyball and school? Do you sometimes have to prioritize?

I am a superb procrastinator but that has little to do with volleyball. So actually I don’t think it is hard to manage all my school work while practicing thrice a week. I simply try to manage homework on the other days of the week or at 10 pm when I get home from practice.

What about the future? Can you still see yourself play volleyball in the upcoming 10, 20 or so years?

I definitely see myself playing volleyball in the future. Where I play will depend on the place I choose to study.

Alright, very last question: If someone wanted to start playing volleyball now, what should they do?

If anyone is interested in playing volleyball on a regular basis in a “professional” volleyball team, just come find me in 7m or check out our team on Facebook under “Union ADM Linz Volleyball Damen”.

Thank you very much for taking the time to answer all of my questions. All the best to you and your team!

No problem. Thanks!

■ SANDRA KREINER, 7M

Skiing Days

From the 23rd to the 25th of February I went on skiing days with my class, the 2m. Together with the Kepler classes 2B and 2C and also the Lycée class 2F we drove to the Mühlviertel by bus to go skiing on the Hochficht.

Immediately we began unpacking our ski equipment and we headed out on the slopes. We were separated in different groups from 1-9. The people in group 1 are those who could not ski at all and in group 9 were those who could take part in skiing contests. As someone who has never skied before it was quite difficult to get started at first. But because I was in the beginners course an instructor taught me how to ski. After several tries I could already ski. It was really fun!



www.hochficht.at



www.hochficht.at

The building was very big and there were lots of things you could do in your free time, for example play table tennis or chat in the aula with your friends. The food was Ok but the breakfast was delicious. Every morning we could choose between buns, yoghurt, cereals and much more. Some rooms had two floors but not everybody got a room like this. I shared a room with Helene, Linda, Catherine, Anna and Katharina. My roommates and I didn’t like

that you could only shower with cold water, which was not very pleasant after a long day outside in the snow. Every evening we played a lot of games together. I enjoyed it very much, especially playing Wizard.

On the last day everybody was sad and wanted to stay longer. Luckily we came home with no broken bones and we all look forward to our next trip!

■ SARAH TRAN, 2M

LISA 4 U Team

Farah Fallmann
 Magdalena Hinterkörner
 Yena Keum
 Sandra Kreiner
 Karoline Leitgeb
 Ivy Lucier
 Laura Riedl
 Elena Royer
 Nora Setnes
 Jana Tran
 Viktoria Voller
 Anna Weiß
 Magdalena Zeithofer

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Magazine Information

LISA 4U - The magazine of Linz International School Auhof will be published three times during the school year.

The next issue will be published in June 2015. Please submit articles and pictures (highest quality) each in separate files saved as JPEG or TIFF format.

Submissions can be e-mailed to info@lisa-support.com with your name, contact information, title and date of your submission. All submission deadlines are 3 weeks before magazine publish date.

Disclaimer

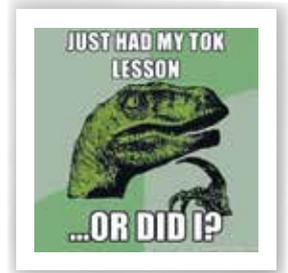
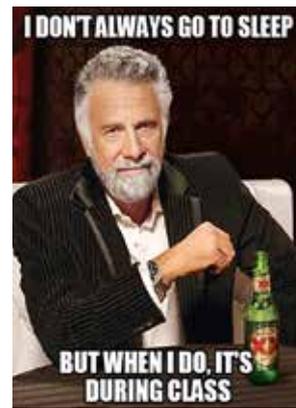
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Thank you

Many thanks to all staff, parents and students, who have provided photos, articles and advice.

Your opinion counts

Please submit any comments on the magazine, content or photos to info@lisa-support.com.



„Wir vertrauen auf unsere Erfahrung, wenn es um Entwicklungen für morgen geht.“

Thomas Kurz, Project Manager for Material Development, Österreich

Wir sind heute schon im Kleinen dem auf der Spur, was morgen auf den großen Anlagen weltweit Standard sein wird. Es ist diese ruhige Kraft, diese Liebe zum Detail, die uns alle ausmacht. Wir nehmen die Zukunft in die Hand.