

LICEO SCIENTIFICO
ENRICO FERMI
AVERSA

5th Edition

Breaking Views



****INSIDE****

Creativity : Skill or Talent?

ART

SPORT

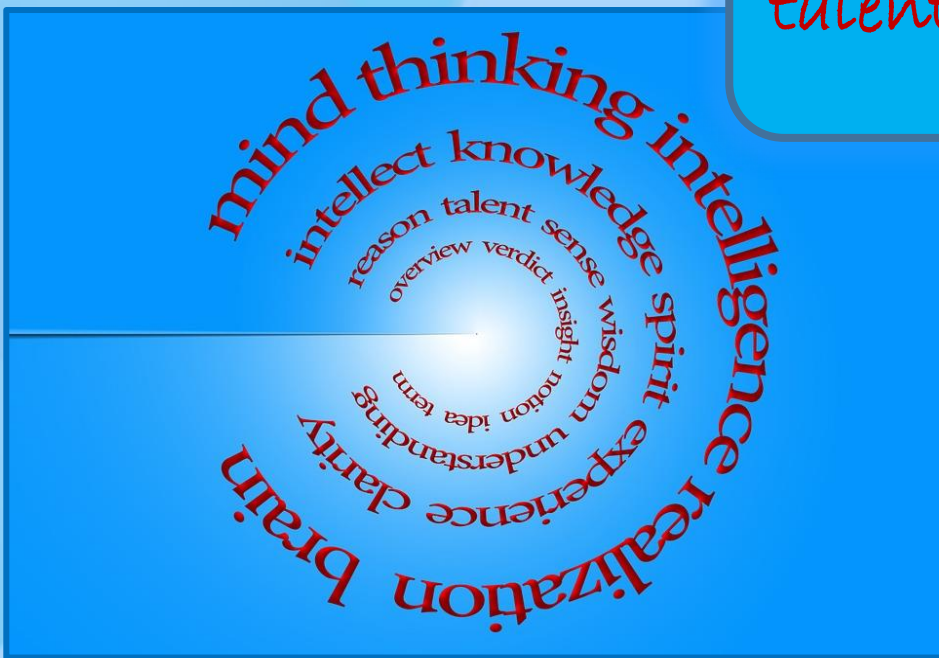
MUSIC

WRITING

Scouting talents and creative young people in our school : ready for a challenging hunt on the new edition of

BREAKING VIEWS ?

Is creativity a talent or a skill?



What is creativity exactly? Is creativity a talent that's inborn or it's a skill that can be learned, practiced and you can become an expert of? Part of the problem is how creativity is defined by many. Actually, creativity is the use of imagination and original ideas to solve problems. Creativity is a capability that can be learned and a skill that can be developed, given the right conditions, like motivation or incentive. **Talent is a natural aptitude or disposition of a person in a certain field**, a spontaneous inclination for something that makes him special and particularly gifted. Probably creativity can be learned and taught and can be lost if not trained or motivated, but a talent is never lost, it is rather wasted if not valorized. Each of us has got surprising potentialities as many scholars like Rudolf Steiner and Maria Montessori confirm. The concept of intelligence is not uniform, it is something fluid displaying several shades and aspects. But, is it possible to educate to talent? Firstly, it is essential to recognize the potentialities and the talents that a child, a boy or a girl possesses. Sometimes **it is hard to be able to 'read talents'**, a special sensibility is needed to identify a talent. The second step is to cultivate this talent and give complete freedom to children and guys to follow their path. Talents are countless, mysterious and unpredictable. Everybody during the process of growing, builds up their identity and define their own project of life. If they are left free to act and follow their nature, they will be able to realize themselves pursuing their talent and offering it to the others.



Everyone is a talent and talent is no more than creativity combined to ability by passion

BREAKING VIEWS is going to challenge all the students to explain their passions, talents and creativity.

Let's have a look at old talents and discover the new ones !

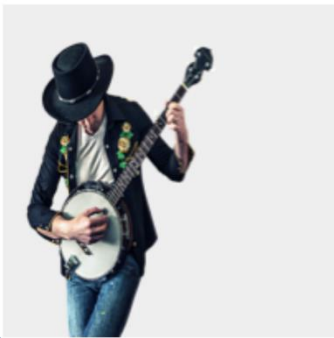
PAINTING



DANCING



WRITING



MUSIC



SPORT

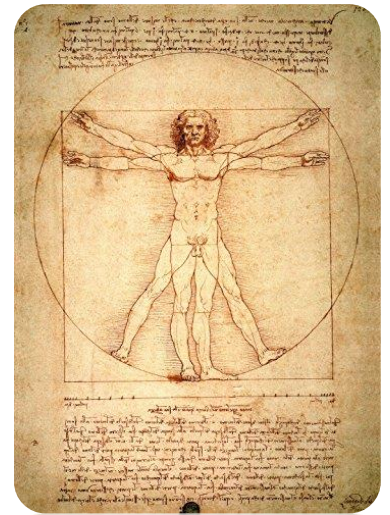
TALENTS AND MINDS IN HISTORY

by Giorgia Gaia Melucci 4 F

"Being young and talented, is like having wings": you'd better remember this... because we are about to start a marvellous journey through passions and creativity, talents and determination, dreams and opportunities. A journey which has no other destination than your heart, the one you truly believe in. But first of all, let's have a quick look at some of the greatest talents of history, those who succeeded in escaping from the limits of their time and become truly immortal...

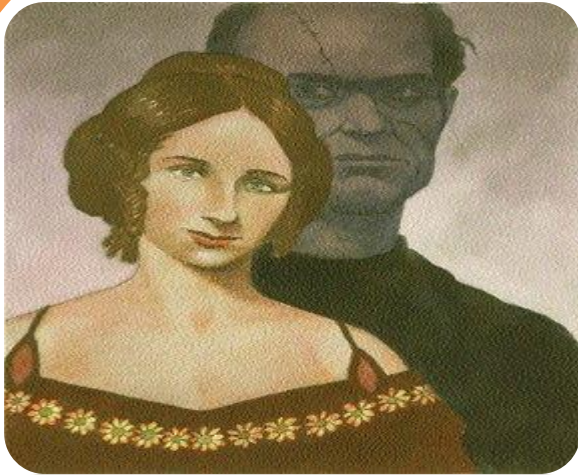


Almost everyone knows *Leonardo Da Vinci*, a genius of the Italian Renaissance whose mind was extremely creative, brilliant and eclectic. Even if primarily regarded as an artist and sculptor, he was also immensely talented as an engineer, scientist and inventor: we owe him the parachute idea, the flying machine, the studies on human body and nature, paintings and much more...



Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart is widely recognized as one of the best composers in the history of Western Music and as a intriguing personality. At three he picked out chords on the harpsichord, at four he played short pieces, at five composed music for a concerto. Can you imagine? *Was he really God blessed or just a hard-working boy?*

"THE MUSIC IS NOT IN THE NOTES BUT IN THE SILENCE BETWEEN"



Her masterpiece is such a masculine novel that when published anonymously, many people attributed it to her husband: *Mary Shelley* 's "Frankenstein" tells the story of a scientist who creates a nameless monster out of cadavers, a metaphor for the danger of hubris, the exploration of darkness and gothic. All in all, she was not a common woman and not easy to master even in a world ruled by men.

*"BEWARE...FOR I'M
FEARLESS AND
THEREFORE POWERFUL"*

Adored by Einstein and hated by many of the time, *Emmy Noether* is probably the most excellent female mathematician who's ever lived: she transformed our understanding of the future with the so called theorem and then transformed mathematics with her founding work in abstract algebra.



Vincent Willem van Gogh was a post-impressionist painter whose work, notable for its beauty, emotion and color, highly influenced 20th-century art. He struggled with mental illness, and remained poor and virtually unknown throughout his life. "*Starry Night*" is one of his best known paintings...



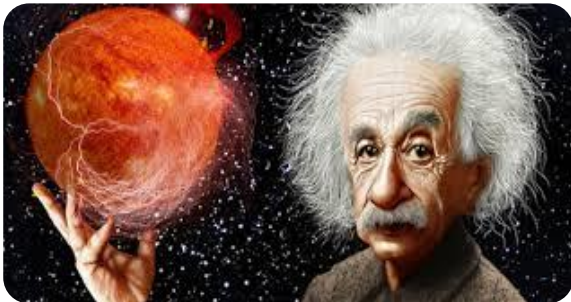


The Italian Renaissance sculptor, painter, poet and architect *Michelangelo Buonarroti* was one of the most influential and talented Western artists of all time. His talent was discovered when he was only 13; he was apprenticed to Domenico Ghirlandaio, the leading fresco wall painter in Florence. Here Michelangelo learned some of the basic painting techniques and also taught himself new skills such as sculpting. His talents were soon noticed by one of the most powerful families in Florence – Lorenzo de' Medici. Here, at de' Medici's court, Michelangelo was able to learn from the classic Masters and he became determined to

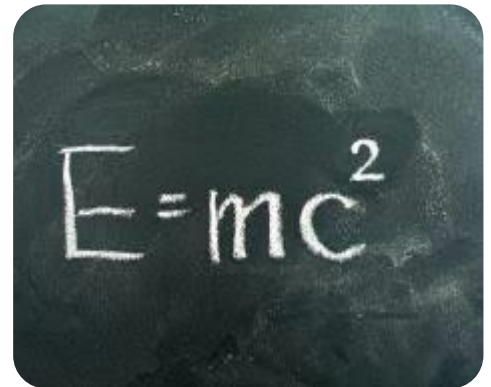


improve upon the great classics of Greek and Latin art.

Albert Einstein is widely regarded as a genius. Many researchers



have assumed that it took a very special talent and brain to come up with the **Theory of Relativity** and other stunning insights that form the foundation of modern physics. He was awarded the 1921 Nobel Prize in



Physics, "for his services to theoretical physics, and especially for his discovery of the law of the photoelectric effect".



Entrepreneur and businessman *Bill Gates* and his partner Paul Allen founded and built the world's largest software business, Microsoft, through technological innovation, keen business strategy and aggressive business tactics. In the process, Gates became one of the richest men in the world.

*"SUCCESS IS A LOUSY TEACHER. .
IT'S FINE TO CELEBRATE SUCCESS BUT
IT'S MORE IMPORTANT TO HEED THE
LESSONS OF FAILURE"*

From old talents to new talents

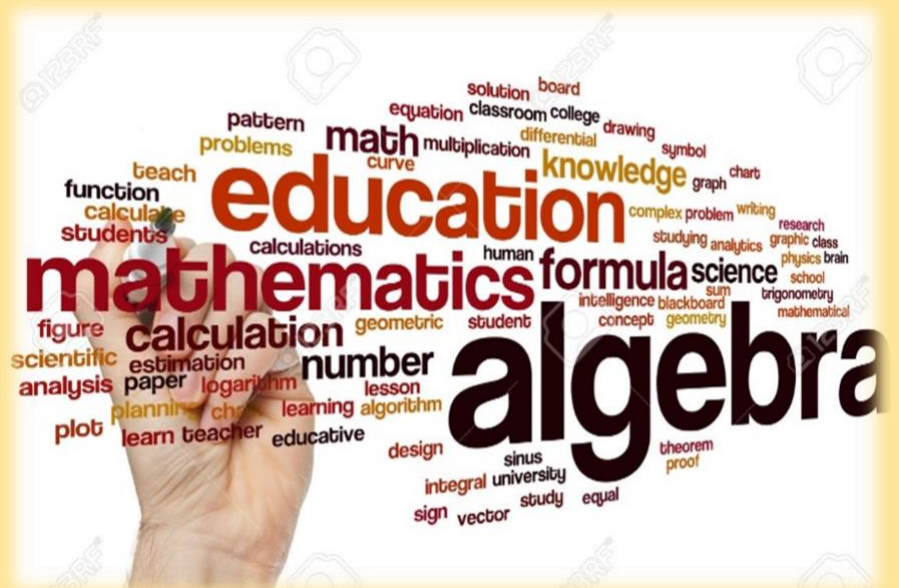
THINK LIKE A MATHS GENIUS



by Giovanni Silvestre 2C

Although I consider myself somewhat good in various fields, I'm convinced my most distinct talent is the comprehension of mathematics. In fact, I've almost never met any particular difficulties in this subject, while always having a strong passion for studying it. My passion for this field began at an early age, when I was at elementary school: bored of the topics taught at school, **I started studying maths on my own.** During that time, I started learning about Roman numerals, square roots, and very simple first-grade equations. **I also started surfing the web, searching for new material to learn.** During middle school I continued this habit, trying to learn second-grade equations and simple trigonometry. Generally speaking, I was often one month ahead of the school programme. Moreover, I began to read literature about the subject, from mathematicians' biographies to books about formulae's demonstrations. Today, I still try to expand my knowledge of this field by watching

videos on YouTube. Recently, I've also tried to connect my passion for maths to another one I have, which is programming. The two of them have many characteristics in common, and both require to think outside the box. In conclusion, my talent for maths combined with study have improved my school grades and helped me with my other hobbies. *Above all, I now see maths not as a boring subject, but as an incredibly fascinating world!!*



TALENT FOR MATHS

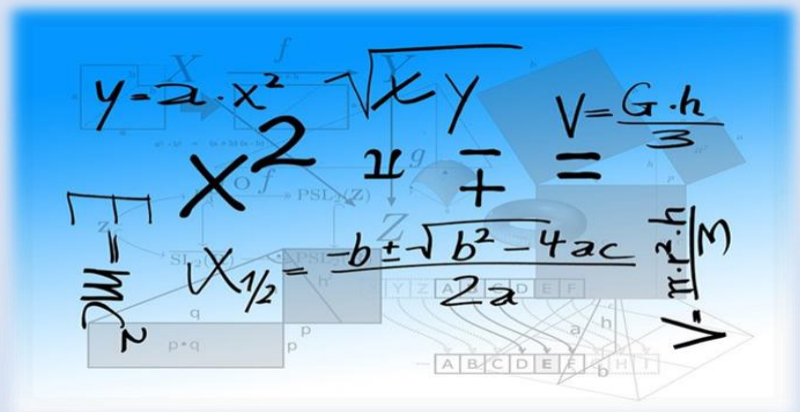
WHO SAYS THAT MATHS IS DIFFICULT?



by Giuseppe Donelli 2C

Since I was a child Maths has been my passion and I have never had difficulties with homework or with learning new rules or theorems ; I can't really understand why people find it so difficult. Since the first school years, it was my favourite subject and the one I did more quickly and with more happiness. It can sound strange, but Maths is never boring to me and every

time my teachers explain me something new it is always a challenge for me and, despite what people say, I am never scared by Maths tests. I'm not so self-confident, in fact I've never considered myself good enough, simply passion pushed me to do more and more to make my talent grow. When I started middle school, I **decided to participate in the Maths Olympiads** and I asked for a special permission to take part in it because I was too young for that category. The first two years I did not have impressive results, but in the third year, to my great surprise, I finally managed to get to the national finals of Milan at Bocconi University. I was really excited and, even if this was not enough to access the international finals in Paris , I managed to reach forty-fifth



on more than a thousand young people of my age. I am very proud of myself and of the result to which my talent and my constancy have brought me and I wish everyone to experience such a moment in their lives. According to my experience, I **feel to advise everyone always to cultivate their passions and talents** and never abandon them, but rather grow with them and with what they bring to your life.



Università Commerciale
Luigi Bocconi

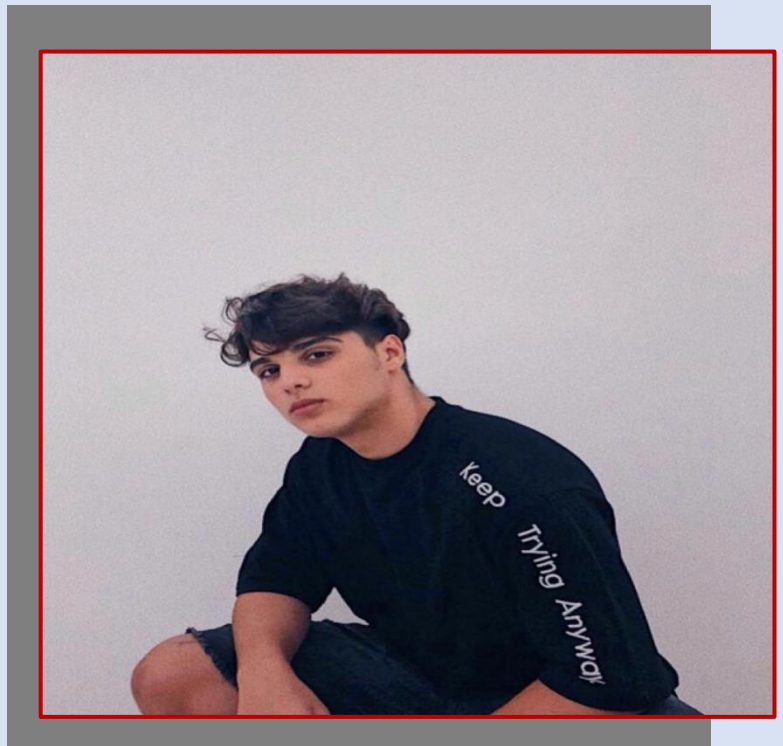
Giochi d'Autunno



NEVER TOO YOUNG TO BE A CHAMPION

Maria Gaia Coppola, 4^aF interviews Nicola Grandioso 3O

In our school so many guys express their creativity, knowledge and, sometimes, talents in a bunch of different ways. On 13th of November there was a maths competition called “**Giochi d'Autunno**” created by PRISTEM, a research centre of the Bocconi University in Milan, in which students from the 2nd to the 5th grade had to solve some problems in 90 minutes. The faster you are, the higher you score. They were divided into two categories: L1 for guys between 2nd and 4th grade and L2 for the ones in the last class. The competition was hard and the participants were excited and ready to “fight” but there were only 6 winners, three for each category. The L1 first place has been taken by **Nicola Grandioso, 3O** brilliant student, who was really enthusiastic about his achievement. “*I really didn't expect this success.* – he told us



– *I have always had this passion for maths and other scientific subjects and that's why I decided to try to participate in the competition.*” He says he needed a lot of preparation and succeeded in doing an enormous amount of exercises taken from the previous editions of the games. Nicola declares he's really happy he followed the suggestions he was given by his maths teacher who helped him to use logic together with knowledge, practice and competences. The young 6 champions are almost ready to take part in the next level of the game which is a competition with winners all around our region. We hope they'll bring us other victories and satisfaction and we wish them as much luck as possible!

DIGITAL CREATIVITY: a passion for coding

by Claudia Ferriero, Giulia Pergameno 3D












Our generation is called digital native but are we sure that the world of technology is so close to us? The answer isn't really obvious. In fact even if we are two sixteen-year-old girls, better known as Giulia and Claudia, at first we couldn't imagine how Information Technology (IT) is complicated.



However, it's three years since we discovered **CODING** in our school. Thanks to this subject everyday life seems simpler. Why? Through our coding projects we have understood how a big idea can be realized step by step. To program something, like a game or a digital postcard, **you must be able to combine your creativity with logic**: this is our favourite feature. Since we have worked together we have improved our communication skills; we usually agree upon an idea but if it isn't possible, we make a good deal. Our interest started last year when we made a Christmas postcard. It could seem an easy work but it wasn't true because it was one of **the first projects on Scratch**. Nowadays we can't forget the wonderful challenge that inspired us not to give up when some orders didn't work. There were a lot of sketches and for each of them we have got such unique satisfactions. The hard working was rewarded, it's worth it!

10 Reasons to Teach Coding

By Brian Aspinall @mrspinall

- 1 Coding allows students to create content, not just consume it. 
 - 2 Coding empowers students and gives them tools to express themselves in really cool ways. 
 - 3 Coding teaches storytelling with games and animations. 
 - 4 Coding is a place for students to take risks & fail safely. 
 - 5 Coding is inclusive & builds self-confidence. 
 - 6 Coding supports many principles of mathematics. 
 - 7 Coding teaches problem-solving and critical/analytical thinking skills. 
 - 8 Coding is a new type of literacy and will be a large part of future jobs. 
 - 9 Coding develops teamwork & collaborative skills. 
 - 10 Coding can help humanity. 
- BONUS:** Coding gives you **SUPERPOWERS!** 
- @sylvia.duckworth

CREATIVITY + LOGIC = CODING

TALENT FOR CODING

CREATING GAMES AND MAPS

by Matteo D'Alessandro 3D

I started my "journey" into coding 3 years ago when my teacher introduced me and my classmates to this new fantastic reality. I started to like this subject since the very beginning because here you can immediately see the results of your work. Given that I liked it, I went out of the lines and I started to create games with a platform suggested by my teacher. I continued to use this program for about 2 years then I realized that I wanted something more, so I started to look for more complex programs and I finally found it: it's called **GAME MAKER STUDIO 2**. With this program I coded many programs and games like "**shoot those zombies**", in which you are a guy with a gun and you have to shoot zombies to survive ; another game is "**snow wars**" in which you have to battle with your friends with snowballs .However the program I'm more proud of, is "**Benvenuti al Fermi**", that is a digital map of our school: Giuseppe Perrone and me went around the Liceo to take photos of the most

important places in the school and then we put them in the game. It could be very useful to people that want to visit the school on internet. We presented it on the occasion of the open day of our school and at Palazzo Parente.



MAKE LIFE EASIER AND FUNNIER WITH CODING

by Giuseppe Perrone 3D

My love for coding began 3 years ago when my teacher introduced us to this method of creating computer programs. We started with a simple program called "**code.org**" that, thanks to videos and games like **Angry Birds** , **Minecraft** and videos from people like Mark Zuckenberg, Steve Jobs and others, helped us to understand the "**computational thinking**" that is the starting point of coding. I didn't program as many games as Matteo, but the ones I programmed are very interesting and well developed. The one I prefer is a **remake of space invader** the famous games of the 90s and for that remake I used a more advanced program called "scratch" that is more complicated than code.org but not as complicated as the programme that Matteo used for his programme. I also participate in the open day at school presenting the game that I realized with him.

DREAMING ABOUT ROBOTICS

by Luigi Menditto 3D

My experience with coding started in the first year at high school. Thanks to coding I learned how to solve problems in a quick and efficient way. At the beginning I was a little sceptical about this subject as I considered it childish. However ,after some time I changed my mind because I finally understood that coding can support other subjects such as maths, physics and science and moreover, it encouraged my passion for the robotics. **My dream is to program a robot one day** and I think that this could be a good base for that. About the games that I have done I planned some games about Christmas and helped Matteo to create his wonderful games. I also had the opportunity to explain what coding is to some students and how to programme a game, it was quite funny and I also took part in the open and showed our work.

PROBLEM SOLVING AND COMPUTATIONAL THINKING

by Paolopio Piro 3D

I'm probably one of the students that likes coding the most. Actually, at the beginning I was quite unable with the programme but now I know the reason... . three years ago I didn't have a computational thinking but now I know that with this forma mentis everything is easier, all the subjects and daily problems as well. I've realized about 5 games , one was about Christmas and I was also involved in the open day at our school. I went to the Scuola Media "Gaetano Parente" to explain to kids what the coding is and to the Scuola Media " Giovanni Pascoli" to inform some teachers about this method . It was a quite good sensation to teach to teachers and then I also showed them the **cody maze**, a virtual maze from which you can escape scanning some codes and following some instructions. It was quite strange because our teacher didn't want to go back home because it was so much fun!!!



TALENT FOR MUSIC

A GUITAR MANIAC

by Luigi Pellecchia 4F

Music is my greatest passion and the way I express my feelings and emotions. As a guitar player, there is nothing better than being aware of creating something people can appreciate and share. As a matter of fact, just last summer I had the possibility to compose 3 songs for 3 groups. The music academy I attend arranged a musical event in July requiring only unpublished songs. I've been playing the guitar and studying music armonia for 5 years, so I was really excited . It was the opportunity to show my musical ideas. We started to prepare the event in March and I got the so called "demo" of the songs containing

bass, battery and the lyrics of the singer. I worked hard on them. Besides I had to keep in touch steadily with the members of the group, In fact we exchanged ideas during the week rehearsals. However, I kept enough freedom in the composition. I spent hours and hours trying out several guitar patterns and arpeggios and this helped me improve my skills. I played mainly blues at the time and, having to melt my style with the different young musicians, I definitely opened my music horizons. I approach the composition as if I were creating a plot of a book : it has to be dynamic and linked to a great final : a guitar solo. I make use of the so called "harmonic method" and I choose a key based on the sensations that I want to convey and organize my whole songs around it. I usually take inspiration from saxhophonists and jazz pianists. It's fundamental to listen to as much music as you can. I am a MANIAC! If I do not know a new album almost every day, I don't succeed in sleeping quietly. I admit, that's kind of weird. As for the feelings aroused by a song, the music composed must inspire emotions. When I completed the songs, I perceived the feelings that I was looking for. This is absolutely my greatest victory about the experience. The show went very well... What a satisfaction! I hope this is the first personal gratification of an endless series.

*"Music expresses
what cannot be
put into words
and what cannot
remain silent"*

V. Hugo



MUSIC AND PHILOSOPHY



“Musical notes are my words”

By Sara Sollutrone 4Es

Music has always been in my life. When I was four I started with singing lessons. But honestly, I was not very good. I would have preferred playing instruments rather than singing songs. And, however, I didn't have a very nice voice. So, when I was taking

lessons, I enjoyed watching my teacher playing the piano. My mom noticed this thing, and she decided to talk to my teacher about some piano lessons. We found out that she was a pianist, not a professional singer,

and she gave private piano lessons. That's how I started playing the piano when I was only six. **At the age of seven I had my first concert, in the Municipality of my town.** I was so excited that day: it was the first time that I ever played in front of a lot of people. I remember that I played all my pieces in a perfect way, but when I arrived at the last one, I forgot all the end of the music (it was Mozart, I still remember) and I played random melodies. What a shame! So, I arrived at this point, at the age of 17: I made so many concerts in my path. I also took



part in the ***Philosophy Festival in Greece***, and I won. This event **celebrates philosophy, intellect, culture and especially creativity and originality.** There were many contests, each of them was dedicated to several arts: theatre, music, poetry, dance and others. I participated in the music contest, and I won. Probably, I'm

not very good with words. Musical notes are my words!!



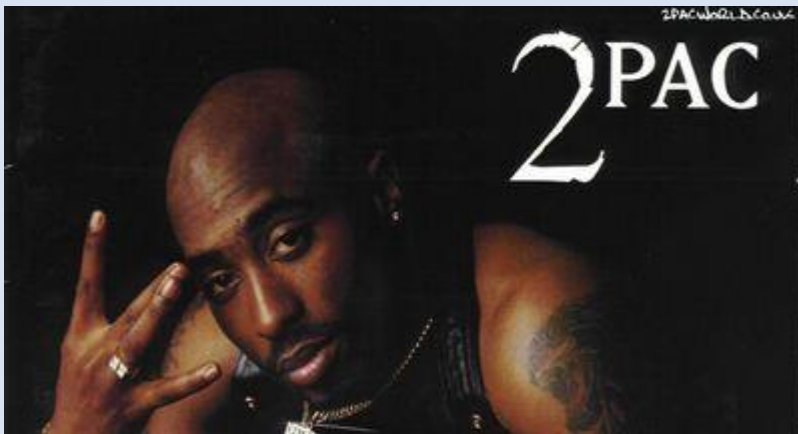
DEBATE
DIALOGUES
SYMPOSIUM
MUSIC CONTEST
THEATRICAL WALKS
ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

The story of a cursed music talent :

Shakur's Hip-Hop

by C.Tozzi , E Grassi , G. Grassi , F. Della Gatta , G. Papaccio , F. Della Volpe, D. Buffardi 5F

Talent is a blessing and a curse. It gives one the chance to succeed in something, but it also exposes to envy and hate that can have tragic consequences.



An example of this phenomenon is **the story of the American rapper Tupac Shakur**, who died 22 years ago, after a shooting that took place in Las Vegas when he was only 25 years old. He would have been 46 today. His songs were meant to denounce any form of injustice, racism, power abuse and social corruption. His controversial and influential career lasted just five years, but the world of rap music and the music industry at large still feels his

impact two decades after his untimely death. But how Pac changed hip-hop? You may ask... It was simply by living what he spoke about and speaking about what was real. His short life was also marked by violent episodes and the accusation for sexual abuse. For this reason he spent 9 months in prison. Today, you can't find anyone that spits quite like Pac, but the closest are the rappers like Kendrick Lamar, who talk about real life and police brutality. Many people consider Tupac as one of the artists that shape their desires to move into hip-hop, because of his poetic knowledge. Taking inspiration from Shakespeare, Tupac used a poetic pentameter that made him unique even compared to other artists like Biggie : there was a huge difference in the source of material and the realization of that material. After Tupac's death, his entire discography became a Bible, a ritual. People believed in his words and studied his lyrics becoming experts in his gospel. No artist has had that effect on so many people as Tupac did.... he will reign as one of the most influential rappers, who paved and engrained his footprint into the foundation of the genre.

A poem by Tupac Shakur : "The Power of a Smile"

The power of a gun can kill
and the power of fire can burn
the power of wind can chill
and the power of a mind can learn
the power of anger can rage inside until it tears u apart
but the power of a smile
especially yours can heal a frozen heart

WHEN TALENT IS A MODEL TO FOLLOW

by Elena Sofia Spanò 4I



What do you think when someone asks you what talent is? Someone believes that a singer, a dancer or an actor have got talent Others believe that talent is something special and unique! When I think about talent, I think it is **an extra gift that everyone has since birth**. To explain this concept, I would like to talk about my father. He is a man who has always studied. He started working at my age with my grandfather, who pushed him really hard to improve his abilities. Today, my father gets better day after day in his profession: he is a brilliant lawyer and he leaves me speechless whenever I speak to him. **My father has always taught me that I should never give in, but follow my dreams**. He has grown up holding fast to his values. I know that if he had given up, today he wouldn't be the skilled lawyer everybody appreciates. Every time I want to do something more, he suggests new elements of curiosity about my studies and also supports

my sport activities. He enjoys taking me out and talking about his experiences which have built up his personality. So, the answer to the question “What is talent?” is that it is not something that you must look for, but talent is something natural that you have inside and you just have to follow it and be encouraged to take out.

“MY FATHER

IS A TALENT IN HIS JOB

AND HE INSPIRED ME”



TALENT FOR SPORT

Life on wheels : my talent for skating

by Luigi Menditto 3D



It's fascinating to think about how sports can give you so much satisfaction and make you so proud of yourself. It's not just a matter of winning and improving your skills, but more about your internal growth and self-esteem that boost your experience. I can say that I have the pleasure of practicing my favourite sport with the people I love. **We're not just a team of skaters, we're a family.** Sports enable people to grow with one another, the teamwork makes each individual depend on each other and this trust and reliance develop really strong friendships. Thus, you grow up with people you put your faith in. It started in a very simple way. I was

on vacation with my parents and I saw many skaters in the park and I wanted to try it. I was very young when my father bought me a skateboard, the first days were quite difficult, the learning curve was steep. After falling off my board again and again and again, I finally learned to push, then I learned to turn and do carving. Time passed and my skills improved significantly. I convinced a friend of mine to buy a board and skate with me. After a short time our team has developed and now we can do a lot of cool skill work. The craziest thing I did was jumping eleven stairs while my team was filming me. I fell off many times until I landed the trick, but every time I fell, my friends were there to support me. Every time you fail, every time you feel the asphalt hitting your face, you must get up and try again. Not just in skateboarding, but in life. There's a thing we say after failing an attempt when someone's filming us: **"just one more try"**. We say it until we succeed. Recently, a local skate and street wear shop wanted to give me a sponsor. , I refused because I want to improve my skills before accepting. Having a sponsor, even if it's small, involves responsibilities: you have to take part in competitions and contests, and now I'm not ready to take this leap of faith. Practicing a sport also involves self awareness, that is the ability to know what you are able to do. Practicing a sport means to grow up surrounded by friends that might become your family, improve your skills and broaden your perspective on the world.

A KARATE CHAMPION



By Matteo Fiore 3A

I started doing karate at the age of 3 under the advice of my father, who is also a karate master and I must say that I immediately loved it. Initially I was not very good, in fact in the gym I was constantly beaten by my team-mates and being the master's son, I felt so embarrassed, but I did not give up, I knew I could do it. I do not deny having gone through dark times, also thinking about the way I could leave this sport and I

would have probably done it if I hadn't had a fantastic family comforting and encouraging me all the time. The turning point in my career came at the age of 13, when I gained confidence in myself and started winning competition after competition, until **I won the Italian championships** too, my dream since I was a child. After that everything changed, but I never imagined that one day I would be convened by the Italian national team and above all, I would have never imagined to compare myself with the best athletes from all over the world and get the second place to one of the most important competitions in absolute. After getting this medal, a sequence of victories started, winning the second Italian title, making the third place in the Mediterranean games and placing eleventh to the world championship. What can I say? I am enthusiastic about my career so far, but never satisfied, my aim is to be the best... and I will!



"My fantastic family always encouraged and supported me"

A TALENT FOR GO-KARTING

"Keep on doing and you'll become a talent"



By Giulia Gianfico 2C



Every single one of us has a hidden talent and it can be discovered during childhood, adolescence or even in adult life. Moreover, it can be proved in many odd and unexpected ways. But what does "having a hidden talent" really mean? Maybe, it means the skill in doing something that is not yet displayed or expressed concretely. I personally have a hidden talent which is go karting. I've been really keen on cars and motors in general since I was a little child but I wasn't expected to drive a go kart so well. I can see myself, at the age of 10, begging my father to take me to a go kart track. Although his answer used to be "you're too young to drive a kart", I kept on dreaming. Last

year, while my family, a group of friends and me were hanging out together, my dad came up with the idea of going to a go kart track (he is obsessed with motors too). So we took to the track, and it took me less than a minute to get the hang of the race. I was the youngest but also the fastest and the most agile pilot in track, despite the fact that most people racing that day were older and more used to it than me. At the end of the race, the owner of the go kart track congratulated me and was shocked by my age and by the fact that this was the first time I took to the track with such good pilots. Furthermore, he invited me to go there more often, especially during the competitions, in order to study better how to do the perfect lap and be in pole position. In a nutshell, almost **everyone has a hidden ability that, if we keep on pursuing and improving, can become a real talent** and, who knows... maybe that will turn into your hobby or even your career!

A PASSION FOR SURFING



By Antonio Ciccarelli 2C

Surfing has been one of the most amazing sports for me since I was a child. I didn't use to believe in my capacity when I was 10 but now I'm proud of myself. **When I surf I feel free and determined to do everything better** even if it not connected with surfing. Why? Because if I can 'walk' on the sea, I feel I can do everything. Everything started when I was spending my summer in Gaeta four years ago and my parents decided to take a house for a month. There I knew some

guys of my age and, in particular, Leonardo who is one of my best friends and thanks to him I learnt to surf. At the beginning, I was really hopeless, but after one week of funny and embarrassing exercise, I finally learnt to surf! Controlling the waves is the most difficult thing...On my last holyday I remember that I was surfing with my friends when the waves changed direction. Now, imagine the bay and three big stumps in the middle. I was on the left of the stumps and we had to go on the right to go after the waves that went on the right. A big wave was going to crash me into the stump where many people were swimming. Fortunately, I was able to manage the surf and miss the stumps for a few centimeters. *A great emotion anyway!!*



*"If I can walk on the sea,
I can do everything"*



A PASSION FOR VICTORY....

.... A TALENT FOR BASKETBALL



By Giulio Mottola 2C

If I think about something in which I'm really talented, I think about basketball. I've been playing basketball for eight years and I'm not going to stop, because the desire to get to an important championship is stronger than me. Over the years I have improved a lot thanks to hard work and my coaches, **I think the world of professional basketball can be part of me** but to achieve it, my consistency will be important. Let's say that in basketball I could do

almost all the roles, from playmaker to pivot thanks to my skills in dribbling and 1vs1. When I have an opponent in front of me, my only desire is to jump on him and make two points, moreover, I have to say that I'm quite good at distance and if an opponent leaves me space I shoot without making too many problems. In the game the only thing that I want is to win and if I don't win sometimes I cry because I'm afraid I didn't give my best to win. My inspiring player is Kobe Bryant, one of the best in the world not only for his qualities but also for his personality outside and inside the basketball court. **"Mamba Mentality" is based on the respect for the opponent and on focusing only on the game.** My biggest wish is to be one day a choice in the NBA draft. But even fighting for an Italian Serie A team would be a great satisfaction. I have to work hard to achieve this goal and

*"With my talent
and a bit of luck, I hope
I will make this passion
my future job".*



MARTIAL ARTS AND A YOUNG CHAMPION



Diego Della Corte and Claudia Carmellino 4M interview Pasquale Tozzi 4M

In our school there are many hidden talents. One of these is **Pasquale Tozzi, 4M**, who won several prizes in the **Martial Arts'** field, worldwide. His speciality is kickboxing, an original Japanese martial art, which is widely practiced all around the world and mixes the Oriental kick's techniques with the boxing's punch ones. Pasquale, who is only 17, has accomplished a lot of important objectives in his life. First of all, in 2017, he won a significant **belt in European Championships in Rome**. Not even a year later, in February 2018, he became the best kickboxer in his category and in March 2018 **he won an Italian cup**. Anyway, kickboxing isn't his only preference: he's also an expert in Free Box Light which is a less aggressive form of martial arts, where you must control your attacks and combine

different types of moves. Pasquale won two great prizes in this discipline as well. The former is another Italian cup, won in April 2018, and the latter is a silver medal in the Worldwide Championship in Rome, on 4th of November. Pasquale claims that, regardless of his young age and short amount of training, he has been able to provide both himself and his instructor with outstanding gratification. *«It took a lot of time, hard work and self-sacrifice to reach the point I am now. Nevertheless, I still aspire to improve myself and become a better kickboxer.»*

Would you ever imagine that, walking, through your school corridors, you could pass by a world champion?!



COMPARING TALENTS IN SPORT

Who would you choose?

Messi > Ronaldo

Federer > Nadal

Lauda > Hunt



By E. Durante, A. Palumbo Annachiara, R. Russo, R. Ratto, R. Verolla, G. Tillo, e A. Varricchio

Sport is the place for competition and sometimes for antagonism between talents, where the greatest interpreters gave the best to show their abilities. History has witnessed several examples of this rivalry, but today we will show you the ones who can be considered quite unique because they show a pure talent opposed to another who had to work hard to fill the gap. The first 'couple' has characterized soccer for the last 10 years: Lionel Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo. They both came from a difficult social condition, the first one from Argentina and the second from Madeira. There's no doubt Messi is a pure talent; the man with the most Ballon d'Ors. He is a football player with a left foot so brilliant that it could be donated by the footballer for research purposes !! But...what about Cristiano Ronaldo? When he first arrived in Manchester, nobody knew him and nobody knew that he would become one of the best players in the world. Ronaldo scored 84 goals in 196 appearances for the Red Devils, winning three Premier League titles, two League Cup titles, the FA Cup, the FA Community Shield, a UEFA Champions League, and the FIFA Club World Cup trophy with the English club. He became the most expensive footballer when he signed for Real Madrid, and he broke and is still breaking records which were considered to be unbreakable. In tennis, Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal, are both outstanding tennis champions. Nadal has a record 32 Masters 1000 titles. Federer has 27 Masters 1000 titles making him almost equivalent to Nadal. Comparing their play style, Federer is probably the most graceful and elegant player to watch, but Nadal's gritty hard working style is also fascinating to fans just the same. Embarrassing choice! The last rivalry is between Niki Lauda and James Hunt. Two champions, with very different personalities, who are friends even outside sport. Lauda and Hunt used to fight to win every race, then Lauda had a tragic accident in 1976. That event allowed Hunt to be F1 World Drivers' Champion, since Lauda missed many races. Despite two completely different types of life, Hunt loved drinking, beautiful women and night life whereas Lauda was more reserved, pragmatic and essential, they both respect each other and remain great champions. All these examples show how **talent is always rewarded by great satisfaction and unforgettable results.**

TALENT FOR WRITING

THE PAPER IS A CANVAS

THE WORDS ARE THE COLOURS

By Gaia Casella 5F



“My passion for writing was born ever since I learned how to read. My mother used to read stories to me and I waited all day for her to come home from work just so she could sit next to me and read stories. While growing up, I started reading more and more books and, soon, I started writing. They were short fantasy stories at first, but then I became addicted to writing and decided to write everything that happened during the day. In my

world, writing means telling a story, finding beauty in all things: it means writing a whole poem on a single snowflake and only two sentences to tell the story of a lifetime. The sheet of paper becomes a white canvas, and words are colours: everybody knows that a painting holds a certain fascinating aura, be it black and white or full of colours, a realistic masterpiece or even just a dot in the center of the canvas. Writing holds such powerful emotions that it can become helpful in discovering new ones that we didn't know we were able to feel. As Voltaire said, *Writing is the painting of voice*, and I couldn't agree more. “

THE MAGIC HARMONY OF WORDS

by Virginia Ianniello 5F

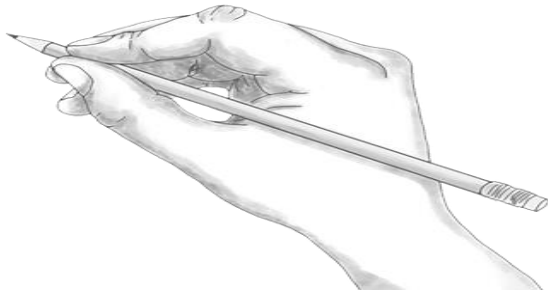
“*Verba volant, scripta manent*. Spoken words fly away, written words stay forever. This old Latin proverb holds so much truth within itself. If you look in a vocabulary, this is the definition of writing: *letters or symbols that are written or imprinted on a surface to represent the sounds or words of a language*. But, actually, writing is so much more. Written words are witness of the past, of our presence on Earth and it transmits the knowledge of the past generation. Writing is art, vocation, dedication and feelings, it's the magic harmony of words, the untamable tangling of our mind, malleable expression of our very own soul.”



WRITING IS FREEDOM

by Vincenza di Ronza 5F

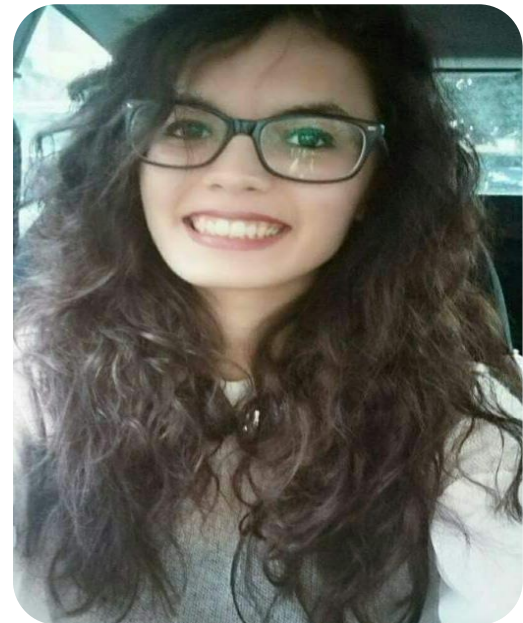
“Writing is wonderful. It helps whoever does it to escape reality for a little while to give life to whatever goes through your mind without anyone criticizing you for it. There’s no feeling like holding the pen in your hand and let it fly on the white sheet of paper, seeing the words come to life and gain colour and shape. And while you write, suddenly everything I have doubts about starts making sense, my thoughts clear up and I understand the world I live in (and myself) a little better. I like writing because it feels like, even though it’s silent, it is mine and mine only.”



OPEN YOUR MIND.....WRITE YOUR HEART!

by Rachele Sglavo 5F

“Writing for me is telling your own story and letting yourself be known to people. Reading is one of the most powerful means we have to open other people’s minds and hearts, to find yourself within the words and understand that, in the end, everyone feels things in the same way: we all experience similar emotions. There is not a way as beautiful and direct to help us feel closer to one another, that helps us understand ourselves and others better. Also, I like writing because there’s no wrong way to do it: it’s like a gift given by a divinity that we’re all still learning to use.”



MAKE POEMS, NOT WAR...

...First place in a poetry contest

By Rosa Serra 3C



Since I was little, it has always been very clear to me that I was particularly suited for a certain kind of creative expression: writing. I have always tended to keep diaries of what my days were like and I used to write everything in detail, with dates and also drawing pictures of the daily event. Growing up, I started to make up stories to tell my family before going to bed, and that's when I started writing the first six chapters of a fantasy book I aspired to publish, when I was almost nine years old. My passion for writing has evolved during the years of my childhood, reaching its peak when I discovered poetry; I attended my first under-eighteen **poetry contest** when I was only ten years old, and I even ended up winning the first place! I was

extremely proud of myself. From that time on, I have experimented a load of different techniques, genres and kind of writings; I still think that poems are the best way I can fully free myself with words, but I'm sure I still have a lot of practicing to do. When I'm not feeling inspired, I usually read everything I can get my hands on; of course, poetry collections, but also classic novels, love stories and, my personal favourites, thrillers. Reading is a fundamental part of an author's life, because it is an excellent exercise to discover new narrative flows, analyze other writers' points of views and, in the luckiest of cases, find your inspiration. Of course, it's perfectly normal to experience the "writer's block", but the secret is never give up on everything you've created just because you may be having a busier mind in that moment. The words will come when it's time, and waiting makes them even more precious. **HERE IS ONE OF MY POEMS....**

CYCLE OF LIFE

Curved stems of dying lilies,
Watch over the spilled blood.

Vital lymph, Harmful old age;
Just red petals on gravel coffins.

Bluish veins, Vermilion lattice;
Leaves fallen in the deep precipice.

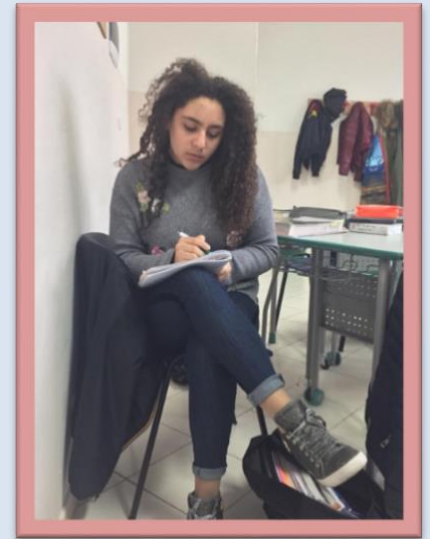
There was light, clear as air;
But life is known for being
unfair.



WRITING IS MY 'HAPPY PLACE'

By Virgilia Sorbo 2C

Writing in a diary the inner secrets or something that nobody should know, is one of the most common habits among teenagers; but **when writing is essential to you and you can't do without it, it becomes a passion.** I've been writing since I was a child, it's my way to express my point of view. In fact if I remember well, when I was eight years old and my mum gave me a pink diary, it became my little treasure and my personal safety valve. I began to write all my secrets and emotions, when I was over the moon, or I felt blue. I didn't think that it could be a talent, but when I wrote my first poem and many short stories, I realised that not everyone were like me, and that maybe I was a little "special". In the last year, I've written a lot, in my diary; moreover, luckily my school has created an interesting project called: "Cross Medial". The purpose of this project is to make the students able to inform the other guys about everything that happens at school, a real newspaper. When I heard the news, I began to write more and more, and that journal began my happy place. Sooner or later, I hope to write my own book, which could make me feel very proud.



LA PRIMAVERA

La primavera è entrata in casa mia

La stagione più bella che ci sia

Che contagia tutto il mondo

Accompagnandolo in un allegro girotondo.

Sembra al mio sguardo

una bambina dolce e piccolina

Che indossa fiori di tutti i colori

Ha occhi azzurri come il cielo

E capelli d'oro lucenti come i raggi del sole.

L'amica di tutte le creature

La sveglia che ti sveglia

Con il suo inebriante profumo,

Il continuo dell'inverno

Che sboccia e che tinge

I prati e i cuori di mille colori.

Here is one of the poems I wrote
...when I was a
child



The Writer's Corner: telling stories



“The girl who changed the world with books”

By Giorgia Melucci 4F

Once Upon A Time, in a far distant land, there was a kingdom where nobody was allowed to write and pens were forbidden. Thousands of pencils and parchment sheets were kept hidden, stored up in the dark and gloomy dungeons of the castle. It was not allowed to get them and no one even tried, fully aware of the consequence: **DEATH !!** Why? You may wonder. Why would a place like that exist? And, if so, why would a person want to write

and, foolishly, break the rules? The answer is right before your eyes and you need to do nothing but carry on following this story..... So where did we get to? Right, I was telling you about this mysterious country nobody seems to remember of and whose destiny was meant to change utterly: think of a tiny cottage in the middle of the glade and, inside, of a little girl, no more than ten years old, who's secretly writing a diary and putting onto paper all her hopes and fantasies. Then, imagine this very scene after eight years: the childish diary has turned into a book, the girl is now a young woman and she's determined to make her dreams come true. But what's her goal? She wants to revolutionize the world by telling stories and her greatest aspiration is to be free to make her own choices. **She desires to open people's minds and help them realize their potentialities.** She thinks of 'travelling' with her mind through lands and time to show people the inner side of her soul and, doing so, touch theirs' as well. Because that's what writing is: an eternal journey with no definite destination, a vessel in a calm or stormy sea, a magic spell for lazy souls, sad, happy, tempestous, brave, logical, or romantic ones. The determination in her plan, pushed her to put illegally her literary treasure into circulation and, day after day, people started reading it, neglecting the risks. Her enthusiasm was contagious and got to everybody's heart and mind. They got in touch with the beauties of the world, the importance of liberty and free thinking, the horror of oppression and limitation of human rights. They were suddenly awakened to a new awareness and the land slowly acquired new life and vitality. They had finally conquered freedom and recovered their existence. **The magic force of books and words.** The power of free thinking and strong will. That's what the young girl brought into the far distant land! Who am I? I was the little girl. I was the young lady. I am the old woman telling you this story. And I just want to tell you one thing: *take care of books and what is inside them because words and thoughts can really change the world.*



This is my story...

"You are my favourite character"

by Gaia Casella 5F



It was a quiet Tuesday night. I had just come home from school, ordered a nice pizza and I was ready to start reading the last chapter of a book I had bought last week, while I was on a trip. Since I saw it in one of the oldest libraries in the city, I knew I had to buy it. I was wandering through the old volumes section when I saw it: among the other yellow-paged volumes, this one particularly stood out. The cover was of a vibrant red and soft to the touch, so different from the ruined and hardened covers of the other books. When I took it out of the shelf I noticed there wasn't even a title, or a description: just this beautiful picture of an extremely realistic city, orange tinted from the sunrise. Since I came back literally I could not put it down: it was just so well written, the characters seemed to have a life and a mind on their own. I sat on the couch, a cup of warm tea in my hand and the book in the

other, as I started the last chapter. *"... and so he decided that he just couldn't take it anymore. The pressure from his family, his friends, everything felt like a giant boulder on his shoulders. He had tried countless times to come out clean, but every time someone said something hurtful that made him want to hide it even more. He knew what the consequences were if he ever decided to do it, and running away was the only thing he could think of: starting a new life in a place where no one knew him. And so he did: he took the car and the blue backpack he had already filled with some clothes, food, documents, money and his favorite book. And like that, he drove away. Soon the city became smaller and smaller, until he reached a new city. He had driven for what it seemed like a whole day: the sun was setting behind the tallest skyscrapers he had ever seen, and there was a beautiful lake in the distance..."*. Suddenly, I heard someone knocking at my door. Who could've that been? I wasn't expecting anyone... Maybe I had ordered something from the internet and forgot about it? I opened the door, and soon dropped my book to the floor: the young man standing in front of me looked exactly like the one described in my book. Same hair colour, same build, same blue backpack. We both stared at each other in disbelief, without saying a word.

"Do you need anything?" I managed to ask, trying not to sound as astonished as I actually was. Then I noticed the book in his hands: the same red cover of my book, but the picture was different. It was... my house? *"W-why... I'm sorry miss, but... your house looks exactly like this one, so..."* he said, showing me his book. Without hesitation I showed him mine and watched as his face morphed into a shocked expression. *"Why is my city on your book?"* he exclaimed, pointing at it.

"Why is my house on your book?" I asked back *"And I'm sorry if I sound crazy, but why do you look like my favorite character of it?"* *"I was about to ask you the same thing"* he answered back, his eyes never leaving the cover of the book. As soon as we stopped talking, I noticed something: it had a title on the front...where there was *nothing* before. Not a scratch, not a stain... how could that be possible? The man's book did the same thing, as black words appeared on it. Was I dreaming? Was there anything weird in my drink, or in the pizza? I looked at the man in front of me, his expression was as confused as my thoughts in that moment. It was going to be a *long* evening.....

TALENT FOR THEATRE



By Eleonora Buffardi, Giulia Perla, Nicla Persico, Antonella Tranchino
4F

OFF THE MASK !!

Ten seconds. It 's like the first time
When I started acting at the age of nine
Another second goes by, I can't even explain
How fiercely the blood rushes through my veins .
A mixture of emotions assaults me; they're so strong:
The fear that I'll do something wrong.
Insecurity strikes me down to the floor
But anxiety will never stop me, I once swore.
"3..2..1" I hear
Time to go on stage, oh my dear....
The curtain opens. I see the lights like sun in spring
And suddenly I am undressed of everything.
Under the mask .. Is this the real me?
I guess I'll choose who I want to be.
That's the magic of theatre. Its blessing and its curse:
You can be you and everyone, but can't be anybody else.

TALENT FOR PHOTOGRAPHY

SEIZE THE MOMENT

IN A PICTURE.....

by Carlotta Marino 2C

Photography is an art and it is one of my great interests and hidden talents but actually I can't remember how it all began. I just know that taking a picture of something or someone who catches my attention, comes naturally, I don't think about it twice. I have never attended a specific course or whatever. I have been told many times that my grandfather had the same passion so I should think I have "inherited" it from him. Years ago I found boxes full of old photographs and I was totally hypnotized by his technique and his skills. Sometimes, it is quite difficult to find the right frame, especially when the subject is a person and not a landscape or an object. And when you know the person very well, things get even harder because you'd like to show and capture what you see and feel when you look at him or her but it isn't always possible. Furthermore, photographs can be interpreted depending on who is looking at them because considerations are usually unconsciously subjective and personal. Photography has always fascinated me for one important reason: **with a camera in your hands you have the power to stop time** for a few seconds and let that moment last and live forever, you can choose it....keep it in time or even delete and start again from a new perspective. That's fun!

Here are some of my pics:



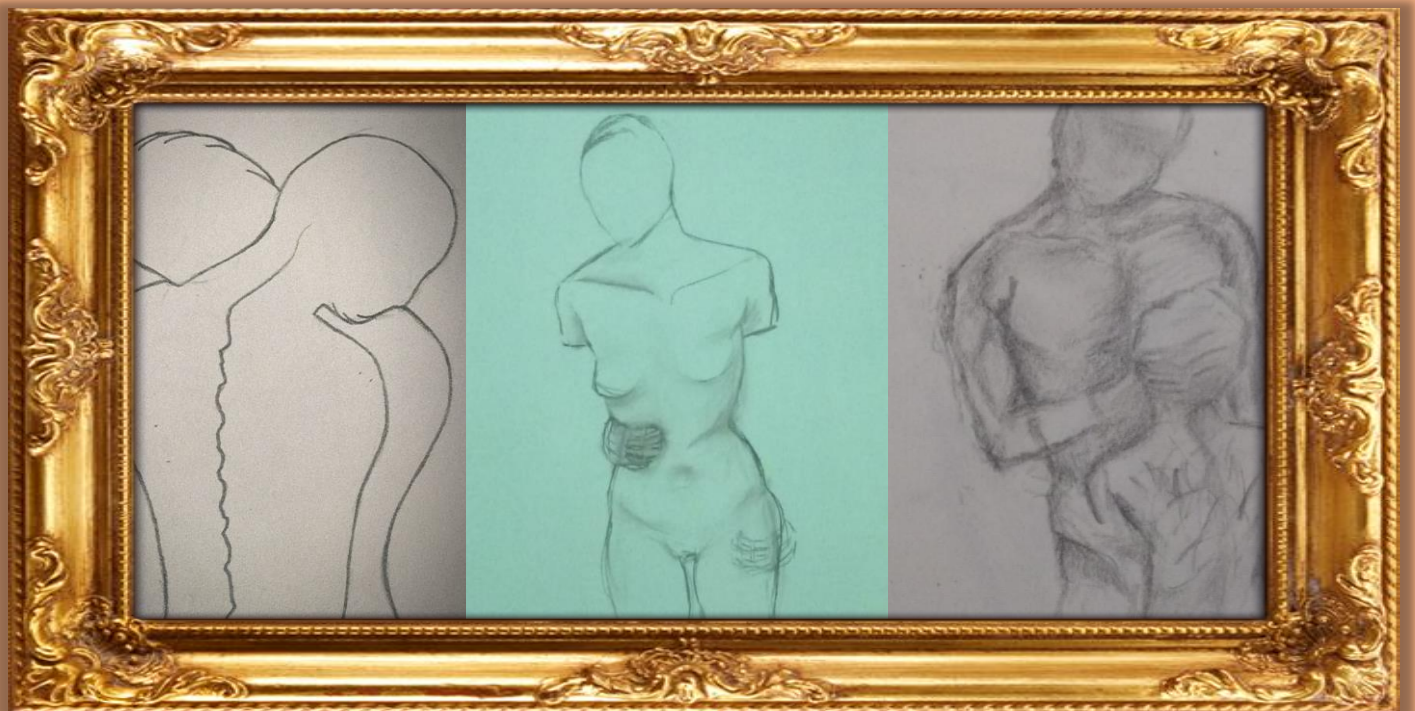
TALENT FOR ART

LIGHTS AND SHADOWS OF MY PASSION

By Giovanna Brod 5F

I was asked to talk about my passion, my talent. But what exactly is 'my art', 'my passion'? It could be described as a dark wave that floats on air and tries to project itself into the world, working to extirpate the roots from which it takes inspiration : my soul. This wave doesn't aspire to realize harmony or perfection or to something that easily meets other people's tastes, to the stereotyped concept of beauty and art. **My beauty is a sort of 'innocent cruelty'** and doesn't search for consent. This wave is distress....like an obscure hole that needs to move from the abstraction to the concrete and its movement wants to be cathartic. Paradoxically, I don't draw or paint when my mind is occupied by sweet thoughts and my eyes are full of joy and love , I paint when the necessity to give vent to my inner torments grows and it is like a ferocious animal in a cage that wants to shout loud. In that moment these demons ally ...but just for a while. There's nothing to admire, nothing to be fascinated by and, after helping me, the only thing it can do is probably to become a source of reflection for the others, if they want to face their interior demons. Freud said that man has many unresolved questions and tormenting feelings in his subconscious that , many times, find expression in dreams full of symbols and difficult for us to interpret. Well, I think that something similar happens also in art. I don't think about what I'm going to draw when I do it ...I simply let it flowSubjects, colours, attitudes are spontaneously impressed on the paper and it's probably one of the greatest ways man has to communicate with his soul (that is not always a simple and pleasant thing to do), trying to understand, to find answers and consequently strength. Every man has to find his way to escape from something he created, something bigger than him in a more and more complex world. I would definitely say that art is to me a subjective window on the primitive face of men that I got in touch with in my young life.





A TALENT FOR FASHION

...Another form of art

COCO: A REVOLUTIONARY SIMPLICITY

By E. Barbato, M. Bruno, F. Muscariello, F. Cassella, R. Ronga 5F



Born in Saumur, France, on 19th August 1883, Gabrielle Chanel, also called "Coco", had a very humble and sad childhood. In fact, she used to live in an orphanage, but soon after she became one of the most famous and important stylists of the 20th century at the age of 26 (a talent that was discovered later than usual). With her style she represented the woman of her time: a hard worker, a

sportswoman, with a dynamic life, without stereotypes; giving her the right way of clothing. She began her career drawing hats, first in Paris in 1908, then in Deauville. As critics and fashion's experts have stated, the climax of her art was reached in the 30s when, although she had already created her famous and revolutionary "tailleur" (composed of a blazer and a skirt or a pair of trousers), she imposed a plain, elegant and unique style. Basically, it is possible to affirm that Chanel changed the uncomfortable clothing of the "belle époque" to a large and comfortable one. Her most used colors were dark blue, grey and beige. Some peculiarities of her style are the importance given to the details, the massive use of bijoux, with innovative combination of jewelry, crystals and pearls. Chanel's impact on the fashion world and on the women's process of emancipation is indisputable. Her style is based on the apparent repetition of basic pieces and each variation consists of different fabrics and details.



"Fashion fades



style remains the same "

WHIZ KIDS FROM DIFFERENT ERAS : YOUNG PRODIGIES and TALENTS

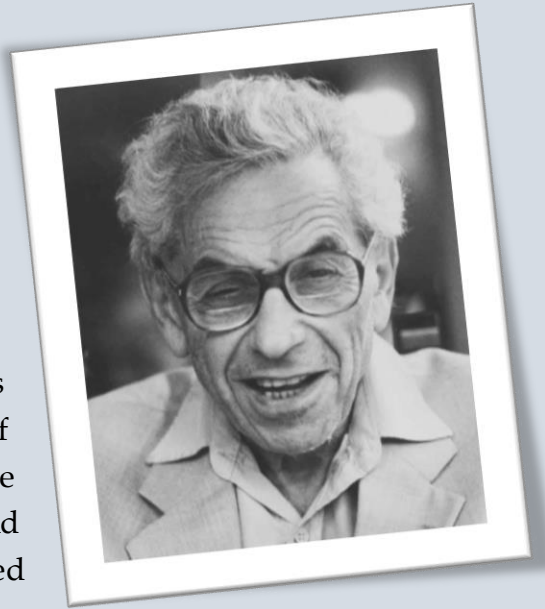


by C. Pondurno, A. Urbino, A. Arpaia , A. Paone, F. Rosano , F. Pagano 4 F

Whiz kids are children who are unusually intelligent for their young age. They often achieve the same results as adults before turning 13 years old. This

article is going to focus on those children who have shown a particular talent in the science field.

One of the first examples of young prodigy was **Paul Erdos**, a **Hungarian mathematician** born in 1913. When he was only 3 years old he was able to calculate the amount of seconds lived by a person based only on the age of the subject. At 10 he graduated in Mathematics at University and by this time he had published 1000 articles in which he used his personal vocabulary.



An example of prodigy nowadays would be **Taylor Ramon Wilson**, an **American nuclear physics** enthusiast and science advocate born in 1994. When he was just a child he started experimenting the nuclear fusion, using a fusor. At the moment he is studying how the humankind could use subatomic particles in order to tackle many of the problems of our time such as the fight against cancer, the one against terrorism and the research for

alternative energy sources.

These amazingly intelligent and hardworking children should always be encouraged so that they can become the best versions of themselves.



Talent for helping people

by C. Arena, I. Flagiello, M. Tagliafierro 21

"Sometimes it's the people no one imagines the ones who do things that no one can imagine". Each person has his talent and many people have used it to **help people during the war**, managing to **save many lives from the extermination of the Nazis**. Each of them had a different talent and they used it in the best way ... but there is a talent they all had: helping others by putting them in the first place. .. In the middle of the twentieth century, there was an air of war in the world that smelled of blood and gunpowder. The Second World War in fact is considered the greatest armed conflict in history characterized by massacres and destruction

Alan Turing was a British mathematician and cryptographer who, thanks to his talent in solving the puzzles, managed to encrypt the German military codes, saving 14 million people. All this was possible only thanks to his talent. Alan was homosexual and was forced to commit suicide because at that time he was submitted to hormonal therapy.

Like Alan, **John Fox**, a war hero who died on the hills of Lucca, on December 26, 1944, contributed to the end of the war. The African-American military gave orders to his artillery man to bomb his station because he was surrounded by the Nazis. "Fire it". He shouted and he died with the enemies. A heroic gesture, even more if done by a man who at the time didn't enjoy any civil right.

We always hear very little about women, especially, those who have played an important role in history. But **Carla Capponi** was an Italian partisan and politician. In fact she helped the troops in Rome in defense from the Germans. She joined a group of women distributing food to the Italian soldiers and offered to fight, but she decided to help the wounded because the weapons were not enough for women.



"So long as you write what you wish to write, that is all that matters; and whether it matters for ages or only for hours, nobody can say."

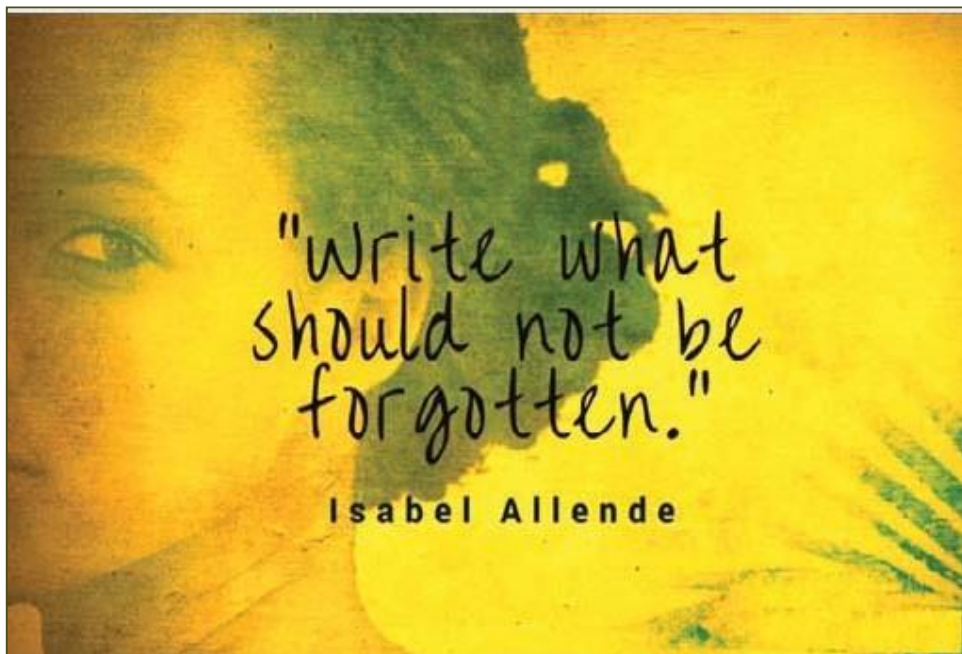
-Virginia Woolf



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Breaking Views

Reading, writing, expressing ideas,
reflecting on issues... all this inspired
our magazine in English. An eye on reality,
another on our minds and hearts.

“If a story is in you, it has to come out”

~ William Faulkner